

Proposals

Danish Fencing Federation
Estonian Fencing Association
Finnish Fencing and Pentathlon Association
Latvian Fencing Federation
Lithuanian Fencing Federation
Norwegian Fencing Federation
Swedish Fencing Federation

Proposal 1

It is clear that the current Statutes are lacking in any regulation of expulsion of a Member Federation. Also, the Statutes do not mention the possibility of suspension of a Member Federation, yet there have already been cases where Member Federations have been suspended.

This proposal aims to find a reasonable regulation of the processes of expulsion and suspension, respecting the hierarchy of sports organizations and the need to safeguard the credibility of our sport by respecting decisions from the United Nations.

ARTICLE 2.5. LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

A Member Federation may lose its membership of the EFC:

- by resignation;
- by expulsion
- by failure to comply with the requirements of the present Statutes.

The decision to expulse a Member Federation is taken by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive committee or of a Member Federation.

The reasons that could motivate an expulsion are:

- decision of the FIE to expulse the Member Federation
- failure to comply with the requirements of the present Statutes.

A Member Federation must be given an opportunity to be heard before a decision of expulsion is taken, via a written procedure or during a special hearing or by being present at the Congress where the decision is taken.

ARTICLE 2.6. SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

The membership of a Member Federation of the EFC may be suspended.
The decision to suspend the membership of a Member Federation is taken by the Executive Committee or by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive committee or of a Member Federation. If the decision is taken by the Executive Committee, it must be endorsed by the next Congress.

The reasons that should motivate a suspension of a Member Federation are:

- sanctions imposed by the United Nations
- decisions of the International Olympic Committee or the FIE
- when there is reasonable ground to suspect that the behavior of the Member Federation is in violation of national or international law or of the statutes of said the Member Federation
- failure to comply with the requirements of the present Statutes.

The suspension of a Member Federation implies the following consequences:

- that athletes and coaches representing the suspended Member Federation are not allowed to participate in any activities organised by the EFC
- that referees and other competition officials representing the suspended Member Federation are not allowed to participate in any activities organised by the EFC
- that elected individuals in the organisation representing the suspended Member Federation are not allowed to participate in any activities organised by the EFC or to take part in meetings to exercise their right to vote in the body of the EFC to which they have been elected
- that the suspended Member Federation cannot organise any activity of the EFC
- that individual representing the suspended Member Federation are not allowed to participate in the Congress or to be candidates in any elections within the EFC
- the non-eligibility of the Member Federation for any grants or other funding from the EFC and the forfeit of any grants or other funding which have been decided but where payment has not yet been executed.

If the consequences of the suspension of a Member Federation are expanded or reduced compared to the list above, the consequences must be specified in the decision.

A Member Federation must be given an opportunity to be heard before a decision of expulsion is taken, via a written procedure or during a special hearing or by being present at the Congress where the decision is taken.

Annulment of an installed suspension can only take place by decision of Congress or of the Executive Committee, within the ordinary protocol of the Congress or by appeal from the suspended Member Federation. The Executive Committee cannot revoke the decision on its own accord.

Proposal 2

We propose that the Member Federations of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus are immediately suspended according to the Statutes of the EFC

The reason is that the nations of these two Member Federations, through their invasion of Ukraine and continued aggression towards the Ukrainian people, have in the words of the IOC President, “blatantly violated the Olympic truce”. It is not fair that sanctions for this crime should only affect the athletes and the coaches of these two countries.

The decision should have the full consequences described in the Statutes and especially the Russian and Belarussian decision-makers in sport must be sanctioned since there are serious conflicts of interest when situations with international sanctions against nations are imposed.

It is clear that, in order for the EFC to function, the suspension of the two Member Federations must also include functionaries such as the President, the members of the Executive Committee and of any EFC Commissions since they now represent clear cases of conflict of interest. It is not possible that the President of the EFC, who is at the same time president of the Russian Olympic Committee, should remain in office.