

CONSTITUTION OF THE GHANA OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

PREAMBLE

There is established by this Constitution the Ghana Olympic Committee (hereinafter referred to as the GOC) as the National Olympic Committee and Commonwealth Games Association of Ghana. The Ghana Olympic Committee is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation of unlimited duration which exercises its jurisdiction over the whole territory of the Republic of Ghana.

1. We, the Ghana Olympic Committee, an organization belonging to the Olympic Movement, duly represented by the undersigned mandated officers, undertake to respect the provisions of the Olympic Charter, the World Anti-Doping Code, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth Games Federation (hereinafter referred to as CGF), and to abide by the decisions of the International Olympic Committee (hereinafter referred to as IOC) and do make this Constitution to govern our affairs.
2. We undertake, in accordance with our mission and role at national level, to participate in actions to promote peace and to promote women in sport.
3. We also undertake to support and encourage the promotion of sports ethics, to fight against doping, gambling and racism in sport, and to demonstrate a responsible concern for environmental issues.

ARTICLE 1 – MISSION

The mission of the Ghana Olympic Committee is to develop and protect the Olympic Movement in Ghana, and to promote the ideals of the Commonwealth Games in accordance with the Olympic Charter and the Constitution of the CGF. In order to fulfill this mission, the GOC may cooperate with governmental or non-governmental bodies. However, the GOC shall never associate itself with any activity which would be in conflict with the Olympic Charter.

ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVES

The GOC shall be an, independent and autonomous organization with the following objectives;

1. To propagate the fundamental principles and values of Olympism at national, regional and district levels within the framework of national and international sporting activities.
2. To contribute to the incorporation of Olympism in the teaching programmes of physical education and sports in schools, colleges and tertiary institutions.
3. To establish institutions committed to Olympic education; in particular the establishment and promotion of a National Olympic Academy, Olympic museums and other cultural programmes related to the Olympic Movement.
4. To ensure the strict observance of the Olympic Charter in Ghana.
5. To promote the development of sports for all Ghanaians.
6. To ensure that Ghana is adequately represented at all Olympic, Commonwealth and other International Games which conform to the Olympic ideals.
7. To protect the National Sports image and to see to its healthy development, free from political, religious, legal, economic, ethnic and racial interference.

8. To solicit resources to support Government funding for the presentation of Ghanaian teams at the Olympic, Commonwealth and other International Games, and to administer and supervise the disbursement and utilization of such funds in the interest of those Games.
9. To establish and maintain affiliation with the IOC, CGF, ANOC, and ANOCA.
10. To consult with other Associations, Institutions or persons upon matters of common interest relating to sports, coordinate their views and opinions and make representations on behalf of or in conjunction with any of them to the public or otherwise on such matters, and generally to promote co-operation with any Association, Institution or person as may be deemed fit in the interest of the GOC and to the benefit of sports or physical recreation in Ghana generally.
11. To encourage and provide facilities for the training of sports administrators and to organize relevant courses on sports.
12. To promote the Olympic Movement through the organization of such activities as the "Olympic Day or Week."
13. To promote Culture and the Arts in the field of sports and Olympics.
14. To participate in the programmes of Olympic Solidarity.
15. To take action against any form of discrimination and violence in sport and to adopt and implement the World Anti-Doping Code, thereby ensuring that the GOC anti-doping policies and rules, membership, funding requirements and management procedures conform with the World anti-Doping Code.
16. To maintain harmonious relationships and promote co-operation with appropriate Governmental bodies while preserving the GOC's autonomy.

ARTICLE 3 – RIGHTS, DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES, GENERAL OBLIGATIONS AND EXCLUSIVE POWERS

1. The GOC is the only Committee in Ghana recognized and approved by the IOC for the purpose of entering competitors in the Olympic and qualifying games. The GOC shall conduct its activities in accordance with the Olympic Rules and Regulations and the high ideals of the Olympic Movement in order to be recognized by the IOC.
2. The GOC is the only body in Ghana recognized by the Commonwealth Games Federation for the purposes of entering competitors in the Commonwealth and qualifying games.
3. It is the responsibility of the GOC, in co-operation with the National Federations, to organize and control sportsmen and women from Ghana at the Olympic, Commonwealth, and other International Games, and to provide other facilities that may be needed by the athletes.
4. GOC shall participate in every Olympiad and Commonwealth Games by sending athletes.
5. GOC shall constitute, organize and lead all Ghanaian delegations to Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and other Regional, Continental or Global multi-sports competitions patronized by the IOC.
6. GOC shall ensure the discipline of Ghana's delegation to all games and shall be held responsible for the misconduct of any member.
7. The GOC shall have the exclusive powers for the representation of Ghana at the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, and at other Regional, Continental or World multi-sports competitions patronized by the IOC.
8. The GOC shall have the responsibility to designate the Ghanaian city which may apply to host the Olympic, Commonwealth, and other Regional, Continental, or World multi-sports Games patronized by the IOC.

9. It is the duty of the GOC to develop and protect the Olympic Movement and the national sports governing bodies (National Federations), affiliated to the International Federations. It shall cooperate with the National Sports Authority in the promotion of sports on a basis consistent with the ideals of the Olympic Movement.
10. The GOC shall operate as a non-profit organization committed to the promotion and encouragement of the physical, moral, cultural and educational wellbeing of the youth of Ghana towards the development of good character, good health and good citizenship.
11. The GOC shall not associate itself with any organization established for political purposes.
12. The GOC shall be completely independent and autonomous and shall resist all undue political, legal, religious or economic pressures.
13. The GOC shall fight discrimination on grounds of race, colour, ethnicity, sex or creed in sports.
14. The GOC shall present a certified true copy of its Constitution to the IOC.
15. The GOC shall also send certified copies of the Minutes of the Congress at which the members and officers were elected to the IOC.
16. The GOC is responsible to the IOC for the observance in Ghana, of Rules 7 - 14 and of their bye-laws, of the Olympic Charter. In particular:
 - a) It shall take steps to prohibit any use of the Olympic symbol, flag, motto or anthem which would be contrary to these Rules or other bye-laws.
 - b) It shall also endeavour to obtain protection of the designations "Olympic" and "Olympiad" for the benefit of the IOC.
 - c) The GOC may at any time, call upon IOC for its assistance in obtaining protection, for the Olympic symbol, flag, motto or anthem and for the settlement of any differences which may arise with third parties in such matters.
 - d) The GOC may, with the prior approval of the IOC Executive Board, use the Olympic symbol, flag, motto and anthem within the framework of their non-profit making activities, provided such use contributes to the development of the Olympic Movement and does not detract from its dignity.

ARTICLE 4 – MEMBERSHIP

1. Voting Membership of the GOC must be open to the following:
 - a. Any IOC member(s) in Ghana who shall be ex-officio voting member of the GOC Congress and Board.
 - b. All national federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives.
 - c. Elected representatives of athletes. Those representatives must have taken part in the Olympic Games. They must retire from their posts at the latest by the end of the third Olympiad after the last Olympic Games in which they took part.
2. Voting Membership of the GOC may also be open to the following:
 - a. National Federations affiliated to IFs recognised by the IOC, the sports of which are not included in the programme of the Olympic Games.
 - b. Multi-sports groups and other sports-oriented organisations or their representatives.
3. Non-Voting Honorary or Life Membership may be open to such persons as may be elected by the Congress (upon proposal from the Board) to be Honorary or Life members. Honorary membership may be conferred on a Ghanaian of good character and integrity who has

distinguished himself in the promotion and development of sports and has shown a clear commitment and understanding of the Olympic ideals.

4. The GOC shall not recognise more than one National Federation for each sport governed by an International Federation.
5. Members of the GOC shall be citizens of the Republic of Ghana.
6. A member or Honorary member expelled from the IOC may not be admitted as a member of the GOC, and must be expelled from the GOC if already a member.
7. Except for members who devote themselves to the administration of sport, no member of the GOC shall accept salary or bonuses of any kind as consideration for the performance of their functions.
8. The Government of Ghana or other public authorities shall not designate any member of the GOC. However, the GOC Congress may elect as members, representatives of such authorities.
9. Affiliation process:
 - a. National Federations seeking affiliation with the GOC shall apply to the GOC for membership and provide their constitutions and other relevant information as the GOC may require. They shall ensure that their organizational methods conform to requirements of their International Federations. They shall undertake to adhere to the principles of the Olympic Movement, function in accordance with the Olympic Ideals, and undertake to respect the Rules, Regulations, Bye Laws, and decisions of the GOC.
 - b. Other entities (as per paragraph 2.b. of this Article) seeking affiliation with the GOC shall apply to the GOC for membership and provide their constitutions and other relevant information as the GOC may require. They shall undertake to adhere to the principles of the Olympic Movement, function in accordance with the Olympic Ideals, and undertake to respect the Rules, Regulations, Bye Laws, and decisions of the GOC.
 - c. Final decision to accept or reject any application for membership shall be made by the Congress.
10. Cessation/termination of membership:

A member may cease to be a member in the following circumstances:

 - a. With respect to a federation/legal entity:
 - i. Upon dissolution;
 - ii. If the member no longer fulfills the requirements of this Constitution;
 - iii. Upon expulsion in case of violation of this Constitution and/or the Olympic Charter and/or the IOC's Code of Ethics, subject to a decision made by the Congress and after having given a reasonable opportunity to the member concerned to be heard or after recommendation by the Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committee. Such decision shall be made by a majority of at least 2/3 of the votes cast by the voting delegates present at the Congress.
 - b. With respect to natural persons:
 - i. Upon death, resignation or loss of the position for which he/she is entitled to be a member;
 - ii. Upon conviction for a criminal offence involving fraud, stealing, dishonesty, or moral turpitude;
 - iii. Upon expulsion in case of violation of this Constitution or the Olympic Charter or the IOC's Code of Ethics, subject to a final decision made by the Congress and after having given a reasonable opportunity to the member concerned to be heard or after recommendation by the Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committee.

Such decision shall be made by a majority of at least 2/3 of the votes cast by the voting delegates present at the Congress.

11. Register of members: A register of members must be established and kept regularly up-to-date under the responsibility of the Secretary General. This register shall, in particular, include the following information: Member's name and address; Date of membership; Category of membership; Membership status.
12. Subscription and Affiliation Fees:
 - a. All National Federations of sports on the Olympic programme nominating representatives and all affiliated Federations not on the Olympic programme shall pay such annual subscription or affiliation fees as may be determined by the Congress.
 - b. A Member for Life shall upon election pay a fixed amount as may be determined by the Congress and shall pay no annual subscription.
 - c. An Honorary Member shall pay such annual subscription as the Congress may determine.
 - d. All annual subscription and affiliation fees shall be due on 30th January each year. If any subscription or affiliation fee is not paid within three months after it is due, the Secretary General shall give written notice of the fact to the Member or Affiliated Body in arrears, and if the subscription or affiliation fee remains unpaid for one year from the date when it is due, the membership or affiliation as the case may be of the Member or Affiliated Body shall cease upon final decision made by the Congress (by 2/3 majority of the votes cast by the voting delegates present).
 - e. All subscriptions, donations and other monies shall be paid by the Treasurer into the account of the GOC.
 - f. Payment of any subscription or affiliation fees specified by the Congress may be waived by the Congress.

ARTICLE 5 - THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. There shall be a General Assembly of the GOC (hereinafter referred to as the Congress) which shall be the highest decision-making body of the GOC.
2. Congress shall meet at least once every year. Where for any legitimate reason it is not possible to convene Congress as prescribed the Board shall communicate the reason to members of the GOC and take steps to convene the assembly within 6 months of default.
3. Extra-ordinary Congress shall be convened by the decision of the President or upon resolution of the Board or upon a resolution passed to that effect by at least 2/3 of voting members stating reasons for the request.
4. Upon such request the Board shall convene an extra-ordinary congress within 30 days but deliberations at the meeting shall be limited to the agenda proposed in the resolution.
5. The Congress shall have the following powers and duties:
 - a. Examine and approve the strategic plan and action plan of the GOC.
 - b. Hear, examine and approve the annual report of activities of the GOC presented by the President/Secretary General/Board.
 - c. Examine and approve the Audited Statement of accounts as at 31st December of the immediately preceding year presented by the Treasurer and Auditor.
 - d. Examine and approve the annual budget for the following year presented by the Treasurer.

- e. Select the Election Commission members prior to the elections of the members of the Board and Executive Committee.
- f. Elect the members of the Disciplinary/Grievance/Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee.
- g. Upon the recommendation of the Board, constitute such standing Congress committees as it may deem fit to ensure a smooth conduct of Congress.
- h. Elect the members of the Board and the Executive Committee.
- i. Select the Auditor that will review the GOC financial statements annually.
- j. Approve or reject the affiliation of any members of the GOC.
- k. Decide upon expulsion of GOC members (by 2/3 majority of voting delegates present).
- l. Define the membership fees, if applicable.
- m. Consider and adopt any amendment to this Constitution (by 2/3 majority of all voting delegates of the GOC).
- n. Consider and approve any additional bye-laws or internal regulations proposed by the Board, which are not in contradiction with this constitution and the Olympic Charter.
- o. Interpret this Constitution as the case may be and subject to the Olympic Charter.
- p. In general, decide on all matters on its agenda and on any matter which is not provided for by this Constitution, as the case may be and subject to the Olympic Charter.

ARTICLE 6 – COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS

Congress shall be composed of:

1. The President of GOC as Chairman (with voting right).
2. The Board members (with voting right).
3. Any IOC member(s) in Ghana (with voting right).
4. Two (2) representatives (with one voting right each) of each National Federation affiliated to the International Federations (IFs) whose sports are included in the Olympic programme. The representatives of such National Federations must constitute the voting majority at the General Assembly (Congress) of the GOC.
5. One (1) representative (with one voting right each) of each affiliated National Federation or bodies whose sports are not included on the Olympic programme.
6. At least two (2) athlete representatives, if possible one male and one female, (with one voting right each) elected by the GOC athletes' commission (or by the Congress if there is no athletes commission) from among athletes having taken part in at least one of the last three editions of the Olympic Games.
7. One (1) representative (with one voting right each) of each affiliated institution (as per Article 4.2.b of this Constitution).
8. Two (2) representatives (with one voting right each) of the Ghana Olympians Association (GOA).
9. Honorary Members and Members for Life may participate in the Congress (without voting right).

The list of delegates that can attend and vote at congress is indicated in the Schedule, and may be amended from time to time by Congress.

ARTICLE 7 – PROCEEDINGS FOR CONGRESS MEETINGS

1. Notice of Meeting:
 - a. At least twenty-one (21) days' notice in writing shall be given to all members before any Congress. The said notice shall specify the venue, date, time of the meeting and the

business to be transacted. An omission to give notice to any member or the non-receipt of any notice by any member shall not nullify any decision taken at the meeting provided there is a quorum.

- b. Any proposal by a voting member to include a specific additional matter to the agenda of the meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary General no later than seven (7) days prior to the meeting.
 - c. All working documents in relation to the meeting shall be distributed to the members within a reasonable deadline and in all cases not later than seven (7 days) prior to the meeting.
2. Chair: Meetings of the Congress are chaired by the President. In the absence of the President, the First Vice-President (or in the absence of the First Vice President, the Second Vice President or in the absence of the Second Vice President, the Third Vice President) shall chair the meeting. In the absence of all, the Congress shall elect a Chairman of the meeting from among its voting members.
 3. Quorum: Unless otherwise provided in this Constitution, quorum for the transaction of business shall be one-half of the voting members provided that, at all times the representatives of the National Federations on the Olympic programme shall constitute a voting majority. The voting requirement for Congress shall apply to the deliberations of the Board and Sub-Committees.
 4. Decision-making: Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, decisions are taken by simple majority of the valid votes cast by the voting delegates present. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote.
 5. Voting:
 - a. Voting shall be as per Article 6 of this Constitution.
 - b. The voting majority of the Congress shall always consist of the votes cast by the National Federations affiliated to the International Federations (IFs) governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives.
 - c. In addition, when dealing specifically with questions relating to the Olympic Games, only the representatives of the National Federations affiliated to IFs whose sports are included in the Olympic programme shall have a vote.
 - d. Voting must be by secret ballot when voting is conducted on persons (in particular for the elections). For other matters, voting shall be conducted by show of hands unless at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of the voting members present at the meeting request a vote by secret ballot.
 - e. Voting by proxy is not allowed.
 6. Election of the officers and members of the Board: The officers and members of the Board shall be elected every four (4) years by the Congress. The procedure for the election shall be as follows:
 - a. Nomination forms shall be sent to all voting members of the Congress no later than twenty-one (21) days before the elections together with the notice of the meeting.
 - b. Nominations may be submitted by any voting member of the Congress no later than seven (7) days before the elections.
 - c. All voting members of the Congress will be notified of the names and brief background of the candidates no later than five (5) days before the elections.
 - d. The Congress shall elect an independent Election Commission to facilitate and oversee the election process. This Election Commission shall be composed of 3 members. None of these 3 members must be a candidate for a position. They must be independent and neutral, and must have no conflict of interest with the elections.

- e. The actual election at congress shall be conducted by the Electoral Commission of Ghana
 - f. The election shall be conducted position by position, beginning with the position of President, and by secret ballot.
 - g. The Electoral Commission of Ghana shall prepare a transparent ballot box and all ballot papers to be given to the voting members of the Congress.
 - h. Once all voting members have been invited to vote by the Electoral Commission, the Electoral Commission shall open the ballot box and count the votes publicly.
 - i. If there is/are one/two candidate(s) for a position, the candidate obtaining 50 % + 1 of the votes validly cast shall be declared elected.
 - j. If there are more than two candidates and none of them obtains at least 50% + 1 of the votes validly cast in the first round, there shall be a second round between the two candidates obtaining the highest number of votes validly cast in the first round. In this second round, the candidate obtaining 50 % + 1 of the votes validly cast shall be declared elected.
 - k. The mandate of the GOC Election Commission shall terminate once the candidates have been declared elected.
 - l. As mentioned in the Olympic Charter, the elected representatives of the national federations affiliated to the international federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games must constitute the voting majority of the Board.
7. Minutes of the meetings: The Secretary General (or in his/her absence the Assistant Secretary General or in his/her absence a member of the Board or Congress designated by the Chairman) is responsible for recording the minutes of the meetings of the Congress. The minutes shall be circulated to all members within 30 days following the meeting.

ARTICLE 8 – THE BOARD

- 1. There shall be a Board which shall govern the affairs of the GOC.
- 2. Members of the Board shall be elected by Congress.
- 3. Both genders shall be represented on the Board.
- 4. The Board shall comprise of;
 - a. The President
 - b. Three (3) Vice Presidents
 - c. Secretary-General
 - d. Assistant Secretary-General
 - e. Treasurer
 - f. Assistant Treasurer
 - g. Five (5) representatives elected from National Federations or bodies affiliated to the IFs recognized by the IOC and whose sports are included in the Olympic programme. The voting majority of the Board shall in all cases consist of the votes cast by representatives of Olympic Sports Federations.
 - h. Any Ghanaian who is a member of the IOC.
 - i. One elected member from a non-Olympic Sport Federation.
 - j. One (1) elected member from a National Federation affiliated to the GOC.
 - k. Not more than three (3) members elected by Congress.
 - l. The Director-General of the National Sports Authority, as a non-voting, ex-officio member.

5. The office holders in Article 8 clause 3 (a – f) shall be designated as the Executive Committee (ExCo) of the Board.

ARTICLE 9 – TENURE OF OFFICE

1. Members of the Board shall be elected at the General Assembly (Congress) immediately following the Games of the Olympiad for a four (4) year term as per the election procedure mentioned in this Constitution.
2. The President and the other members of the Board are eligible for re-election for two additional consecutive 4-year terms.
3. Where, however, a Board member's status hinges on him/her being a representative of a federation, such member shall not be eligible for re-election when that member ceases to be an officer of an eligible GOC member.
4. A member of the Board shall not during his/her tenure cease to hold office by reason only of the fact that s/he no longer represents a federation.
5. A position on the Board shall become vacant if:
 - a. A member dies.
 - b. A member resigns.
 - c. A member is absent from meetings of the Board for three (3) consecutive times without reasonable excuse.
 - d. A member is expelled by a decision of Congress taken by a two-thirds majority of voting delegates present after being given a reasonable opportunity to be heard or following a recommendation to expel made by the Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committee.
 - e. The Board may prior to the decision of Congress suspend the member after giving to the member concerned a reasonable opportunity to be heard or after accepting the recommendations of the Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committee.
6. Any vacancy on the Board shall be filled by election of a new member (for the remainder of the term) at the next Congress.

ARTICLE 10 – FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board shall be accountable to Congress, and has powers and duties to:

1. Provide policy direction for the GOC between congresses.
2. Provide oversight to the Executive Committee (ExCo) of the Board, which shall administer and conduct the day-to-day affairs of the GOC on behalf of the Board.
3. Submit proposals to the Congress for the definition of the strategic and action plan of the GOC.
4. Implement the resolutions passed by the Congress.
5. Prepare the annual budget, reports and accounts of the GOC for submission to the Congress.
6. Convene a congress of the GOC not later than 30th April and present a report on the GOC activities for the year and an audited statement of account as at 31st December of the immediately preceding year.
7. Organize an Extraordinary Congress when necessary.
8. Manage the property and funds of the GOC in the framework of the annual budget approved by the Congress.
9. Recommend to Congress the constitution of any such standing congress committees or commissions as it may deem fit to ensure a smooth conduct of Congress.

10. Work extensively to achieve the goals and objectives of the GOC.
11. Shortlist the delegation and participants in the Olympic Games, in the Commonwealth Games, and in the Regional, Continental and World multi-sports competitions patronized by the IOC, upon proposal from the National Federations and in close coordination with them.
12. Provide assistance and advice to National Federations in order to improve their development and operations, if necessary.
13. Establish and monitor any sub-committees, commissions or working bodies as it deems necessary to carry out the objectives of the GOC.
14. Draft any bye-laws and/or internal regulations compliant with this Constitution and the Olympic Charter for adoption by the Congress.
15. Exercise any other powers as per this Constitution and/or as delegated by the Congress.
16. Meet as and when necessary to discuss matters affecting the GOC.

ARTICLE 11 – POWERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

The powers and duties of the Board Members shall be as follows:

1. The President shall be the legal representative of the GOC and assume the chair in all meetings.
2. The Vice Presidents shall assist the President in his/her duties. In his absence, the 1st Vice President or the 2nd Vice President or the 3rd Vice President, in that order, shall replace the President.
3. The Secretary-General shall convene a meeting on the instructions of the President, keep the minutes, and run the Secretariat.
4. The Assistant Secretary-General shall assist the Secretary-General in the performance of his/her duties.
5. The Treasurer shall maintain the accounts and keep records of all the Committee's financial transactions.
6. The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in the performance of his/her duties.
7. Beyond the roles of the Executive Committee members outlined above, who shall conduct the day-to-day affairs of the GOC including the running of the Secretariat, the other members of the Board shall actively participate in the work of the GOC.
8. The members of the Board may perform any other specific functions as prescribed by the Congress or the Board and as the case may be.

ARTICLE 12 – PROCEEDINGS FOR BOARD MEETINGS

1. Meetings: The Board shall meet at least once every three months. Urgent meetings can be convened as and when necessary by decision of the President or upon request of at least 1/3 of the voting members of the Board.
2. Notice of Meeting: At least seven (7) days' notice of any meeting of the Board shall be given by the Secretary-General unless the President or a Vice President determines that the urgency of the business to be transacted makes it desirable that the meeting be convened with shorter notice. Members will be notified of the time, venue, and agenda for the meeting. The Secretary-General shall convene a meeting of the Board upon the direction of the President. Where for any reason the officers designated to convene meetings are unable, unwilling, or refuse to do so, a resolution signed by a majority of Board Members shall constitute sufficient authority for the convening of such meetings.

3. Chair: Meetings of the Board are chaired by the President. In the absence of the President, the First Vice-President (or in the absence of the First Vice President, the Second Vice President or in the absence of the Second Vice President, the Third Vice President) shall chair the meeting.
4. Quorum: Quorum for the transaction of business shall be one-half of the voting members of the Board provided that, at all times the representatives of the National Federations on the Olympic programme shall constitute a voting majority.
5. Decision-making: Decisions are taken by majority of the valid votes cast by the voting members present. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote.
6. Voting:
 - a. Each voting officer and member of the Board shall have one vote.
 - b. The voting majority of the Board shall always consist of the votes cast by the representatives of the National Federations affiliated to the International Federations (IFs) governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games.
 - c. Voting shall be by show of hands (except for a vote on persons which shall be made by secret ballot) unless at least 1/3 of the voting members present at the meeting request a vote by secret ballot.
 - d. Voting by proxy is not allowed.
7. Minutes of the meetings: The Secretary General (or in his/her absence the Assistant Secretary General or in his/her absence a member of the Board designated by the Chairman) is responsible for recording the minutes of the meetings of the Board. The minutes shall be circulated to all members of the Board within 15 days following the meeting.
8. The Board may formulate additional regulations to guide the conduct of its business.

ARTICLE 13 – DISCIPLINARY/GRIEVANCE/DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. The Congress shall constitute a Disciplinary/Grievance/Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee comprising not more than five persons drawn from membership of the GOC or from non-members, including a chairman who shall be a lawyer of not less than 10 years standing.
2. The Sub-Committee shall investigate cases of indiscipline as may be requested from the Board, National Federations or any other member acting through the Board.
3. The Sub-Committee shall also receive and investigate any grievances or complaints as may be lodged by members of the Board or of any National Federation, or by any other sports administrator or sportsman or woman of a GOC member.
4. The Sub-Committee shall also receive and investigate any sports-related disputes within the GOC submitted by any of its voting members.
5. The Sub-Committee shall regulate its proceedings in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. All complaints or requests to the Sub-Committee shall be in writing and addressed to the chairman of the Sub-Committee, channeled through the Secretary General. The notice shall set out the name of the party or person against whom the claim is made, the nature of the claim / dispute and a summary of the facts on which the claim / dispute is founded. Where the Secretary-General is the person against whom the grievance relates and/or is a party to the dispute, the notice should be served on the President or any of the Vice-Presidents.
6. The Sub-Committee upon receiving any complaint or matters referred to it shall forward a copy of the complaint to the person(s) or body(ies) concerned and shall give all persons appearing before it reasonable opportunity to make representations in writing or in person, or through

counsel or representative before making any recommendations to the competent decision-making bodies of the GOC.

7. This Sub-Committee may be subject to any additional operational/internal regulations (which are not in contradiction with this Constitution) ratified by the Congress.
8. Upon receiving the recommendations from the Sub-Committee, the competent decision-making bodies of the GOC (i.e., the Board and/or the Congress, with the Congress being the highest decision-making body of the GOC) shall make a final decision which shall be immediately notified to the persons/bodies concerned.
9. Any final decision made by the GOC Congress (upon completion of the process mentioned in this Article) may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports Related Arbitration. The time-limit for appeal is twenty-one days (21 days) after the reception of the decision provoking the appeal.
10. None of those internal sports-related complaints or disputes which fall under the jurisdiction of the GOC, this Sub-Committee and/or the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) can be brought before any Courts in Ghana without the complaints or disputes being first laid before the sub-committee. Should any GOC member, official or officer of the GOC or of a member of the GOC decide to commence proceedings and/or to file any appeal or process before any Courts in Ghana for those internal sports-related disputes without resort to the procedures set out in this constitution, this would be considered a breach of this Constitution and would expose this member to the measures and sanctions provided in this Constitution.

ARTICLE 14 - FUNDRAISING SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Board shall establish a Fundraising Sub-Committee which shall have responsibility for raising funds to finance the participation of Ghana in the Olympic and other International Games.
2. The Fundraising Sub-Committee shall seek sources of funding which will enable the GOC to maintain its autonomy in all respects.
3. The Fundraising Sub-Committee in its activities shall be guided by provisions in the Olympic Charter to ensure that the dignity and independence of the GOC is not compromised.

ARTICLE 15 - OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES

1. The Board may constitute other sub-committees to perform such functions as it shall deem necessary.
2. Non-members may be co-opted to serve on any such sub-committee.

ARTICLE 16 - PROCEEDINGS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES

1. The meetings and procedures of all sub-committees, including the Fundraising and Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committees shall, as far as possible, be governed by the provisions and rules that regulate meetings of the GOC.
2. Quorum for a sub-committee meeting shall be half its membership.

ARTICLE 17 – ACCOUNTS

1. All accounts of the GOC shall be kept by the Treasurer.
2. All payments into and expenditures out of the GOC accounts shall be audited annually by qualified auditors (using internationally recognised accounting and auditing standards), and appointed by the GOC.
3. The certified accounts shall be presented to Congress for deliberation and approval
3. The Treasurer shall upon request by the Board report on the finances of the GOC at any meeting.

ARTICLE 18 – FLAG, EMBLEM AND ANTHEM

The flag, emblem and anthem adopted by the GOC for use in relation to its activities including the Olympic Games shall be approved by the IOC Executive Board.

ARTICLE 19 - CODE OF CONDUCT

1. A person recognized as a member of the GOC shall subscribe to the following code of conduct:
 - a. A member shall uphold the general principles and ideals of the Olympic Movement and Commonwealth Games and in particular:
 - i. Avoid discrimination on grounds of race, colour, ethnicity, sex or creed in sports.
 - ii. Exercise independent but unbiased engagement in all GOC matters and resist undue political, religious, and commercial pressure detrimental to the objectives of the GOC.
 - iii. Avoid the use or promotion of performance enhancement drugs and respect the World Anti-Doping Code.
 - iv. Avoid gambling and other corruption in sports.
 - v. Avoid violence in sports and any conduct that may embarrass the GOC and bring the Olympic Movement into disrepute, ridicule or contempt.
 - vi. Abide by the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics, this Constitution and decisions taken by the Board and Congress.
 - vii. Serve as a model sports person or sports administrator with commitment to discipline at all levels of sports management.
2. A member who violates any provision of the Code of Conduct may be subjected to the disciplinary process and made to appear before the Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committee.
3. A member who has reason to believe that another member has infringed the Code of Conduct may petition the Board for redress.
4. The Board may, after examining the petition, refer it to the Disciplinary/Grievance Sub-Committee for adjudication.
5. A member who is subjected to the disciplinary process and found liable may suffer any of the following disciplinary measures:
 - a) Expulsion from the GOC (upon decision made by the Congress by 2/3 majority of the voting delegates present at the meeting).
 - b) Removal from office (upon decision made by the Congress by 2/3 majority of the voting delegates present at the meeting).
 - c) Suspension for a specific period of time (upon decision made by the Board).

- d) Requested to render an apology or sign an undertaking to be of good behavior (upon decision made by the Board).
- e) Reprimand (upon decision made by the Board).
- f) Fined (upon decision made by the Board).
- g) Subjected to any other disciplinary measure that the Board may deem fit, except that the decision to expel and remove from office shall be the responsibility of Congress to take.

ARTICLE 20 - AMENDMENTS

- 1. This constitution may be amended by a resolution passed at Congress by a majority of not less than two-thirds of all voting delegates of the GOC present. The text of any amendment to be proposed shall be furnished to all members entitled to attend and vote at a Congress with the Notice of the Meeting at which amendment or alteration is to be proposed.
- 2. Any notice required to be given to members on proposed amendments shall be in writing and may be delivered or sent by e-mail or ordinary mail; any such notice sent or posted shall be deemed to have been delivered.
- 3. No amendment or alteration shall be proposed at an Annual General Meeting unless the text of the amendment to be proposed shall have been furnished by the member proposing it to the Secretary-General at least thirty (30) clear days prior to the date of the meeting, so it can be duly circulated to all members with the Notice of the Meeting.
- 4. Any amendments to this Constitution adopted by the GOC shall be submitted to the IOC with a request for endorsement.

ARTICLE 21 - CONSISTENCY WITH OLYMPIC CHARTER

The provisions of this Constitution shall be consistent with the Olympic Charter. In the event of any inconsistency between the two, the latter shall take precedence.

ARTICLE 22 - APPLICATION OF IOC CHARTER

Any matter which is not specifically provided for by this Constitution shall be governed by an analogous provision in the IOC Charter.

ARTICLE 23 - REGULATIONS

The Board shall have the authority to make regulations to be approved by Congress to ensure the effective implementation of this Constitution.

**THIS AMENDED CONSTITUTION WAS APPROVED BY CONGRESS
ON2013 AT ACCRA**

**PRESIDENT
GOC**

**SECRETARY GENERAL
GOC**

Schedule

2 Delegates from Each Olympic Sport	1 Delegate from Each Non-Olympic Sport
Ghana Amateur Boxing Association	Ghana Baseball/Softball Association
Ghana Athletics Association	Ghana Beach Sports Association
Ghana Badminton Association	Ghana Bodybuilding Association
Ghana Basketball Association	Ghana Chess Association
Ghana Cycling Association	Ghana Cricket Association
Ghana Fencing Association	Ghana Educational Service
Ghana Football Association	Ghana Karate-Do Association
Ghana Golf Association	Ghana Kick Boxing Association
Ghana Handball Association	Ghana National Sports for All Association
Ghana Hockey Association	Ghana Netball Association
Ghana Judo Association	Ghana Professional Boxing Association
Ghana Rifle Association	Ghana Scrabble Association
Ghana Rowing and Canoeing	Ghana Special Olympics Association
Ghana Rugby Association	Ghana Squash Association
Ghana Swimming Association	Ghana Universities Sports Association
Ghana Table Tennis Association	Ghana Women in Sports Association
Ghana Taekwondo Association	Security Services Sports Association
Ghana Tennis Association	
Ghana Volleyball Association	
Ghana Weightlifting Association	