



International Ski
Mountaineering
Federation

INTERNATIONAL SKI MOUNTAINEERING FEDERATION

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CONTENT

PREAMBLE	3
DEFINITIONS	4
CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS	7
ARTICLE 1 NAME AND LEGAL STATUS.....	7
ARTICLE 2 PRINCIPLES	7
ARTICLE 3 OBJECTIVES	8
ARTICLE 4 EXCLUSIVITY OF COMPETITIONS.....	9
CHAPTER II MEMBERSHIP	9
ARTICLE 5 ISMF NATIONAL MEMBERS	9
ARTICLE 6 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES.....	10
ARTICLE 7 ADMISSION CRITERIA	11
ARTICLE 8 DECISIONS ON APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP	11
ARTICLE 9 RIGHTS OF FULL, ASSOCIATE AND PROVISIONAL MEMBERS.....	11
ARTICLE 10 OBLIGATIONS OF ISMF NATIONAL MEMBERS	12
ARTICLE 11 MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION.....	13
ARTICLE 12 EXCLUSION OF AN ISMF NATIONAL MEMBER.....	13
ARTICLE 13 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER AWARDS.....	14
CHAPTER III ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE ISMF	14
ARTICLE 14 ORGANISATION	14
ARTICLE 15 PLENARY ASSEMBLY.....	14
ARTICLE 16 MEETINGS OF PLENARY ASSEMBLY	15
ARTICLE 17 POWERS OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY	15
ARTICLE 18 VOTING RIGHTS OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY	16
ARTICLE 19 QUORUM OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY.....	17
ARTICLE 20 TAKING OF DECISIONS OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY.....	17
ARTICLE 21 AGENDA AND PROPOSALS TO THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY	17
ARTICLE 22 EXTRAORDINARY PLENARY ASSEMBLY.....	18
ARTICLE 23 ELECTIONS.....	18
ARTICLE 24 ISMF COUNCIL	19
ARTICLE 25 POWERS OF THE ISMF COUNCIL	20
ARTICLE 26 ISMF COUNCIL MEETINGS	21
ARTICLE 27 AGENDA AND PROPOSALS FOR THE ISMF COUNCIL.....	22
ARTICLE 28 DECISIONS, VOTES AND QUORUM OF THE ISMF COUNCIL	22
ARTICLE 29 THE BUREAU	22
ARTICLE 30 THE PRESIDENT	23
ARTICLE 31 CONTINENTAL COUNCILS	24
ARTICLE 32 COMPLIANCE OFFICE	24
ARTICLE 33 INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION.....	25

CHAPTER IV	TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS.....	26
	ARTICLE 34 COMMISSIONS	26
	ARTICLE 35 ATHLETES COMMISSION.....	26
	ARTICLE 36 GENDER EQUALITY AND INCLUSION COMMISSION	26
CHAPTER V	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	27
	ARTICLE 37 DISPUTE RESOLUTION.....	27
	ARTICLE 38 DOPING MATTERS	27
CHAPTER VI	ADMINISTRATIVE.....	27
	ARTICLE 39 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.....	27
	ARTICLE 40 FINANCES AND RESOURCES	27
	ARTICLE 41 BUDGET ALLOCATION	28
	ARTICLE 42 ANNUAL AUDITOR REPORT.....	29
	ARTICLE 43 LIABILITIES	29
	ARTICLE 44 CURRENCY	29
	ARTICLE 45 DISSOLUTION OF ISMF	29
CHAPTER VII	MISCELLANEOUS.....	30
	ARTICLE 46 SEVERABILITY	30
	ARTICLE 47 EFFECTIVE DATE.....	30
TRANSITORY DISPOSITIONS.....		30

PREAMBLE

The International Council for Ski Mountaineering Competition (ISMC) was founded in 1999 as an internal body of the "Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme (UIAA)". The ISMC was created to govern and administer the sport of ski mountaineering, replacing the "Comité International pour le Ski Alpinisme de Compétition" (CISAC), which was founded in Barcelona in 1991.

On 6 October 2007, the General Assembly of the UIAA approved their new statutes, where the position of "unit member" was created. Because of this change, it was deemed necessary to constitute an independent "international competition federation with its own juridical personality", namely, the "International Ski Mountaineering Federation (ISMF)"

The Constitutional Assembly of the ISMF National Members held in Champéry, Portes du Soleil, Switzerland on 27 February 2008 has decided to continue to administer ski mountaineering competitions as an International Federation with its own legal entity.

On 7 August 2016, the ISMF was granted full recognition as an International Federation, pursuant to Rules 3 and 25 of the Olympic Charter by the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

DEFINITIONS

Athletes Commission	The Commission is provided for in Article 35, whose composition is stipulated in the ISMF Athletes Commission and Athletes Representatives Regulation.
Bureau [or Steering Committee]	The Bureau is composed by the President of ISMF, three Vice-Presidents (1 Treasurer, 1 Sport & Events Responsible, 1 Marketing & Communication Responsible), and the General Secretary of ISMF.
CAS	Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne, Switzerland
Compliance Office	The organ is composed by three auditors elected by the Plenary Assembly.
Continental Councils	The Continental entities, the formation of which has to be approved by the Plenary Assembly in accordance with Article 32.
Electronic voting	Voting electronically in the processes indicated herein.
Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission	The Commission is provided for in Article 36, whose composition is stipulated in the Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission Rules.
Hybrid meeting	A Plenary Assembly meeting where some participants attend a “face-to-face” in-person meeting, and some participants participate by using virtual technology
International Disciplinary Commission	The Commission elected by the Plenary Assembly on the recommendation of the ISMF Council, whose composition is stipulated in the Disciplinary Rules of the ISMF.
IOC	means the International Olympic Committee.
ISMF Bodies	Bodies established to govern and administer the ISMF mentioned in Article 14.
ISMF Council	The ISMF Council, which consists of the ISMF President, three Vice-Presidents (1 Treasurer, 1 Sport & Events Responsible, 1 Marketing & Communication Responsible), the General Secretary of ISMF, and other representatives appointed in accordance with Article 22.

ISMF Disciplines	Means all sport disciplines governed by ISMF including Sprint, Vertical, Individual, Team, Relay and Long-Distance Races, and any other discipline that may be recognized by the ISMF from time to time.
ISMF Event	All ISMF approved events, including but not limited to: ISMF competitions, Plenary Assembly, ceremonies, seminars, and other educational or training events.
ISMF Official	Any person elected or appointed to any position within ISMF. This includes members of the Council, the Commissions, the Compliance Office and/or any other body or working group that represents the ISMF. However (for the avoidance of doubt) excludes members of Local Organising Committee (LOC), employees, contractors and/or volunteers working at ISMF events, and other professionals engaged to act on behalf of the ISMF (example: law firms).
ISMF Staff	Means any person employed (whether full-time, part-time, permanently, for a fixed-term or temporarily) or engaged as an agent, consultant or contractor by the ISMF to undertake work for it or on its behalf.
ISMF Rules and Regulations	ISMF Statutes, Bylaws, Sporting Rules, Disciplinary Rules, Anti-Doping Rules, Regulations for the Athletes Commission and Athletes Representatives, and any other rules and regulations adopted by the ISMF (including all decisions of the Plenary Assembly and the ISMF Council, respectively).
ISMF National Member	A national governing body (association, federation, club or any other ¹) admitted by the Plenary Assembly or the ISMF Council in accordance with Chapter II of the ISMF Statutes. They are subject to three categories according to Article 6 of these Statutes. All categories are collectively referred to as the 'ISMF National Members'.
Olympic Movement	According to the IOC definition: <i>“means the concerted, organised, universal and permanent action, carried out under the supreme authority of the IOC, of all individuals and entities who are inspired by the values of Olympism. It covers the five continents. It reaches its peak with the bringing together of the world’s Athletes at the great sports festival, the Olympic Games.”</i>

¹ The terms 'national federation,' 'member association', or similar expressions in official ISMF documents, including but not limited to rules and regulations, shall refer to the term ISMF National Member, which is the relevant national governing body approved by the ISMF Plenary Assembly.

Plenary Assembly	The General Assembly of the ISMF provided for in Article 14.
President	The President of the ISMF elected by the Plenary Assembly.
Statutes	All provisions contained in this document, which have been duly approved by the Plenary Assembly, together with any addendums and/or appendices which may complete, amend or substitute this document. The preamble constitutes an integral part hereof; these statutes replace the previous statutes.
Technical Commissions	The Commissions appointed by the ISMF Council in accordance with Chapter V.
Vice-Presidents	The three Vice-Presidents of the ISMF elected by the Plenary Assembly for a term of office of four years, assuming the functions of Treasurer, Sports & Events Responsible, and Marketing & Communication Responsible.
Virtual meeting	A meeting where all participants participate by using virtual technology
Virtual Technology	Technology, including online facilities, which gives those attending a meeting through the use of that technology the opportunity to participate in the meeting in a manner similar in key respects to attending the meeting in person, including to follow the proceedings of the meeting uninterrupted, to ask questions and to vote.

Note: Wherever the fact or context in the ISMF Statutes and Rules requires effect to be given, words in the singular shall include the plural; words in the plural shall include the singular; words of the masculine, feminine or neuter gender shall include any gender, except in the specification of a competition being for male or female competitors; and correction of any clerical errors shall be made.

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Name and Legal Status

1.1 The International Ski Mountaineering Federation, abbreviated as 'ISMF' in all languages, is the sole and exclusive world governing body, that leads and provides governance of World Ski Mountaineering matters.

1.2 The sport governed by the ISMF includes without limitation of any other that can be related to the following ISMF disciplines recognized as Ski Mountaineering Disciplines: Sprint, Vertical, Individual, Team, Relay and Long-Distance Races.

1.3 The sport of ski-mountaineering involves ascending slopes or mountains with skis and the possibility to use of alpinism techniques, (including but not limited to walk/climb with skis on a backpack, crampons, rope, or any other equipment. A removable anti-slipping system under skis and bindings with ascent-unlocked and down-locked positions allows down by ski on varied terrain during descent.

The sport of ski mountaineering also includes recreational ski mountaineering also named ski touring which can be practiced in ski resort areas or in wild mountains, with the goal to reach the summit or just for fitness purposes.

1.4 The ISMF is a legal entity, a non-governmental international association with a non-for-profit purpose of international interest, founded for an unlimited period of time and governed by Art. 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code and the present Statutes.

1.5 The ISMF has its legal seat in Lausanne, Switzerland. The ISMF Council can decide to move the legal seat to any other location in Switzerland.

1.6 The headquarters and the secretariat of the ISMF may, upon the decision of the ISMF Council may be located in a country other than Switzerland.

Article 2 Principles

2.1 All activities of the ISMF are independent of any political or governmental influence. The ISMF does not allow discrimination against national governing bodies or individuals (competitors, officials, judges, delegates, etc.) based on race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, political affiliations, language or abilities.

2.2 Its principal purposes are the regulation, promotion, development, supervision, and furtherance of ski mountaineering on a worldwide basis.

It fosters sporting links and friendly relations among its members and their, competitors and officials.

Article 3 Objectives

The ISMF is furthermore responsible for and undertakes the following:

- 3.1 to encourage, promote, develop, and supervise ski mountaineering worldwide, supporting any kind of athletes, from amateurs to professionals, under the competitions and in recreational ski mountaineering.
- 3.2 to support national governing bodies in countries where there is low infrastructure and share know-how to develop national ski mountaineering movements in all continents, when feasible.
- 3.3 to promote ski mountaineering as a healthy, educational and recreational activity for youth;
- 3.4 to establish and maintain the necessary rules and regulations to organise and participate in ISMF competitions and events;
- 3.5 to decide which international ski mountaineering competitions are officially recognised and to establish annual International Events calendars
- 3.6 to establish training courses for all ISMF officials in order to guarantee the highest possible standards for all ISMF officials;
- 3.7 to encourage the formation of continental organizations to promote ski mountaineering competitions, where appropriate;
- 3.8 to promote Athletes and protect their rights through the Athletes' Commission;
- 3.9 to promote safe ski mountaineering and the protection of athletes from all forms of harassment and abuse;
- 3.10 to award licenses and contracts to Members and other organisations that seek authorization to organize official international competitions and associated activities;
- 3.11 to promote and control good sporting practices to protect the integrity of ski mountaineering;
- 3.12 to respect and uphold gender equality, as well as to promote inclusion and diversity at all levels in its competition and management.

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- 3.13 to promote fair play in sport and respect the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.
 - 3.14 to promote the equality of rewards, prizes and prize money;
 - 3.15 to safeguard the rights and health of the athletes, ensure fair and clean sports and fight against doping and all other processes and procedures that might undermine sporting equality in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code, the IOC current documents, and the ISMF Anti-Doping Rules.
 - 3.16 to comply with the Olympic Charter and the International Olympic Committee Code of Ethics in the activities leading up to the Olympic Winter Games;
 - 3.17 to consider the protection of the environment when organising and promoting ski mountaineering activities;
 - 3.18 to ensure/provide the promotion of ski mountaineering in the media. as well as international competitions in the ISMF calendar;
 - 3.19 to actively look for and provide incomes for the proper functioning of the sport.
 - 3.20 To carry out any other activity to promote ski mountaineering.

Article 4 Exclusivity of competitions

- 4.1 All ISMF competitions belong exclusively to the ISMF. The ISMF has the sole right to organise World or Continental ski mountaineering competitions.
- 4.2 The words "World Cup", "World Championships", "Continental" "International" or "ISMF" shall not be used in connection with any other ski mountaineering international events, including "Masters events" without the explicit consent of the ISMF.

CHAPTER II MEMBERSHIP

Article 5 ISMF National Members

- 5.1 Membership in the ISMF is open to national governing bodies actively involved in ski mountaineering competitions and recognized as such by the highest sporting authorities of their countries.

5.2 The ISMF shall have a minimum of three ISMF National Members

Article 6 Membership categories

The following categories of membership are available:

6.1 FULL MEMBERS of the ISMF will be national governing bodies that act as the representatives of the sport of ski mountaineering competition in their countries. This is based on the recognition by their National Olympic Committee (NOC) or the competent Ministry.

6.1.1 Only one national governing body from each country can be affiliated as a Full Member of the ISMF.

6.1.2 The admission fee for Full Members is fixed by the Plenary Assembly of the ISMF.

6.2 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS of the ISMF will be national governing bodies in countries where an ISMF Full Member already exists, provided they are approved by the relevant ISMF Full Member. These organizations may be admitted by the Plenary Assembly.

6.2.1 The admission fee for Associate Members is fixed by the Plenary Assembly.

6.2.2 Associate Members are entitled to organize ISMF-approved events, provided they are approved by the relevant ISMF Full Member.

6.2.3 Associate Members are also entitled to propose members for all ISMF Commissions, provided they are approved by the relevant ISMF Full Member.

6.3 PROVISIONAL MEMBERS of the ISMF will be national governing bodies that act at the national level and shall undertake, within the span of four years for one time only, the process to obtain recognition from the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or the competent Ministry.

6.3.1 Provisional Members can only be established in countries where no ISMF National Member exists.

6.3.2 It is only possible to have one Provisional Member for each country.

6.3.3 The admission fee for Provisional Members is fixed by the Plenary Assembly.

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- 6.3.4 Athletes belonging to Provisional Members can take part in ISMF competitions without being ranked.

Article 7 Admission Criteria

Applicant national governing bodies shall send all required information to the ISMF Office in the official language and in the format required by the ISMF Council, notably:

- 7.1 Official address and contact details;
- 7.2 A copy of the national governing body's current Statutes, Rules, and Regulations;
- 7.3 A list of the national governing body's main officers;
- 7.4 A list of the national governing body's active membership, (i.e. number of clubs, athletes, coaches, officials affiliated to the national governing body');
- 7.5 A formal undertaking by the national governing body to observe and comply with the ISMF Rules and Statutes, notably Article 8, the World Anti-Doping Code as well as the jurisdiction and decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS);
- 7.6 And the payment of the appropriate membership fee.

Article 8 Decisions on applications for membership

- 8.1 Decisions on applications for membership are made by the Plenary Assembly.
- 8.2 The ISMF Council can provisionally agree to a membership request filed between two Plenary Assemblies. The national governing body may be accepted as a temporary ISMF National Member. In order to become final, the Plenary Assembly must ratify the decision.
- 8.3 The Statutes, Rules, and Regulations of the new ISMF National Member are automatically accepted if the membership is granted.

Article 9 Rights of Full, Associate and Provisional Members

- 9.1 Each Full Member has the right:

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- 9.1.1 To vote and to take part in the Plenary Assembly, to make proposals to the Plenary Assembly and the ISMF Council;
 - 9.1.2 To appeal and to be consulted in all matters specifically concerning the Full Member;
 - 9.1.3 To enter its athletes in all competitions approved by the ISMF, in accordance with the entry rules for these competitions;
 - 9.1.4 To organise international ski mountaineering competitions approved by the ISMF;
 - 9.1.5 To examine the content of all contracts made by the ISMF that concern the interests of the Full Member or which put them under obligations.
- 9.2 Each Associate Member and each Provisional Member has the right:
- 9.2.1 To take part in the Plenary Assembly, to make proposals to the Plenary Assembly and to the ISMF Council;
 - 9.2.2 To appeal and to be consulted in all matters specifically concerning the Associate Member or the Provisional member;
 - 9.2.3 To organise international ski mountaineering competitions approved by the ISMF, provided they are approved by the relevant Full Member;
 - 9.2.4 To examine the content of all contracts made by the ISMF that concern the interests of the Associate Member or the Provisional Member or which put them under obligations.

Article 10 Obligations of ISMF National Members

All ISMF National Members shall comply with:

- 10.1 The Statutes and Regulations of the ISMF;
- 10.2 Any resolutions adopted by the ISMF;
- 10.3 The payment of their membership fees as fixed by the Plenary Assembly;
- 10.4 The respect of the World Anti-Doping Code , the ISMF Anti-Doping Rules, the decisions of ISMF Bodies, as well as the decisions of the CAS.

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- 10.5 The respect of gender equality in the political and sports acts of their national governing body.
 - 10.6 The respect of each ISMF National Member's mutual autonomy and shall in no way harm the development of other ISMF National Members.
 - 10.7 The process of requesting the same of their individual members participating in activities of the ISMF
 - 10.8 Their National Olympic Committee membership or actively seeking such membership.
 - 10.9 Support for the ISMF in its efforts to achieve its objectives.

Article 11 Membership Termination

- 11.1 Any ISMF National Member wishing to terminate membership shall inform the ISMF Office in writing before the end of May. Fees for the current year remain payable in full.
- 11.2 The membership shall end automatically, but no refund of fees will be made, if:
 - 11.2.1 An ISMF National Member withdraws its membership in accordance with Article 11.1
 - 11.2.2 An ISMF National Member ceases to exist.
 - 11.2.3 The ISMF National Member is excluded by the Plenary Assembly

Article 12 Exclusion of an ISMF National Member

- 12.1 Any ISMF National Member may be excluded from the ISMF by the Plenary Assembly:
 - 12.1.1 For non-payment of any liabilities to the ISMF;
 - 12.1.2 For infringement of these Statutes or other Regulations of the ISMF.
 - 12.1.3 For any other reason considered as just cause by the Plenary Assembly.

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- 12.2 This decision requires at least half of the ISMF National Members having the right to vote, to be present or represented. To be adopted, such items must receive the approval of two thirds of the votes cast.
- 12.3 Re-entry into the ISMF is only possible if the Full member, the Associate member, or the Provisional Member has fulfilled its financial and/or other obligations towards the ISMF.
- 12.4 A Full member, an Associate Member or a Provisional Member that ends its membership has no claim against the funds of the ISMF.

Article 13 Honorary Membership and Other Awards

The Plenary Assembly may confer the title of Honorary President of the ISMF, as well as the title of Honorary Member. Other awards may be conferred by the ISMF Council.

CHAPTER III ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE ISMF

Article 14 Organisation

The following bodies are established to govern and administer the ISMF, each with separately defined powers and duties:

- Plenary Assembly
- ISMF Council
- Bureau
- Continental Councils
- Technical Commissions, Athletes Commission and Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission)
- Compliance Office
- International Disciplinary Commission

Article 15 Plenary Assembly

- 15.1 The Plenary Assembly is the highest body of the ISMF and has ultimate authority for all activities of the ISMF.

15.2 Composition of Plenary Assembly:

15.2.1 All ISMF National Members may take part in the Plenary Assembly;

15.2.2 ISMF National Members shall be represented in the Plenary Assembly by Delegates who represent their national governing body according to these statutes.

Article 16 Meetings of Plenary Assembly

16.1 It convenes every year.

16.2 Organization of the Plenary Assembly shall be entrusted alternately to one of its Full members, Associate members, and Provisional members.

16.3 The date and venue for the Plenary Assembly, shall be agreed at the Plenary Assembly meeting two years prior.

16.4 The Plenary Assembly at the discretion of the Council of the ISMF may be held at two (2) or more venues as a Hybrid meeting or as a Virtual Meeting, provided that the way Plenary Assembly is held is consistent with Swiss Law and this Constitution and allows the Members a reasonable opportunity to participate.

16.5 Each ISMF National Member shall have only one (1) active access point (voice and vote, when applicable) to the meeting of the Plenary Assembly.

16.6 Other rules governing the conduct of a Hybrid Meeting, or a Virtual meeting shall be determined by the Council of the ISMF

16.7 The Plenary Assembly must be held within 4 months, or 6 months if special exigencies exist, after the financial year closing.

16.8 The calling notice must be sent to all full Members, Associate Members and Provisional Members at least 3 months prior to the date set for the Assembly.

Article 17 Powers of the Plenary Assembly

The Plenary Assembly has the following duties and powers:

17.1 to elect ISMF Council members;

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- 17.2 to elect the certified external Auditor in charge of the review of the annual accounts;
 - 17.3 to elect the Compliance Office;
 - 17.4 to fix admission, membership and other fees;
 - 17.5 to approve plans for future activities;
 - 17.6 to adopt and amend these Statutes;
 - 17.7 to amend all regulations;
 - 17.8 to decide the admission of new ISMF National Members based on the recommendation of the ISMF Council;
 - 17.9 To decide the exclusion of Full Members, Associate Members or Provisional Members;
 - 17.10 to approve the Minutes of Plenary Assembly meetings;
 - 17.11 to receive, discuss and approve the report of the ISMF Council;
 - 17.12 to review and approve the annual accounts after having heard the report of the Auditor;
 - 17.13 to review and approve the annual written report of the Compliance Office;
 - 17.14 to give discharge to the Treasurer and to the other members of the ISMF Council;
 - 17.15 to approve the budget;
 - 17.16 to approve the ISMF logo, and other items of image and identity, upon the recommendation of the ISMF Council;
 - 17.17 to decide all matters that no other body is competent to decide upon, or if the other bodies refer to the Plenary Assembly for the final decision;
 - 17.18 to elect the members of the International Disciplinary Commission, whose composition is stipulated in the Disciplinary Rules of the ISMF.

Article 18 Voting rights of the Plenary Assembly

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- 18.1 Each Full Member of the ISMF has one vote. Associate Members and Provisional Members have no voting rights.
- 18.2 At any Plenary Assembly, each ISMF National Member shall be represented by one delegate who may be assisted by one or two advisors at most.
- 18.3 Any ISMF National Member that has not paid its dues in full prior to the Plenary Assembly is not entitled to vote.
- 18.4 All delegates other than the President/Chair, Vice-President or General Secretary shall present at the registration of the Plenary Assembly a power of attorney document signed by one of the above-mentioned three (3) Officers.
- 18.5 Any ISMF National Member with voting rights may be represented by the delegate of another ISMF National Member being duly entitled to vote by means of a written proxy.
- 18.6 One delegate may not represent more than two other Members at the same time.

Article 19 Quorum of the Plenary Assembly

- 19.1 Changes and amendments of these Statutes, exclusions of Full members, Associate Members and Provisional Members, may only be considered if at least half of ISMF National Members having the right to vote are present or represented. In order to be adopted, such items must receive the approval of at least two-thirds of the votes cast.
- 19.2 For all other decisions made by the Plenary Assembly, except for the dissolution of the ISMF, there is no quorum. Decisions are taken by a majority of the votes cast.

Article 20 Taking of Decisions of the Plenary Assembly

- 20.1 Voting at the Plenary Assembly is conducted by a show of hands. Upon the request of any delegate entitled to vote, supported by at least one other delegate, all votes must be taken by secret written ballot.
- 20.2 Elections shall always be decided by secret written ballot.

Article 21 Agenda and proposals to the Plenary Assembly

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- 21.1 Items for inclusion in the Agenda of any Plenary Assembly may be presented by the ISMF Council or any ISMF National Member.
 - 21.2 Items presented by ISMF National Members are to be sent by email to the ISMF Council at least six weeks before the Plenary Assembly.
 - 21.3 Associate Members and Provisional Members are entitled to speak, but not to present proposals to the Plenary Assembly, in accordance to the relevant regulations.
 - 21.4 The full Agenda of a Plenary Assembly shall be sent to all ISMF National Members at least two weeks before the Plenary Assembly. Upon affirmative vote of no less than two-thirds of the Members being present and having voting rights, the Plenary Assembly itself may add items to the Agenda of any meeting.

Article 22 Extraordinary Plenary Assembly

- 22.1 The ISMF Council may at any time call an extraordinary Plenary Assembly.
- 22.2 At the written request of one-fifth of the ISMF National Members entitled to vote, the ISMF Council shall convene an extraordinary Plenary Assembly within three (3) months of receiving such a request.
- 22.3 The notice shall be circulated to the Full Members, Associate members, and Provisional Members no later than two (2) months before the date of the Extraordinary Plenary Assembly.
- 22.4 The notice shall include the mention of when and where, if on-site, the Extraordinary Plenary Assembly is to be held.
- 22.5 In the case, of a hybrid meeting or a virtual meeting, the notice shall include the relevant documentation including the virtual technology that will be used to hold the Extraordinary Plenary Assembly.
- 22.6 The request must be substantiated and accompanied by a proposal for the Agenda.

Article 23 Elections

- 23.1 Candidates standing for election to any position in the ISMF Council (with the exception of the representatives of the Continental Councils) shall be presented by the Full Member of the country.

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- 23.2 Nominations must be received in writing by the General Secretary of the ISMF, together with information about each candidate (curriculum vitae, recommendations, etc.) at least one month before the date of the Plenary Assembly, where the elections are to take place.
- 23.3 Information about the candidates shall be communicated to Full Members, Associate Members and Provisional Members together with the Agenda of the Plenary Assembly.
- 23.4 The members of the ISMF Council are elected by the Plenary Assembly for a term of office of four years. In the case in which a member is appointed after the beginning of this term, the member will keep their place until the end of the aforementioned term.
- 23.5 The President and the General Secretary will be elected during the Plenary Assembly held after the beginning of the Winter Olympic Cycle for a term of office of four years.
- 23.6 Other vacancies on the Council shall be filled at the next regular Plenary Assembly by election for a term of office of four years.
- 23.7 The members of the ISMF Council can be re-elected only for three consecutive terms of office or twelve years.
- 23.8 No member can stay more than four non-consecutive terms of office or sixteen years in the ISMF Council, even changing its position.
- 23.9 In case of non-attendance to at least two ISMF meetings (absence without leave), the councilor can be excluded from the ISMF Council.

Article 24 ISMF Council

- 24.1 The ISMF Council consists of the following officers:
- The President of the ISMF;
 - Three Vice-Presidents (1 Treasurer, 1 Sport & Events responsible, 1 Marketing & Communication responsible), and;
 - The General Secretary of the ISMF.
- 24.2 As well as:
- Four representatives from ISMF National Members entitled to vote;

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- Two representatives, one woman and one man, elected members of the Athletes Commission (entitled to vote);
 - One representative from each of the Continental Councils (entitled to vote).

24.3 At its discretion, the ISMF Council can convene collaborators and external professionals working for the ISMF for the purpose of taking part in the meetings when relevant subjects are discussed. In any case, they are not entitled to vote.

Article 25 Powers of the ISMF Council

The ISMF Council has but is not limited to, among others, the following powers established in these Statutes, and in particular the powers to:

- 25.1 implement all the policy directives and decisions made by the Plenary Assembly. In particular, this includes assigning to each of the three Vice-Presidents their tasks;
- 25.2 propose the agenda of the Plenary Assembly meetings;
- 25.3 prepare the annual accounts (consisting of the profit and loss statement and the balance sheet), under the supervision of the Treasurer;
- 25.4 make recommendations to the Plenary Assembly about:
 - 25.4.1 the long-term strategies of the ISMF;
 - 25.4.2 regulations and rules to be decided by the Plenary Assembly;
 - 25.4.3 the admission and exclusion of Full Members, Associate Members and Provisional Members;
- 25.5 decide the creation and dissolution of Technical Commissions, and may recommend a President for each Technical Commission;
- 25.6 set up the calendar of ISMF-approved competitions and to coordinate schedules of International and Continental competitions;
- 25.7 decide the terms and conditions of contracts between the ISMF and organisers of ISMF-approved competitions;
- 25.8 recommend any proposal of changes of ISMF Statutes;

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- 25.9 make recommendations on the terms and conditions of contracts to be concluded with third parties outside the ISMF. Strategic contracts exceeding EUR 20.000 must be approved by the ISMF Council;
 - 25.10 decide on membership issues between Plenary Assembly meetings;
 - 25.11 decide the official means of information of the ISMF;
 - 25.12 make recommendations to the Plenary Assembly concerning the election of members sitting in the International Disciplinary Commission;
 - 25.13 prepare the invitations to tender for outsourcing (for example: media service, travels, etc.);
 - 25.14 undertake administrative duties and tasks;
 - 25.15 supervise official ISMF competitions;
 - 25.16 supervise and co-ordinate the work of the Technical Commissions;
 - 25.17 manage ISMF finances;
 - 25.18 appoint an ISMF delegate for ISMF events as necessary;
 - 25.19 initiate and undertake negotiations with third parties.
 - 25.20 sign all statements and contracts that bind the ISMF. These documents must be signed by the President and one other member of the ISMF Council. In the case of absence, the President may be replaced by another member of the ISMF Council.
 - 25.21 the functioning of the administrative office of the ISMF
 - 25.22 hire all permanent employees and employed them in accordance with the annual budget.
 - 25.23 prepare and adopt ISMF Rules and Regulations except for ISMF Statutes and Bylaws.

Article 26 ISMF Council Meetings

- 26.1 The ISMF Council will meet at least four times every year. The organisation of its meetings shall be entrusted alternately to one of the ISMF National Member represented in the ISMF Council. The ISMF Council will meet also upon the request of the majority of its members.

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- 26.2 The ISMF Council may take decisions by correspondence and/or by any other means of communication, including electronic systems. In order to be validated, decisions taken in this way must be approved by at least a majority of the constituents.
- 26.3 Electronic systems are preferable for speedy decisions: "Yes", "No" or "Abstain".

Article 27 Agenda and Proposals for the ISMF Council

- 27.1 The Agenda for the ISMF Council meetings is prepared by the Bureau.
- 27.2 Any member of the ISMF Council is entitled to present proposals for the agenda. Such proposals must be submitted, with relevant documentation, at least one month before the date set for any ISMF Council meeting.
- 27.3 The full agenda shall be sent by the Bureau to the ISMF Council members at least two weeks prior to the meeting date.
- 27.4 ISMF Rules and Regulations that are directly related to competitions (organizing, ranking, sporting, participation...) must be published six months before the first World Cup stage of the season.

Article 28 Decisions, votes and quorum of the ISMF Council

- 28.1 Every member of the ISMF Council has one vote.
- 28.2 All decisions made by the ISMF Council are taken by a majority of the members present; no voting rights may be exercised by proxy.
- 28.3 The quorum of the ISMF Council consists of a majority of its members. In the event of a tie, the President has the casting vote.

Article 29 The Bureau

- 29.1 The Bureau [or Steering Committee] is composed by these officers:
- President of ISMF
 - Three Vice-Presidents (1 Treasurer, 1 Sport & Events responsible, 1 Marketing & Communication responsible) and;
 - The General Secretary

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- 29.2 The Bureau has to carry out all routine duties and specific tasks that have to be fulfilled between meetings of the ISMF Council.
- 29.3 It is responsible to the ISMF Council.

Article 30 The President

- 30.1 The rights and duties of the President shall include, among others conferred by the Plenary Assembly, the following:
- 30.1.1 To chair all meetings of the Plenary Assembly and of the ISMF Council.
 - 30.1.2 To represent ski mountaineering competitions in all important matters, especially those pertaining to the International Olympic Committee and other international organizations.
 - 30.1.3 When required, to delegate various aspects of ISMF management to other members of the ISMF Council.
 - 30.1.4 To attend or designate a Vice-President to attend and participate in all Commission meetings but without vote.
 - 30.1.5 If re-elected, the President can stay on only two consecutive terms of office.
 - 30.1.6 To appoint members for the Athletes' Commission from those proposed by its Chair when required.
 - 30.1.7 To validate the athlete's representatives, delegated by the Athletes Commission, as members of the other ISMF Commissions.
 - 30.1.8 To invite independent experts to the meetings of the Technical Commissions when deemed appropriate.
- 30.2 If the President is prevented from attending a meeting of the ISMF Council or a Plenary Assembly, the ISMF Council will appoint one of the Vice Presidents to chair those meetings. In the case of resignation, inability, death, or disability of the President, the Vice-President-Treasurer shall assume the President's duties until the next Plenary Assembly, where a new President will be appointed to serve the remainder of the four-year term.
- 30.3 Should the Vice-President-Treasurer in turn be unable to fulfill his/her obligations, the Vice-President-Sport & Events and/or the member of the ISMF Council who has served on the ISMF Council the longest shall assume his/her duties and convene an Extraordinary Plenary Assembly in order to elect appropriate replacements.

Article 31 Continental Councils

- 31.1 The Plenary Assembly may allow the formation of Continental Councils that are responsible for the administration, development and furtherance of ski mountaineering in the same continent or in a geographical entity.
- 31.2 They shall comply with, and enforce, the rules and regulations of the ISMF and cooperate with ISMF Bodies.
- 31.3 They may organise continental championships and other competitions in their area under the supervision and approval of the ISMF.
- 31.4 The Articles of the Association of Continental Councils must be submitted to the ISMF Council for approval.

Article 32 Compliance Office

- 32.1 The Compliance Office will ensure the ethics and the adaptations to the general and Internal Regulations of the ISMF, and of the agreements adopted by the ISMF Council. For this purpose, it will send an annual report to the Plenary Assembly. In order to prepare for the Plenary Assembly, members may request all the information they consider necessary.
- 32.2 The Compliance Office is composed by three members, elected by the Plenary Assembly for a term of office of four years.
- 32.3 The members themselves will determine who acts as president and who acts as secretary.
- 32.4 The agreements will be adopted by a simple majority of its members. In the event of a disagreement, it must be recorded together with the approved agreement if requested by the author.
- 32.5 The president is responsible for convening the sessions, establishing the agenda, and leading the debates.
- 32.6 The secretary will be responsible for drafting the minutes of the meetings and certifying the agreements.
- 32.7 The meetings may be face-to-face or held as a virtual or hybrid meeting.
- 32.8 The Compliance Office may request the administrative assistance of ISMF staff to carry out its functions.

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- 32.9 The members of the Compliance Office must:
- 32.9.1 Be independent and do not hold any function in the ISMF or be members of the governing bodies of their ISMF National Member
 - 32.9.2 Maintain the strictest confidentiality regarding the information of which they have knowledge, including them in the annual report addressed to the Plenary Assembly with whatever details they consider relevant.
- 32.10 The members of the Compliance Office may not be re-elected for a new term of office or be removed during his/her tenure of office.
- 32.11 In the event that there is a vacancy due to voluntary resignation, incapacity to assume the duties of office, or death, the Plenary Assembly shall elect a new member for the remainder of the term.

Article 33 International Disciplinary Commission

- 33.1 The function of the International Disciplinary Commission is to investigate and take appropriate action following any complaint concerning the breaching of rules written in the Statutes and in all other ISMF regulations approved by the Plenary Assembly and the ISMF Council or in the case of misconduct.
- 33.2 Decisions of the International Disciplinary Commission may only be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (in Lausanne, Switzerland). The procedure before the Court of Arbitration for Sport takes place according to its regulations. Rules concerning this Commission are set out in a regulation made by the ISMF Council, which may be consulted to the Plenary Assembly for a final decision.
- 33.3 All the costs of the International Disciplinary Commission, including the travel and accommodation costs of its members, shall be borne by the Athlete concerned by the disciplinary procedure, or by the respective ISMF National Member, regardless of the decision issued by the Commission.
- 33.4 The travel and accommodation expenses of the Commission members will be charged to the complainant/s in case of legal proceedings.
- 33.5 The travel and accommodation expenses of the Commission members shall be paid by the respective ISMF National Member, with regards to attendance at working meetings. International meetings are the responsibility of the ISMF.

33.6 The International Disciplinary Commission is composed of five members elected by the Plenary Assembly on the recommendation of the ISMF Council.

33.7 One of the members of the ISMF Council must participate – with voice, but not vote – in working meetings of the International Disciplinary Commission. This member shall be appointed at the beginning of the term of office by the President of the ISMF.

CHAPTER IV TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS

Article 34 Commissions

34.1 The ISMF Council appoints Technical Commissions for specific tasks, deciding of the number of its members depending on the purpose of the Commission.

34.2 The assignment of each Commission shall be reviewed by the ISMF Council to determine its future validity and effectiveness. Members of these Commissions are proposed by ISMF National Members and appointed by the ISMF Council. The expiration of the members of the Technical Commissions is regulated at the level of each Commission regulation.

34.3 Each Commission shall be directed by one of its members, who will serve as President.

Article 35 Athletes Commission

35.1 The Athletes Commission provides a permanent liaison between active athletes and the ISMF.

35.2 Its composition and functioning are stipulated in the Athletes Commission and Athletes Representatives Regulation.

Article 36 Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission

This commission is elected by the ISMF Council. Any measure regarding this Commission shall be established in the Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission Rules of the ISMF.

CHAPTER V DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Article 37 Dispute Resolution

- 37.1 Disputes arising from the ISMF Statutes or otherwise will be dealt with under the procedure and rules set out in a regulation made by the ISMF Council, which may be consulted to the Plenary Assembly for a final decision.
- 37.2 The final determination of a dispute, except those falling under 37.4, can only be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (in Lausanne, Switzerland) within twenty-one (21) days of the party's reception of the written, reasoned decision of the ISMF Body in question. The procedure before the Court of Arbitration for Sport takes place according to its regulations. The decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport will be final and there will be no further appeal possible.
- 37.3 Pending the resolution of an appeal by the CAS, the decision being appealed shall remain in full force and effect unless the CAS orders otherwise.
- 37.4 All "field-of-play" decisions, including decisions resolving protests or appeals in accordance with the ISMF Rules, will be final and binding on all parties concerned, and may not be challenged in any forum, save where the aggrieved party argues to have direct evidence that such decision is tainted by fraud or corruption or other bad faith/prejudice.

Article 38 Doping Matters

Any regulation regarding anti-doping matters shall be regulated in the ISMF Anti-Doping Rules;

CHAPTER VI Administrative

Article 39 Official Language

- 39.1 The official language of the ISMF is English. The Statutes may be subject to modification of the language used, in so much as the context and the content of the articles will remain unaltered but the English language used within in said Statutes may be subject to improvement in terms of grammar and clarity.

Article 40 Finances and Resources

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- 40.1 The financial year of the ISMF shall annually run from 1 July until 30 June.
- 40.2 The ISMF will finance its own activities through sources such as:
- 40.2.1 the membership and subscription fees of its members;
 - 40.2.2 the fees for the organization and for the authorization of official Competitions, and;
 - 40.2.3 any other resources that may be available (sponsorships, television rights, donations, etc.).
- 40.3 All funds or other property of ISMF shall be applied to the furtherance of the objectives of the ISMF.

Article 41 Budget Allocation

- 41.1 The staff employed by the ISMF is entitled to receive the remuneration fixed by the Council of the ISMF.
- 41.2 Members of the Council, the Compliance Office and the Commissions of the ISMF may be entitled to receive compensation laid down in a Compensation Policy.
- 41.3 The Compensation Policy requires the approval of the Plenary Assembly of the ISMF.
- 41.4 Any compensation or remuneration paid under articles 40.1 and 40.2 shall be disclosed in the Annual Accounts.
- 41.5 The expenses of the ISMF Bureau and the Compliance Office related to the participation of meetings are borne by the ISMF according to the present Statutes.
- 41.6 The expenses of the ISMF Council and the Commissions related to the participation of meetings are a charge of, and have to be paid by, the respective ISMF National Member.
- 41.7 The ISMF Council can annually allocate special budgets for the Commissions in relation to the coverage of meeting expenses.
- 41.8 Within approved budgets, the Plenary Assembly of the ISMF and the ISMF Council have the power to authorize the remunerations and expenses to individuals and/or organizations who have provided specific professional services or advice.

Article 42 Annual Auditor Report

The Plenary Assembly of the ISMF shall:

- 42.1 receive and approve annual budgets detailing the forecast income from all sources;
- 42.2 receive and approve the proposed annual expenditure;
- 42.3 establish and maintain a financial accounting system, and;
- 42.4 produce annual accounts audited by the certified Auditor, elected by the Plenary Assembly of the ISMF.

Article 43 Liabilities

- 43.1 Only the assets of the ISMF can be used to settle ISMF liabilities and obligations.
- 43.2 ISMF National Members are not personally liable for the debts and obligations of the ISMF.
- 43.3 No funds or other property of the ISMF shall be paid to or distributed among ISMF National Members.
- 43.4 Every member of the Council, every member of a Commission, and the ISMF's staff, will be indemnified by the ISMF, to the extent permitted under Swiss Law, in respect of any personal liability (for fines, damages, costs or otherwise) arising from any claim (whether civil or criminal) that is made against them as a result of their office or the exercise of their powers or the execution of their duties under these Statutes and/or the Rules and Regulations, provided that they can demonstrate that they have acted at all times in good faith.

Article 44 Currency

The basic currency for annual accounting purposes will be the Euro.

Article 45 Dissolution of ISMF

- 45.1 A three-quarters majority of the ISMF Full Members may propose the dissolution of the ISMF. The dissolution becomes effective on approval of the proposal by a three-quarter majority at the Plenary Assembly, providing that at least two-thirds of the members entitled to vote are present or represented at the Plenary Assembly.

45.2 The dissolution becomes effective on approval of the proposal by a three-quarter majority at the Plenary Assembly, providing that at least two-thirds of the members entitled to vote are present or represented at the Plenary Assembly.

45.3 The dissolution of assets pertaining to the ISMF shall be decided by the Plenary Assembly in charge of dissolving the ISMF and shall be in keeping with the aims of the ISMF and transferred to a tax-exempt Swiss legal entity.

CHAPTER VII MISCELLANEOUS

Article 46 Severability

46.1 Where a matter arises for which provision has not been made in these Statutes and/or the Rules and Regulations the Council may provide for the matter as it deems appropriate.

46.2 If any provision of these Statutes is determined to be unlawful or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of these Statutes will remain intact and enforceable.

Article 47 Effective date

These Statutes have been approved by the ISMF Plenary Assembly in Paris on October 14th, 2023 and became effective on October 14th, 2023. They supersede all prior statutes of the ISMF as of October 14th,2023.

Transitory Dispositions

First.- The members of the ISMF Council to be elected during the Plenary Assembly in 2023 shall have for the only occasion a term of office of three years. The period must be concluded after the end of the XXV Olympic Winter Games (Milano Cortina-2026).

Second.- From 2026 and in the following years, the term of office of the elected members of the Council of the ISMF shall follow the established Winter Olympic Period of four years

Third.- The elected members of the ISMF Council that do not finish their term of office in 2023, may choose between:

- a) Continue to the end of their term.
- b) Present candidacy in the elections of 2023.