



WAKO By-laws

As amended and approved by the WAKO Board on June 4, 2016, June 14, 2019, April 25, 2020, on June 27, 2020 and on July 23, 2022

WAKO By-laws

Section 1.01 Scope of the By-laws

These By-laws contain the main internal rules and regulations of the World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (“**WAKO**”) in connection with the implementation and structure of its Statutes as well as the determinations of the Board of Directors of WAKO on the composition of the various bodies working towards the objectives and goals of WAKO.

The Board of Directors of WAKO may, from time to time, amend and/or integrate the provisions of these By-laws pursuant to the provisions of Article 35 of the Statutes.

These By-laws has entered into effect on the date of its approval by the Board of Directors on June 27, 2020.

Section 1.02 Objectives of WAKO

The objectives of WAKO are those set forth in Article 2 of WAKO's Statutes.

WAKO's main objective shall be, among the others listed in Article 2 of the Statutes, (i) to promote, organize, regulate and popularize the Sport of Kickboxing all over the world, protecting the physical and mental health of the athletes, and contributing to the development of friendly relationships among the NFs and defending the interests of the Sport of Kickboxing throughout the world; (ii) to increase the level of recognition of WAKO and its Members by the International Olympic Committee and GAISF (Global Association of International Sports Federations), IWGA, WADA, Fair Play International Committee, AIMS, Peace and Sports, FISU, IWG and any other International sport governing bodies; to approve, regulate and organize international championships, tournaments, contests between countries and large sporting events (World Championships, Continental Championships through the Continental Federations, World Cups, and open international tournaments) relating to the Sport of Kickboxing; (iii) to make all possible efforts to get the Sport of Kickboxing accepted as a sport into the Olympic Games, World Games, Military Games, University Games, GAISF Combat Games and in all other Games of the Olympic circuit.

Section 1.03 Board of Directors – Status

The members of the Board of Directors are appointed in compliance with the provisions of Article 32 of the Statutes. The Board of Directors is the executive body of WAKO. Including the President, the Board of Directors is constituted by maximum 17 members – among whom 30% to 40% should be women.

The Board of Directors shall meet and resolve pursuant to the provisions of Article 35 of the Statutes of WAKO.

The meetings of the Board of Directors are held pursuant to the modalities provided by the Statutes. Due to the sanitary emergency deriving from pandemia of the Covid-19, the Board of Directors may hold its meetings also through internet platforms or any other electronic means (i.e. Skype, Zoom, Facebook etc.), provided that the majority of the Board members are in attendance. The meetings will be considered held in the place where the President is in attendance. The documentation regarding the items on the agenda of the meetings of the Board of Directors are sent to the members by WAKO Administration by means of e-mail and/or we-transfer.

The term of the office of member of the Board of Directors has a duration of 4 (four) years from the election of the President, save as provided by Article 34 of the Statutes.

The responsibility and powers of the President and the Board of Directors are determined in WAKO Statutes under Articles 36 and 37 respectively.

The Board of Directors should enforce a practice to always involve relevant Committees, wherever possible in order to get their feedback and comments before changes in rules and regulations are decided; this for the purpose of creating engagement and responsibility in the Committees.

Section 1.04

Auditors – Status

The Auditor is appointed by the General Assembly for a period of two (2) years to audit the financial statements of WAKO in accordance with the provisions of Article 52 of the Statutes.

The Auditor shall carry out an audit at least once per financial year on the financial statements approved by the Board of Directors and present a report to the General Assembly.

Section 1.05

NF Membership/Applications/Procedures

These By-laws refer to article 9 (Application Procedures) of the Statutes and complete and clearly define the process of evaluation of the membership applications submitted by the NFs to WAKO.

- All applications with required information and documents provided under article 9 of the Statutes must be sent to WAKO Administration directly from the proposed NF. The application is organized and summarized by WAKO Administration and forwarded to the President for review.
- Once received the application is preliminarily evaluated by the President and WAKO Administration for the purpose of verifying that it fulfills in full the requirements provided by article 9 of the Statutes and that all required documentation has been submitted with the application. After this preliminary evaluation has been made, the application is provisionally considered complete.
- An application will not be reviewed until it has been submitted complete of all the mandatory requirements and documents as laid down by the WAKO Statutes, save as provided under Section 1.05bis below.
- The President may establish ad hoc Committee in order to work on the evaluation of the respective applicant NF and before recommendations are forwarded by the Administration to the Board of Directors for probationally approval.
- The President may involve the Legal Committee for legal advice and may involve the relevant Continental Federation in order to get further information if required on the applicant and its status in the relevant Continent. In general, the Continental Federation must provide support to WAKO when unclear situations arise in the application process.
- If WAKO receives recommendation to change the national representation of a NF (that is already a member of WAKO), a full assessment must be undertaken on the applicant and a new application must be submitted by the new party; the process of evaluation of the new membership must involve both parties (the applicant and the former member). In case the situation is unclear, the President must approach the National Sport Authorities of the applicant NF for a final verification.
- A change of representative member (NF) and/or a change of the name of a member must follow the full recognition process, and be preliminary approved by the Board of Directors and then fully approved during the General Assembly following the submission of the application with the related documentation.

Section 1.05bis

Extraordinary status of “Provisional” Member

In case the application process reveals that the applicant NF has not fulfilled all the conditions provided by article 9 of the Statutes and has not provided all the documents required, and if there is no other national federation in the given Country, WAKO Board, after a recommendation from the President, can accept that the applicant NF enter into an extraordinary membership status as follows:

- The Board of Directors, after having been informed by the President of the situation of the application and presented the specific case of the applicant NF, can decide to grant to the applicant NF a “Provisional” status for one (1) year during which the situation of the applicant NF will be monitored. The applicant NF shall have one (1) year to complete the file of the documentation provided under article 9 of the Statutes and submit it to WAKO Administration.
- The requirement for such extraordinary “Provisional” status shall be defined by the President and a plan of development of the applicant NF shall be agreed upon between the President (supported by an ad hoc Committee constituted by the same) and the applicant NF. The plan shall determine the timeline, dates and the other requirements that shall be met by the applicant NF within the one (1) year term and shall be communicated to the competent national sport authorities.
- The President, in the evaluation whether to propose the applicant NF to the Board in order to be accepted for the extraordinary “Provisional” membership status, shall also consider the following conditions:
 - WAKO Administration shall have established a satisfying contact with the applicant NF;
 - It shall be verified if the applicant NF has a real federation and/or is in the process of incorporating a sport federation in the given Country;
 - The applicant NF shall have provided information to WAKO Administration about the situation of the sport of kickboxing in the Country of the applicant NF.
- In case at the end of the first year the applicant NF has fulfilled all the conditions provided by article 9 of the Statutes, the Board of Directors shall confirm the status of Provisional Member in accordance with the provisions of article 7 of the Statutes, subject to the payment by the Provisional Member of the yearly fees for the previous year.
- In case at the end of the first year the applicant NF has not fulfilled all the conditions provided by article 9 of the Statutes, the Board of Directors shall deny the status of extraordinary “Provisional” member and the applicant NF shall not be confirmed as Provisional Member and shall re-start the process of application.
- During the first year in which the applicant NF has the status of extraordinary “Provisional” Member, it shall not have the right to vote in WAKO General Assemblies, and shall have the rights set forth by article 12, paragraph 2, of the Statutes.

Section 1.05ter Special obligations regarding WAKO Members

A NF which is a Member of WAKO shall not be affiliated with and/or member of any other organization or association which is not recognized by WAKO.

Membership shall not be granted to any NF which purports to represent both Kickboxing and any other sports not recognized by GAISF.

Any NF that is a Member of WAKO shall not promote any event that is not recognized by WAKO and/or any joint events (by also availing of the WAKO logo) with any other sport not recognized by GAISF.

In case of breach of the provisions of this Section 1.05ter, the Board of Directors shall take the appropriate measures in accordance with the provisions under article 15 (Suspension) and 16 (Expulsion) of WAKO Statutes.

Section 1.05quater Consequences of suspension and expulsion as WAKO Member

In case a Member of WAKO is suspended or expelled from WAKO, the Member will:

- Lose the right to make any communication as Member of WAKO
- Lose the right to call itself as WAKO national federation
- Remove the logo WAKO from its registers and the website
- Lose the right to use WAKO logo
- Lose the right to use WAKO inspired logo

If a NF wants to resume a membership in WAKO it must apply according to WAKO Statutes. In case the NF has a debt outstanding towards WAKO, the debt shall be paid before it submits the new application. The applicant needs to confirm that the national situation is the same regarding recognition. If a NF loses its membership in WAKO to be

member of a dissident organization, the national federation shall no longer be a member of WAKO.

Section 1.06

Committees – Status

According to Article 37, the Board of Directors has all powers necessary to manage WAKO and, among others, issues regulations in connection with the Committees and appoints any further Committees it deems necessary at any time.

All the below Committees report to the Board of Directors.

Due to the sanitary emergency deriving from pandemia of the Covid-19, the Committees may hold their meetings also through internet platforms or any other electronic means (i.e. Skype, Zoom, Facebook etc.), provided that the majority of the members are in attendance. The meetings will be considered held in the place where the Chairmen of the Committee(s) are in attendance and/or where the President of WAKO is in attendance.

In particular, the Chairmen of the Committees must provide a report on the Committee's work to WAKO President every six months. The WAKO President will then forward the reports to the Board of Directors of WAKO.

1.6.1 Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee consists of minimum 6 members.

Duties:

The Organizing Committee meets before and during the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but they are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by mail and by telephone/Skype.

The Organizing Committee will comprise as a minimum of the following.

Chairman of the Organizing Committee

Playing Area Manager

Social Media Manager

Security Manager

Visual Manager

Video Manager

Tatami Manager

Ring Manager

Sports Data Specialist

Any other role as designated by Chair as being required and requiring approval of WAKO Board.

Responsibility:

- The Organizing Committee is responsible for investigating and delivering a recommendation report of prospective host cities and organizations for future WAKO championships.
- The Organizing Committee is responsible for the organizing and setting of the venue in the World Championships on the basis of the bid forms submitted by the Members. It may also support the organization of Continental Championships
- In each WAKO and Continental Championship the Technical Director has the main responsibility for that specific event, or his/her appointed representative.
- It is responsible of all documentation regarding drawing, seeding, results and awarding ceremony of a WAKO Championship or event.
- It closely cooperates with all Committees and facilitates all seminars (Referee – Coaching – Athlete – medical etc.).
- It, together with the promoter or his agents, takes care of the event/promotion/tournament and makes sure that everything is arranged according to the WAKO rules and regulations. Any deviation from the rules has to be cleared by the Organizing Committee and approved through the Board of Directors present at the championships.
- It assists the Referee Committees to assure the official weigh-in.

- It reports to the Chairman of the Organizing Committee and the Board of Directors.
- It compiles a detailed post event report for the WAKO Board.

1.6.2 Referee Committee

The Referee Committee is divided into two sections: Ring Sports and Tatami Sports. Each of the sections has a minimum of 6 members, covering both genders from a minimum of 3 Continents.

Duties:

The Referee Committee meets before the World, Continental Championships, World Cups and International A/B/C Class open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. The Referee Committee is led by the Chairman of each section (Ring and Tatami Sports) and is responsible to lead, train and organize all referee and judge activities during the World Championships and World Cups, details description of responsibilities is defined in the Sport rules.
- ii. The Committee is responsible to initiate and organize worldwide activities for the purpose of developing referees.
- iii. The Chairman has the duty to delegate his/her responsibility to other members of the Referee Committee in his/her absence.
- iv. The Committee organizes seminars at the request of the President and in collaboration with a refereeing development strategy. The Committee organizes and hosts referee development camps, under the instruction and with the written permission of WAKO President.
- v. The Committee can certify referees that have been through a prescribed educational course and in the case of A class practical assessment of competence.
- vi. The Committee creates a list of proposed referees for the President or invites to Continental and World Championships.
- vii. The Committee keeps and manages a master list/database of all referees' activities in WC - World Cups, Continental Cups and all /A/B/C class events and World/Continental Championships.

1.6.3 Technical Committee

The Technical Committee consists of minimum 6 members. The members of the Technical Committee must be experienced individuals in both Tatami and Ring, with a strong technical background as an official/referee/promoter, with at least ten years' experience.

Duties:

The Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. To improve the existing WAKO Syllabus.
- ii. To improve the present grading WAKO system.
- iii. To assist technically WAKO Continental Federations for the purpose to improve their skills based upon an agreement with the relevant Continental Presidents and upon their request and the approval of the President.
- iv. To assess and approve all fighting safety equipment supplied by Promoters/Sponsors.
- v. To inspect all Fighting Areas during World/Continental A/B/C class Championships which must be of top quality.
- vi. To advise WAKO Board of Directors concerning the rules applicable into each Ring and Tatami sports.

1.6.4 Medical, Health and Anti-Doping Committee

The Medical, Health and Anti-Doping Committee consists of members from at least 3 Continents and representing both genders. The Committee consists of minimum 6 members.

The members of the Medical Health and Anti-Doping Committee must be qualified doctors in their respective jurisdictions and must have had at least 10 years of experience.

Duties:

The Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. To create, manage and implement a safety protocol for all WAKO tournaments and events.
- ii. To ensure through collaboration and communication, that all safety rules are followed in the tournaments/championships both according to the doctors and the medical staff.
- iii. To educate and to advise the Board concerning WAKO medical rules to the tournament medical staff.
- iv. To improve the rules regarding to safety and health of athletes and develop monitor programs.
- v. It makes sure that the anti-doping rules are applied and together with the Board of Directors and/or Promoter in a championship supervises the Anti-doping control and out of competition testing.
- vi. To make sure that WAKO works effectively to prevent weight reduction health problems.
- vii. If the medical service in a tournament is not according to the rules, the Medical, Health and Anti-Doping Committee has the power to temporarily stop activities in conjunction with the Organizing Committee in the sport-hall. The Medical, Health and Anti-Doping Committee has also the power to postpone the start of fights if weigh-in are too close to normal start of fights or if the weigh-in is delayed or in other way fighters are not properly informed. It is in charge of issues related to gender verification.
- viii. To create – manage and administer the WADA/WAKO approved Registered Testing Pool.
- ix. To create an annual test distribution plan with GAISF/WADA.
- x. To design, deploy and co deliver an anti-doping education program for athletes and officials.
- xi. To communicate and educate WAKO members in best practice in medical care within the sport of Kickboxing.
- xii. It compiles a detailed post event medical report for the WAKO Board.

Doping Hearing Panel

The Doping Hearing Panel consists of a Chairman and at least 4 other members appointed by the Board of Directors for a period of 4 years.

Members of the Doping Hearing Panel may be WAKO Individual Affiliates of Full Members or persons independent from WAKO and/or its Members. They shall have appropriate background and experience to sit in anti-doping panel (legal, medical, field experience in anti-doping etc.).

The conditions set forth in Article 33, paragraph 1, lit. iii) to vi) of WAKO Statutes apply to the eligibility of Doping Hearing Members.

If a member of the Doping Hearing becomes unavailable or does not meet the eligibility conditions anymore, it can be removed by the Board of Directors, which replaces him or her for the remaining period of his or her term.

Members of the Doping Hearing may be re-appointed provided they meet the applicable personal eligibility conditions.

The Doping Hearing Panel is in charge of the conduct of proceedings in application of the WAKO Anti-Doping Rules.

Further modalities in regard of the Doping Hearing Panel may be set forth in the Anti-Doping Rules.

The Board of Directors may transfer the implementation of the Anti-Doping Rules to independent entities.

1.6.5 Athletes Committee

The Athletes' Committee consists of 13 (thirteen) members. Seven members shall be elected by the athletes. Six members shall subsequently be appointed by the Board of Directors with a view to strengthening diversity, in particular in terms of gender and geography.

The Chairman of the Athletes' Committee shall be elected in its first meeting by all members of the Athletes' Committee. The term of office of each member of the Athletes' Committee shall be 4 years.

In accordance with Article 32, paragraph 1, letter d(i) of the Statutes, "*The proposed members of the Board of Directors shall be selected by the President taking into account the following criteria: (i) One member (taking also into account members in accordance with lit. b above) has to be a Member of the Athlete's Committee*".

Members of the Athlete's Committee shall be WAKO Individual Affiliates of Full Members. They shall be or have been active high-level kickboxing athletes. If a member of the Athlete's Committee becomes unavailable or does not meet the eligibility conditions anymore, it can be removed by the Board of Directors, which replaces him or her for the remaining period of his or her term. Members of the Athletes' Committee may be re-appointed provided they meet the applicable personal eligibility conditions.

Duties:

The Athletes' Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype. The Athletes' Committee supports the Board of Directors in matters concerning the Athletes. It is consulted in this respect. The Athletes' Committee may submit proposal and recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Responsibility:

- i. To represent the rights and interests of the Athletes and to make related recommendations.
- ii. To seek information and/or to involve needed persons within the Sport of Kickboxing related to disciplines not represented in the Athletes Committee.
- iii. To assist in developing coach related education and seminars.
- iv. To maintain a contact with IOC Athletes commission when needed and when applicable.
- v. To propose initiatives for youth development in combination with the Coaching Committee, Education & Student Committee.

1.6.6 Coaching Committee

The Coaching Committee is divided into two sections: Ring Sports and Tatami Sports. The number of members is of minimum 4 persons per section. The total number of members in the Coaching Committee is of 14 members. Members in representation of 3 Continents must be present and the Coaching Committee must also have representation from both genders.

The members of the Coaching Committee must be experienced individuals with at least ten years of experience.

Duties:

- i. The Chairman is responsible for development, education and coordination with all Committees to fulfill WAKO development requirements. The chairman makes sure that all Committee members have duties for development and are active.
- ii. The Coach Committee represents and is responsible for ALL coaches.
- iii. The Committee meets in front of World Cups and/or Continental/World Championships. If necessary, they initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by mail, Skype and WhatsApp.

Responsibility:

- i. In preparation of World /Continental Championships and Cups the Coach Committee organizes seminars to learn and share knowledge, experiences and learning on newest developments in world sport. The Committee organizes seminars (in preparation for World /Continental Championships and Cups) to make sure that the coaching and behavior of coaches are at their best and developed in a progressive fashion.
- ii. The seminars will deal with each kickboxing style and the rules to be used during the tournaments.
- iii. In close relationships with WAKO Academy work about development of education in kickboxing according

- the main postures in world sport on safety basics.
- iv. It makes sure that all coaches work in a way which is important for the WAKO development.
 - v. Verbal, video, PPT or any other way of introduction, presentation and explanations basic on development of kickboxing sport.
 - vi. Verbal explanation of main issues that normal causes problem in order to harmonize the coaches.
 - vii.
 - Written tests/exams.
 - viii.
 - Registration.
 - ix. All coaches have to be registered and need to have their dossier with file history. This dossier must have basics of trainer's history (years of training, club, medals as competitor, medals of fighters, champions, education, etc.). The best coaches in all disciplines will be awarded in the Continental Championships.
 - x.
 - The coaches will get their license based on their dossiers (to make level of licenses);
 - xi.
 - They are responsible for all Coaches Certification programs for each discipline;
 - xii.
 - They need to bring the coaches experience and requirements with occasion of WAKO Competitions to the respective Tournament Committee of the event;
 - xiii.
 - To be in contact with and bring forward recommendations and proposals from the coaches around the world, and to advise on any proposal or amendments to Technical Rules for each discipline;
 - xiv.
 - They have a close cooperation with ALL Committees.
 - xv.
 - They together with the all officials take care of the event/promotion/tournament and make sure everything is arranged according to the WAKO rules. Any deviation to the rules has to be cleared by the committee or through the Board of Directors.

1.6.7 Women In Sport Committee

The Women Committee has a minimum of 6 up to maximum 10 members representing at least 3 Continents.

Duties:

The Women Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype. One member of the Committee is represented in the Board of Directors.

In accordance with Article 32, paragraph 1, letter d(ii) of the Statutes, "*The proposed members of the Board of Directors shall be selected by the President taking into account the following criteria: (ii) The number of women directors shall tentatively reach at least 30 to 40 % of the members*".

Responsibility:

- i. To consider questions related to women activities development and/or equal possibilities for the gender and to provide advice to the Board of Directors.
- ii. To represent the rights and interests of women athletes/members and to make related recommendations.
- iii. To seek information and/or to involve appropriate persons within the Sport of Kickboxing related to disciplines not represented in the Committee.
- iv. To maintain a contact with related international women commissions when applicable.
- v. Responsible for communicating to representatives in all Continents.

1.6.8 Education Committee

The Education Committee consists of minimum 6 members from at least 3 Continents and representing both genders.

Duties:

The Education Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibilities:

In general, the Education Committee is responsible for all the educative activities of WAKO and to coordinate initiatives related to the education field (i.e. WAKO Academy). The Education Committee is responsible of the

development, design, delivery and coordination of the agreed education activities within WAKO and its Committees and among the Members as defined and agreed by WAKO Board.

Education:

- i. To plan, develop, organize, inform and involve all educational activities, except referee and judge education and medical education.
- ii. Responsible to design, develop, implement and deliver a WAKO's Coaching e-learning systems.
- iii. To propose initiatives for youth development in coordination with the Coaching Committee and the Athlete Committee.
- iv. To plan, organize and coordinate activities related to education activities during Championships and other defined tournaments.
- v. To create an activity plan for WAKO's central activities or assist/support the Continental Federations based upon an agreement with the relevant Continental Presidents and upon their request and the approval of the President.

1.6.9 Media Committee

The Media Committee consists of minimum 3 members. The President has the power and right to include in the Committee professionals that are specialized in marketing and media whom may be paid for their services in order to create maximum exposure and to ensure follow ups of media agreements of WAKO.

Duties:

The Media Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. To proactively promote the WAKO World Championships on social media;
- ii. To create content for the development of the brand of Kickboxing;
- iii. To initiate, develop and establish marketing activities of WAKO;
- iv. To be responsible for media and PR activities of WAKO;
- v. To be responsible for newsletters, cover stories, editorial messages, exploit web pages and creating activities in social medias;
- vi. To be responsible for coordination of streaming facilities during the Championships;
- vii. To be responsible for developing and implementing commercial concepts related to the promotion and marketing of the Sport of Kickboxing and WAKO in coordination with the Organizing Committee;
- viii. To publish the WAKO Magazine in printed form or electronic form on WAKO web site two times a year;
- ix. To support the President and WAKO office in the promotion of the sport of Kickboxing within and without the Organization;
- x. Negotiation and administration of agreements with external parties, hereunder Olympic Channel and other sport media publications.

1.6.10 WAKO development Committee

The Development Committee consists of 5 members and can have a flexible role in the focusing issues as well as in business development.

Duties:

The Development Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. Integrity and Fair Play; To develop and initiate activities and mechanisms as standalone activities and with

- Referee, Coach and Athlete Committees. Hereunder e-learning and preventive tools.
- ii. Responsible for organizing the process relevant for Yearly Fair Play Awards and/or activities related to Fair Play as described in CIFP manuals.
- iii. Athlete Corner; to develop and coordinate activities related to the Athlete Corner concept and in cooperation with Education, Athlete, Coach, Women and other committees involved.
- iv. Social integration; to develop and implement activities and coordinate such with the rest of the organization. Implementation of the social responsibility "Because We Care".
- v. Project Management; Coordinate and implement initiatives as a consequence of needed development with the international frame and as a consequence to develop WAKO in the direction of higher international recognition.

1.6.11 International Relations Committee

The Internal Relations Committee consists of at least 2 persons. The President has the power to engage new resources in order to secure progress.

Duties:

The Committee meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. If necessary, the members initiate other meetings but are requested to meet during said events/tournaments. Otherwise they communicate by e-mail, mail, conference call or by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. To handle all relevant contact with surrounding organizations like IOC, SportAccord, Fair Play, FISU, AIMS and other political and sports organizations.
- ii. To be responsible to coordinate, apply, communicate and initiate activities and support from mentioned and/or other organizations.

1.6.12 Legal Committee

The Legal Committee consists of a Chairman and at least 4 other members appointed by the Board of Directors for a period of 4 years.

Members of the Legal Committee shall be WAKO Individual Affiliates of Full Members. They shall have legal education and experience. The conditions set forth in Article 33, paragraph 1 lit. iii) to vi) of WAKO Statutes apply to the eligibility of Legal Committee members. If a member of the Legal Committee becomes unavailable or does not meet the eligibility conditions anymore, it can be removed by the Board of Directors, which replaces him or her for the remaining period of his or her term. Members of the Legal Committee may be re-appointed provided they meet the applicable personal eligibility conditions.

Duties:

In general, it meets every time it is needed. In particular, it meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. In any case, the members may communicate by mail and by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

- i. The Legal Committee is the primary legal counsel of the President when requested.
- ii. The Legal Committee supports and advises the Board of Directors in regard of all legal and regulatory matters (advice regarding issuance, interpretation and application of regulations, legal issue).
- iii. It is responsible for the legal review and draft approval of all corporate governance documents of WAKO as well as any official documents that are issued or submitted by WAKO to any Sport Authorities or Administrative national and international bodies.
- iv. It is responsible to update and develop new documents in furtherance of the best practice, policies, guidelines that may be issued from time to time by the International Sport Authorities (i.e. IOC, GAISF, WADA, AIMS, etc.).
- v. It is involved by the President and the Board in the strategic decisions of WAKO in order to support them from a legal standpoint.
- vi. It gives opinions or advices to the Board, when requested, on any issues relating to WAKO documents.
- vii. The Legal Committee further issues decisions or recommendations in specific matters, when such competence is provided in these Statutes or in provisions of further WAKO regulations.
- viii. It protects the legal status and suggests possible legal solutions for the best interest of WAKO.

1.6.13 Disciplinary and Ethical Committee

Disciplinary and Ethical Committee consist of a Chairman and at least 4 other members appointed by the Board of Directors for a period of 4 years.

Members of the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee shall be WAKO Individual Affiliates of Full Members. They shall have appropriate background and experience to sit in a disciplinary panel and in an ethical committee. The Chairman shall have legal education.

The conditions set forth in Article 33, paragraph 1, lit. iii) to vi) of WAKO Statutes apply to the eligibility of Disciplinary and Ethical Committee members.

If a member of the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee becomes unavailable or does not meet the eligibility conditions anymore, he/she can be removed by the Board of Directors, which replaces him/her for the remaining period of his/her term. Members of the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee may be re-appointed provided that they meet the applicable personal eligibility conditions.

A. As regards disciplinary matters:

Duties: in general, it meets every time it is needed and whenever a case is submitted to its attention by any Subjected Parties (as defined in the WAKO Disciplinary Code). In any case, the members may hold meetings by telephone, Skype or other IT platform.

Responsibility:

- the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee is in charge of the conduct of the disciplinary proceedings and investigations conducted as a consequence of any possible violations of the WAKO Statutes and further WAKO rules and regulations and codes by WAKO Members, officials, officers and/or WAKO Individual Affiliates National Federations or Continental Federations (as indicated in WAKO Disciplinary Code);
- Moreover, the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee is responsible to take actions and apply sanctions on the basis of the WAKO Disciplinary Code and the suggestions of the President and/or the Board of Directors.

B. As regards ethical matters:

Duties: in general, it meets every time it is needed. In particular, it meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. In any case, the members may hold meetings by telephone, Skype or other IT platform.

Responsibility:

- i. The Disciplinary and Ethical Committee is responsible to assist WAKO in developing and updating a framework of ethical principles, including those contained in the Code of Ethics, based upon the values and principles enshrined in the Code of Ethics as well as WAKO Statutes, By-laws, Disciplinary Code, Procedural Rules, Technical & Competition Rules and in the Olympic Charter;
- ii. It is responsible to help ensuring compliance with the WAKO ethical principles in the policies and practices of WAKO;
- iii. It provides assistance, including advice or proposals, upon request by the WAKO President, the WAKO Board or the General Assembly, in order that the WAKO ethical principles are applied in practice;

- iv. It investigates on complaints or other issues submitted to it by any WAKO bodies and the President and raised in relation to the possible breach of the WAKO ethical principles and guidelines as laid down and approved from time to time, and, if necessary, to recommend sanctions or other action to be taken by the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee;
- v. It brings to the attention of whatever entity it finds appropriate, including but not limited to the WAKO President, the Board, the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee or the General Assembly, any matter infringing the WAKO ethical principles and recommend actions or sanctions; it advises on how to avoid or resolve conflicts of interests.
- vi. It pursues any other tasks relating to the development and implementation of the WAKO ethical principles, as requested by any WAKO bodies.

Members of the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee shall be indemnified by WAKO in relation to any claim by any third party deriving from the carrying out of their duties as members of the Disciplinary and Ethical Committee.

1.6.14 Arbitration Committee or Arbitration Board

The Arbitration Board consists of a Chairman and at least 3 other Members appointed by the Board of Directors for 4 years terms of office.

The members of the Arbitration Board shall be independent and shall not be WAKO Individual Affiliates. They shall have a legal education and experience in dispute resolution.

If a member of the Arbitration Board becomes unavailable, the Board of Directors may replace him or her for the remaining period of his or her term.

The Arbitration Board shall act as independent dispute resolution body and resolve disputes submitted in application of these Statutes or WAKO Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Code.

The Arbitration Board, respectively its members acting as panel members or as sole arbitrators shall apply WAKO Statutes and regulations and Swiss law. They determine the applicable procedural rules subject to observance fundamental principles of procedure, including the right to be heard.

The Arbitration Board may issue procedural provisions or directives governing the proceedings in front of panels or sole arbitrators.

1.6.15 Innovation & Technology Committee

The Innovation & Technology Committee consists of a Chairman and at least 4 other members appointed by the Board of Directors for a period of 4 years. At least 2 members of the Innovation & Technology Committee must have technical and IT background.

Duties:

In general, it meets every time it is needed In particular, it meets before the World/Continental Championships, World Cups and International open tournaments. In any case, the members may communicate by mail and by telephone/Skype.

Responsibility:

The Innovation & Technology Committee has the responsibility to develop new strategies aimed at fostering the technological means available in the market to implement innovative procedures, methodologies and services to be applied and provided by WAKO in carrying out its activity.

It will look at the long-term technology blueprint of services and systems WAKO uses and will ensure WAKO keeps itself relevant, safe and informed in this specialist area.

It will be the main Committee responsible for the WAKO membership and event management systems.

1.6.16 Relevant for all above Committees

As per Article 37(d) of WAKO Statutes, WAKO Board of Directors issues regulations in connection with the Committees and appoints any further Committees it deems necessary at any time.

All of the above Committees shall advise and report to the Board of Directors at least once a year or upon its request. It is of importance that communications are conducted in English, which is the official language in WAKO and are directed by the President.

As per Article 42 of WAKO Statutes, the Board of Directors may establish other Committees to address specific issues in connection with the management of WAKO's activities. Moreover, the Board of Directors determines the constitution, organization, competences of the Committees and, if appropriate, issues corresponding regulations. In the absence of specific provisions, provisions applicable to the constitution of standing committees apply to the ad hoc committees mutatis mutandis.

In case of changes in the Committees (as structure and/or mandate and/or appointment of temporary Committees), such changes can be decided and executed by the Board of Directors and come into effect immediately and before the relevant changes are inserted in these By-laws.

Evaluation of the Committees is done after each year upon the President's initiative, if some members are inactive or not engaging; the chairman of the Committee will suggest to the President a change of members. In order to maintain the requirement of minimum 3 Continents in each Committee (which applies tentatively to all Committees but depending upon the availability of the persons in the relevant Continents), a replacement should be with a person from the same Continent. The Committee's chairman may propose candidates. The President asks the Board of Directors to approve for the relevant change.

1.6.17 Special clause for the appointment of the member of the Athlete and Women Committees in the Board

The Board of Directors decides the name of the candidate(s) to be appointed in the Board of Directors pursuant to Article 32, paragraph 1, letter d) of the WAKO Statutes from the Athlete Committee and the Woman Committee.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 41 of WAKO Statutes, the Board of Directors appoints six (6) members of the Athlete Committee.

As to the appointment of the members of the Women Committee, the Board of Directors appoints three (3) members among whom the Chairman.

The appointment process relating to the rest of the members of the Athlete and Women Committee shall entail the following:

- The 6 appointed members of the each of the Athlete Committee and the 3 appointed members of the Women Committee are responsible of conducting the process of selection of the rest of the members of the Committees based on the below process.
- The appointment of the rest of the Committee shall be held during a World Championships if the Board doesn't decide elsewhere. The mandate period for the appointed Committee members is 4 years. If a Committee member resigns during the period, the position is vacant. If the Chairman resigns or in case of vacancy, the Committee members select a substitute within the Committee who remains in office until the Chairman resumes the position or, in any event, until the next normal nomination in the four year cycle from the previous group appointment.
- At least 2 months before the date scheduled for the appointment, the Chairman of the respective Committees shall, through the WAKO Administration, send a formal notice of call to all members for the appointment proposals for the various Committees by e-mail specifying the place and time for the meeting. In that notice of call the responsibility of the Committee must be enclosed including its structure and the available positions. Any WAKO member wishing to nominate candidates shall submit the relevant proposal to the WAKO Administration no later than 1 month prior to the appointment/election meeting.
- The Chairman of the Athletes' Committee shall be elected in its first meeting by all members of the Athletes' Committee in accordance with Article 41, paragraph 2, of WAKO Statutes. The construction of

- each of the Committees needs to satisfy both genders and representatives of minimum 3 Continents.
- Based on the nominations submitted by the Members, the list of the candidates is communicated through WAKO's website 14 days prior to the meeting. The appointment procedure is the same as that of the WAKO Board and it is handled by the already elected Committees' representatives and with the observation of Board representatives indicated by the President.

Section 1.07

Finance By-law

Income & Property

All assets, income and property of WAKO shall be used solely in connection with the promotion of its objectives as per Article 2 of its Statutes.

In no way the assets, income and property of WAKO shall be paid and/or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to any of the Members of WAKO or its internal bodies.

No officer shall be appointed to any office of WAKO and be paid a salary or fees, or receive any remuneration or other monetary benefit from WAKO. As a partial derogation to the above principle, payments may be made as follows:

- a) reasonable and proper remuneration may be paid to members of WAKO (or members of WAKO Committees) for any specific services rendered to WAKO which has been approved by the Board of Directors;
- b) reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses incurred by any Officer in connection with his attendance to any matter regarding WAKO.

The President shall open a bank account/s on behalf of WAKO and any withdrawn (checks, draft or cash) on the same account shall be approved by the Treasurer or any other person named by the Board of Directors.

Keeping of financial related documents

The annual audited accounts/financial statements of WAKO shall be kept at WAKO administrative office during the time provided by Swiss law. The above documents shall be made available by the bookkeeper to the Board of Directors upon its request.

Treasurer duties and function

The Board of Directors may appoint the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have the task to review the day by day accounting activity of WAKO, including – without limitation – any withdrawn, (by checks, drafts or cash), and deposit sums, payments, other.

The function of Treasurer of WAKO can be exercised by any member of the Board after approval of the Board of Directors.

General Secretary

The duties of the General Secretary shall be specified upon its appointment by the Board of Directors and upon the President's recommendation.

Such duties may notably include without limitation and always in close cooperation with and in support of the President:

- (i) to secure the follow up and implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly and of the Board of Directors;
- (ii) to maintain and develop relationships with international sport organizations, notably the International Olympic Committee, GAISF (Global Association of International Sports Federations), IWGA, WADA, Fair Play International Committee, AIMS, Peace and Sports, FISU, IWG;

Further duties may be defined by the President in order to maintain a smooth WAKO operation and daily business.

At each meeting of the Board of Directors, the General Secretary shall present a report on WAKO's situation.

Section 1.08 Membership Affiliation Fees Status

All Provisional and Full Members of WAKO shall pay an annual affiliation fee as determined by the Board of Directors and ratified by the General Assembly.

Should no decision determining a different amount be issued by the General Assembly, the amount of affiliation fees applicable for the previous year shall continue to apply and be due on the 31st of March of each year, until a new amount has been determined.

The provisions of Article 13 of WAKO Statutes shall also be applicable in case of breach by a Member to pay the affiliation fees.

Section 1.09 Other Fees Status

Below are set forth other applicable fees applied by WAKO and the Board of Directors in connection with WAKO events. The class of such events is defined by the criteria as proposed by WAKO Organizing Committee and approved by the President.

1. World Championship Sanctioning Fee - Minimum 30,000.00 (thirty thousand) Euro
2. World Cup Sanctioning Fee - Minimum 3,000.00 (three thousand) Euro
3. International Open Tournaments Sanctioning Fee –
 - A Class: €1,000.00
 - B Class: €750.00
 - C Class: €500.00

The Board of Directors may vary the above-mentioned fees as required.

Section 1.10 Rules, Regulations and Guidelines

Interpretation of WAKO By-laws

The WAKO Board of Directors shall have the authority to amend, interpret and integrate the rules and regulations set forth in these By-laws.

In the case of inconsistency, these By-laws and the By-laws of the Continental Federations are superseded by the provisions of WAKO Statutes.

The authority for settling any dispute arising out of the interpretation of these By-laws shall reside with the Board of Directors for the time being, who shall seek if deemed necessary, the advice of the General Assembly before taking the final decision.

The rules and regulations of WAKO (which are published in WAKO's website www.wakoweb.com) have been reviewed, updated and validated by the Board of Directors in 2019 and shall remain in force until the Board of Directors amend as required and publish with due notice on the WAKO Website.

Section 1.11 Good Governance and IOC Charter

WAKO follows basic universal principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement. WAKO works under its own various codes as approved and placed on the WAKO Website. Code of Ethics within defined Fair

Play guidelines and within Integrity guidelines related to Match-Fixing, Sports Betting and Manipulation.

WAKO is committed to establish in its rules and regulations clear rules of conduct in the pursuit of the positive values in youth sport.

WAKO conforms with and respect the Olympic Charter and, in particular, the following provisions:

Article 25 Recognition of IFs

In order to develop and promote the Olympic Movement, the IOC may recognize as IFs international non-governmental organizations administering one or several sports at world level and encompassing organizations administering such sports at national level.

The statutes, practice and activities of the IFs within the Olympic Movement must be in conformity with the Olympic Charter, including the adoption and implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code. Subject to the foregoing, each IF maintains its independence and autonomy in the administration of its sport.

Article 26 Mission and role of the IFs within the Olympic Movement

1. The mission and role of the IFs within the Olympic Movement are:

1.1 to establish and enforce, in accordance with the Olympic spirit, the rules concerning the practice of their respective sports and to ensure their application;

1.2 to ensure the development of their sports throughout the world;

1.3 to contribute to the achievement of the goals set out in the Olympic Charter, in particular by way of the spread of Olympism and Olympic education;

1.4 to support the IOC in the review of candidatures for organizing the Olympic Games for their respective sports;

1.5 to assume the responsibility for the control and direction of their sports at the Olympic Games;

1.6 for other international multisport competitions held under the patronage of the IOC, IFs can assume or delegate responsibility for the control and direction of their sports;

1.7 to provide technical assistance in the practical implementation of the Olympic Solidarity programs;

1.8 to encourage and support measures relating to the medical care and health of athletes.

2. In addition, the IFs have the right to:

2.1 formulate proposals addressed to the IOC concerning the Olympic Charter and the Olympic Movement;

2.2 collaborate in the preparation of Olympic Congresses;

2.3 participate, on request from the IOC, in the activities of the IOC commissions.

Section 1.12

Continental Federations

The Five Continental Federations - as indicated in Article 44 of the Statutes of WAKO - are the following:

- WAKO Europe (WAKO European Kickboxing Federation)
- WAKO Africa (African kickboxing Confederation)
- WAKO Asia (Asian kickboxing Confederation)
- WAKO Oceania
- WAKO Pan America (Pan American Kickboxing Confederation)

Upon request, WAKO may recognize and approve an applicant organization (the "Applicant") as its Continental Federation for the relevant continent if the Applicant establishes that it meets the requirements set forth in Article 44 of WAKO Statutes.

Each Continental Federation shall be in charge of the organization or supervision of Continental Championships and other continental competitions on its continent.

The Continental Federations shall closely collaborate with WAKO within their areas of jurisdiction. They shall recognize the supreme authority of WAKO in all matters concerning the Sport of Kickboxing. By 28 February of each year, they shall forward to WAKO a full annual report of their competitive, organizational, financial and promotional activities undertaken in the previous calendar year.

At least 5 (days) before each meeting of the WAKO Board of Directors, each Continental Federation's president shall provide to the WAKO Board of Directors a written summary report on the activities of his or her Continental Federation since the last meeting.

Each Continental Federation shall hold a general assembly at least biannually and in each case before the WAKO Ordinary General Assembly of the same year. Each Continental Federation's board of directors shall meet at least twice per year. Meetings of the general assembly and the board of directors shall be conducted in English. Any decisions or resolutions taken as well as the minutes of the meeting shall be recorded in written form and in the English language.

All decisions and resolutions taken by the general assemblies and the boards of director of each Continental Federation, and the minutes of the respective meetings, must be communicated to the Board of Directors of WAKO without undue delay, and at the latest within one (1) month from the date of the relevant meeting.

Each Continental Federation shall at all times meet the requirements set out in Article 44, paragraph 2, of the WAKO Statutes. WAKO may request from each Continental Federation any information and supporting documentation (including certified English translations, if applicable) that WAKO deems reasonably necessary to assess continued compliance with those requirements.

The Statutes and regulations of the Continental Federations and any later amendments thereof shall be submitted (together with a certified English translation, unless the original language is English) to the WAKO Board of Directors for its approval prior to their entry into force.

The WAKO Board of Directors may suspend or withdraw the recognition of a Continental Federation that fails to fulfil its mission or its duties under these Statutes in accordance with the provisions of Article 44ter of WAKO Statutes.

Financial contributions from WAKO to support the activities of the Continental Federations are subject to the Continental Federation submitting a strategic plan for the use of such contribution and of a budget.

The use of any financial contributions of WAKO by the Continental Federations must be traceable, in compliance with all applicable laws, and strictly limited to the purpose indicated in the strategic plan of the Continental Federation as per the previous paragraph. In particular, such contributions cannot be used to finance the payments by WAKO Members of the affiliation fees to WAKO.

Financial contributions to the Continental Federations can only be transferred to a duly established bank account of the Continental Federations.

Any financial contribution of WAKO and its use must be documented in the Continental Federation's books of account and financial statements (together the "Records"). WAKO shall have the right to appoint an external auditor who shall have full access to the Records and to the relevant supporting documents at any time in order to conduct an audit for the purpose of assessing if the Continental Federation's use of any financial contributions from WAKO is compliant with Article 45 of WAKO Statutes. The Continental Federation shall fully cooperate with the external auditor in respect of such audit, and hereby releases any third party (e.g. accountants or lawyers of the Continental Federation) from any applicable confidentiality undertaking to the extent necessary to allow for this cooperation. The external auditor shall provide WAKO with a detailed report of its findings regarding the Continental Federation's (non-)compliance with such Article 45.

Section 1.13 Code of Conduct

WAKO has adopted a Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interests which is available in WAKO's website and which is part of WAKO's rules and regulations.

Any violations of the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interests by a Member or an individual will be subject to the provisions of the Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Code of WAKO.

Section 1.14 Continental Championships

Only National Federations and their athletes, officials, who are fully compliant with the WAKO Statutes may enter in and or compete in the Continental Championships, continental cups and continental events and must have fulfilled their obligation of being a full member of WAKO for the previous two years and be compliant with Article 22/3/b of the WAKO Statutes.

Section 1.15 Continental General Assembly

Only National Federations that are fully compliant with Article 13 and Article 22 of the WAKO IF Statutes, may attend and be entitled to vote at a continental general assembly.

Section 1.16 Integrity Officer (Whistle Blower function)

The President designates one person to function as Whistle Blower. This function reports to the President directly. This person will be announced to the Board of Directors.

The integrity of sport depends on the outcome of sporting events and competitions being based entirely on the competing merits of the participants involved. Any form of manipulation and corruption that might undermine public confidence in the integrity of a kickboxing contest is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport and subject to severe sanctions. WAKO has adopted Guidelines dedicated to Sports Integrity in relation to Betting that can be found on WAKO's website.

To supervise the Integrity work, WAKO has an Integrity Officer who is designated by the President. The Integrity Officer shall have the task to ensure compliance of all competitions' participants as well as WAKO officials with the Integrity Rules. He/she acts as a focal point for any issue related to these Rules and deals with matters in case of breach of these Rules or in case of request for interpretation. The Integrity Officer may connect with external and independent personnel.

The President may suggest to establish an Independent Integrity Unit, but if such is the case, this must be decided by the Board.