



FILA CONSTITUTION

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TITLE I – AIMS AND COMPOSITION OF THE FEDERATION

Article 1 – Title

In 1912, the International Federation of Associated Wrestling Styles (FILA) was created at the Olympic Games in Stockholm (SWE). It is a world association comprising all countries having a National Federation competent in all styles of wrestling and agreeing to comply with the FILA Constitution and Regulations.

Article 2 – Aims

The aims of the FILA shall be, in particular:

- a) To encourage the development of all wrestling styles (Greco-Roman, freestyle, female wrestling, traditional wrestling and all other forms of wrestling) and to promote the sport in all countries of the world, to bring its support and technical assistance to developing countries.
- b) To contribute to the development of friendly relations between all wrestlers and between the National Federations, and to encourage and support all actions aimed at achieving the objectives it has set itself in practical terms.
- c) To establish and distribute the international Rules for the different wrestling styles.
- d) To exercise control over wrestling throughout the affiliated National Federations and associated members.
- e) To supervise the application of wrestling Rules and Regulations at Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cups, continental competitions and all international events which are held, without exception, under its control.
- f) To designate, select, train, improve and control international referees.
- g) To represent the sport of wrestling and to protect its interests at the International Olympic Committee, as well as at all other meetings where the FILA is invited to attend.
- h) To arbitrate and take all necessary decisions in all cases of litigation or disputes which may arise between the affiliated National Federations when practicing the sport of wrestling.
- i) To refrain from and be opposed to all political, racial or religious discussion and discrimination.

Article 3 – Headquarters, official language and emblem

FILA, whose duration is unlimited, shall have its administrative headquarters at Rue du Château 6, 1804 Corsier-sur-Vevey (Switzerland). The headquarters may be transferred to another city or to another country, if circumstances warrant this, by a decision of the Bureau, ratified by Congress.

Correspondence, Regulations, protocols and minutes of all kinds shall be written exclusively in French and English. Similarly, all debates shall be conducted in these two languages. German, Arabic, Spanish and Russian are also considered as official working languages when accompanied by written and verbal translation in French and English provided by the reporter concerned.

However, if there is disagreement on the interpretation of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, the French text alone shall be authentic.

The emblem of the Federation, which is reproduced on a white background on its flag, represents the two halves of the globe (blue and gold) and bears the FILA initials.

The name FILA, the flag, the symbol, the emblem and the FILA anthem are also FILA's exclusive property. Championships and Cups for all age groups are also FILA's property, as are the audio-visual, video and Internet rights which accompany them. Any use and reproduction without FILA's agreement is forbidden.

Article 4 – Composition

FILA is composed of affiliated member and associated members:

One National Federation recognized by the highest body governing sports (Sports Minister or Olympic National Committee), which governs Olympic wrestling styles in its respective country and which has complied with the formalities of affiliation can be affiliated per country. Only National Federations which govern Olympic wrestling in their country and which have a National Olympic Committee can participate in the Olympic Games, according to the qualification system of wrestlers which is in operation for the Olympic cycle in question and which is adopted by the IOC and the FILA Congress.

National Federations or Associations governing traditional wrestling which are recognized in their country and have no relations with an Olympic wrestling National Federation may be admitted as associated Federations.

Article 5 – Affiliation

Every National Federation which is officially established shall be admitted to FILA providing:

- a) It expresses its intention in writing, signed by its President and Secretary General and attesting its autonomy and independence.
- b) It adheres to the FILA Constitution and Regulations and recognizes the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne as the only external judicial instance.
- c) It promises to impose the above requirements on all its affiliated members and its members under FILA's competence.
- d) It agrees to settle the membership fee(s) and due(s) as laid down in the FILA Financial Regulations.
- e) It joins its first annual membership fee with its request for membership.
- f) A reduction in the annual membership dues can be granted by the FILA Executive Committee to National Federations from developing countries.

Each National Federation whose Constitution and Regulations are in harmony with the FILA Constitution and Regulations and have been approved by the superior sporting governing body in its country Sports Ministry and/or the National Olympic Committee (NOC) to which the National Federation which governs all the Olympic wrestling styles must be affiliated, will have to provide, at the time of its membership request, an authenticated copy of its Constitution and Regulations, signed by its President and his Secretary General, together with a request of recognition. In certain exceptional circumstances the FILA Bureau can decide that a National Federation be provisionally affiliated, even if all the conditions have not been fulfilled and final affiliation will be granted during the following Congress.

If, in one country, several Federations exist and practice Olympic wrestling styles covered by FILA, only one may be affiliated to FILA. However, it is specified that, if in a country, there is a Federation governing only the Olympic wrestling styles, the Federation governing one or several traditional wrestling styles and willing to apply for membership can be affiliated as a Federation of associated wrestling styles.

Article 6 – Resources, subscriptions, dues and fees

The various contributions, dues or fees payable to the FILA, the sums, terms of payment and methods of collection of which are established in the Financial Regulations, include in particular:

- Annual membership fee
- License stamps of all kinds
- Television and advertising rights
- Sponsors
- Organisation fees: championships, international competitions
- Referees' course fees (candidates and promotion)
- Penalty fees and fines of all kinds
- Income from any goods, funds created in exceptional circumstances
- Bequests and gifts

Once paid, and unless an obvious error has been made, the various subscriptions, dues, fees, fines and penalties, bequests and gifts become the property of FILA and cannot be refunded under any circumstances whatever.

Article 7 – Loss of FILA membership

FILA membership may be lost under the following circumstances: resignation, cessation of wrestling activity, permanent expulsion from FILA, decided upon by the FILA Bureau and ratified by Congress under the conditions and procedures established in the Disciplinary Regulations, as a result of:

- Failure to pay subscriptions, fees or fines
- Serious offences
- The pursuit of aims prejudicial to those of FILA
- Serious infringements of the Constitution and Regulations
- Refusal to comply with decisions

The decision leading to expulsion of a Federation can only finally be taken by a majority vote at Congress.

Article 8 – Definition of the concept of admitting wrestlers to contest

In order to be allowed to participate in Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships and all competitions coming under the authority of FILA, wrestlers who have reached a high competitive level must comply with the definition given in the Olympic Charter.

However, as part of their prerogatives, the supreme sporting bodies of a particular country, the National Olympic Committee or National Federation, may grant the high level wrestler financial assistance, through his Club or National Federation, with a view to ensuring his social and sporting promotion.

All the wrestlers participating in any international competition shall have a FILA license with the stamp of the current year.

Article 9 – Doping

The absorption of any substance intended to artificially improve the performance of the athlete is strictly prohibited. The IOC's official list is authoritative.

In events supervised by FILA, examinations or tests shall be carried out under the conditions laid down in the FILA Anti-Doping Regulations, and under no circumstances may the competitors, directors or officials oppose these controls, under penalty of sanctions laid down in the FILA Anti-Doping Regulations and the Worldwide Anti-Doping Code laid down by WADA.

However, in order to fight against doping, it is reminded that in the first place the responsibility for controlling the health and the doping of athletes belongs to the National Federations, National Olympic Committees and to the public power of the countries of the athletes concerned.

Doping controls may be carried out at FILA's request on athletes several times a year, in or out of competitions, by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), according to the agreement signed by FILA and WADA, at any time and in any country.

TITLE II – CONGRESS

Article 10 – Composition

The Congress is the governing body of FILA, and in particular is called upon to elect the Bureau members and the FILA President. It is composed of the delegates of each of the affiliated Federations and members of the FILA Bureau.

Only three representatives (maximum number) per affiliated Federation are authorized to attend the Congress. Only one of them shall have the right to vote and will be authorized to speak. He must have an authorization from his Federation (power).

Article 11 – Voting power

Each affiliated country is entitled to one vote provided that it is up to date with the payment of its dues to FILA and is present at the Congress. This vote cannot be delegated.

The FILA Bureau members have the right to one vote which may not be delegated.

The Honorary President and the Honorary members do not take part in the vote.

The Congress may grant the title of Honorary President or Honorary member to important individuals for services given to the Federation. Nominations must be submitted by the FILA Bureau.

Article 12 – Operation

The FILA Congress must meet once every two years, in principle during Olympic Games and during World Championships, between Olympic Games

Before the opening of the session, in order to be registered, the representatives of the National Federations must present their signed voting authorities to the Congress Secretariat who will check that the document is authentic by comparing it with the copy received at the FILA Secretariat not later than seven days before the Congress date.

Notwithstanding the individual provisions of the Procedural Regulations, the Congress shall deliberate on the moral and financial reports for the past two-year period, as well as on the items on the agenda, details of which will have been submitted to the Federations two months prior to the date of the Congress.

The Congress is directed by the FILA President or, in his absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Secretary General, appointed by him.

The FILA Bureau shall supervise the agenda and only the items placed on the agenda can be examined. However, the Congress may decide, with a majority of two-thirds of the votes, to examine a question which is not placed on the agenda.

The motions which the affiliated Federations request to be placed on the agenda must reach the FILA secretariat three months before the date of the Congress meeting. Two months before Congress, the secretariat shall submit the motions thus formulated to the National Federations for them to study.

Within the two months following the Congress meeting, the minutes of the proceedings, signed by the President and the Secretary General and checked by the verifiers nominated by the Congress, shall be forwarded to the National Federations and submitted for approval at the following Congress meeting.

Article 13 – Validity of decisions

Motions shall be carried by a majority vote, plus one, of the valid voting slips of the affiliated National Federations, having the power to vote and of the Bureau members present.

In personal matters and for the elections, there must be a secret ballot. In the case of an equality of votes in the secret ballot, the subject of the vote shall be considered as rejected.

The President shall not take part in open ballots, but has a casting vote if there is a tie.

Article 14 – Rights and role

As the governing body of FILA, the Congress is in particular vested with the following powers:

- a) Approval and possible modifications to the Constitution.
- b) Approval of the FILA Bureau's balance sheets and FILA Bureau's financial report.
- c) Election of the FILA President.
- d) Election of the Bureau members.
- e) Nomination by acclamation of the Honorary President and of the Honorary Members.
- f) Affiliation of National Federations wishing to become FILA members.
- g) Decisions on all matters and all suggestions of general interest put forward by National Federations.
- h) Determining the amount of subscription fees and the sources of FILA revenues.
- i) Deliberation on all problems submitted to it by the FILA Bureau.

More generally, the Congress shall propose, examine, discuss and take decisions on the motions proposed and shall determine the general guidelines for action to be taken by the FILA.

Article 15 – Extraordinary Congress Meeting

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 12 above, an extraordinary Congress meeting may be held if requested by the FILA Bureau or in writing by at least one third of the affiliated National Federations. These requests, properly justified, shall be addressed and submitted to the FILA Bureau.

During such a Congress meeting, matters not on the agenda may not be studied.

Whatever the circumstances, the FILA President suggests the location for such a Congress meeting.

TITLE III – ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

CHAPTER I – FILA BUREAU

Article 16 – Composition

FILA is directed and administered by a Bureau of 18 elected members including the President and two seats reserved for women. The Honorary President and the co-opted Continental Committee presidents are also part of the Bureau.

Bureau members are sitting in person and under no circumstances do they represent their own country or their National Federation. They therefore cannot be automatically replaced by an individual from their National Federation if they resign from the FILA Bureau.

However, except for the FILA President, the two female members, the Honorary President and the co-opted presidents of the Continental Committees, the Bureau may not comprise more than one member of the same nationality.

The presidents of the Continental Committees who are co-opted to the FILA Bureau have the right to vote.

The Honorary President does not have the right to vote.

In the event where, following the exceptions above two members of the same country sit on the FILA Bureau, the third candidate from the same country is not acceptable.

Article 17 – Eligibility

Any candidate nominated by his National Federation, by a registered letter sent to the FILA secretariat at least three months before the elections, is eligible as a member of the Bureau, at the rate of one candidate per country. All candidatures must be justified and all candidates must speak one of FILA's official languages (French or English).

Re-election for a Bureau member:

- a) Bureau members can stand for re-election.
- b) Bureau members and the FILA President are elected in an official capacity. In no way do they represent their National Federation.
- c) A Bureau member, including the President, who comes to the end of his mandate, can put himself forward without having his National Federation's agreement.
- d) In the event of two members coming from the same National Federation being candidates at the same election having a majority in the first round of the ballot, the one with the highest number of votes will be elected to the FILA Bureau.
- e) During the second round, the one with the highest number of votes will be elected as FILA Bureau member.
- f) In the event of a tie, the member of the Bureau leaving office will be declared re-elected; otherwise, it is the older individual.

Article 18 – Term of Office

The term of office of the members elected to the FILA Bureau is six years. However, at the end of their six year term, one third of the members are eligible for re-election every two years, at the Congress meeting.

If there is a vacancy in the FILA Bureau, for whatever reason, arrangements must be made for the member(s) concerned to be replaced at the following Congress meeting.

The term of office of the newly elected members who have the least number of votes shall end at the expiration of the term of office of the members they replace.

Article 19 – Elections

The FILA Bureau members are elected by secret ballot, by the Congress, as stipulated in Article 10, for a duration established in Article 18 above. Only votes held by the representatives of the affiliated National Federations, (according to the provisions of Article 11 above), and by the Bureau members attending the Congress meeting, may be cast.

Elections shall be held on the basis of an absolute majority on the first ballot. If necessary, on the second ballot, the candidates shall be elected by relative majority depending on the number of votes cast. In case of a tie on the second ballot, the person who is an outgoing Bureau member or the oldest candidate will be elected.

It is also noted that, in order to encourage the presence of women in the FILA Bureau, two seats are reserved for women. The length of their mandate and the method of election are the same as for the other candidates.

The post of President of a Continental Committee is not incompatible with that of elected member of the FILA Bureau.

Article 20 – Structure, powers and operation

The FILA Bureau comprises:

- 1 President
- 1 Secretary General
- 4 Vice-presidents
- 12 elected members
- The co-opted Continental Committees Presidents
- The Honorary President without any right to vote, but with a consultative right

The FILA President, the Secretary General and the Vice-Presidents form the FILA Executive Committee. The Vice-Presidents are nominated by the FILA Bureau at the FILA President's suggestion for a period of six years.

The term of office of a Continental president on the FILA Bureau is equal to that of his continental presidency, i.e.: four years between two Olympiads. The Continental Committees must organize their elections before this date.

The FILA Bureau has full powers to carry out the FILA's financial, technical and moral administration. It shall control and supervise the activity of the FILA between Congress meetings. It may delegate some of its powers to its President, to its Executive Committee and to its auxiliary bodies. It prepares and submits to Congress the report on its activities and financing, as well as on any propositions for the Congress to decide upon.

The FILA President attributes the different responsibilities between the FILA Bureau members according to their availability and their abilities, as well as depending on the working programme which he prepares and which is adopted by the FILA Congress.

In the event of circumstances arising beyond the control of the FILA Bureau, due to international economic conditions, and when a situation makes it difficult, even impossible, to implement a statutory provision (state of war, epidemics, various decisions, government positions, etc.), the FILA Bureau may use any adequate means at its disposal to ensure that this provision is nevertheless complied with.

However, the Bureau is entitled to take suitable justified decisions to safeguard the general interests of the FILA, as dictated by the current situation, without this decision creating a precedent. The FILA Bureau must inform the following FILA Congress meeting of its decision.

The FILA Bureau shall meet whenever convened by its President, or at the request of one third of its members, but at least once a year. Any member absent from three consecutive meetings shall lose his FILA Bureau membership. This also applies to the Continental Presidents. The presence of three fifths of the members of the FILA Bureau is required for resolutions to be valid. Resolutions shall be passed by a majority vote of the members present.

Minutes of the meetings shall be drawn up by the Secretary General, and signed jointly by the President and the Secretary General.

The President may be represented at FILA Bureau meetings by a Vice-President or the FILA Secretary General. The President has the casting vote in the case of an equality of votes of the FILA Bureau.

FILA Bureau members have the right to be reimbursed for their travel, hotel and daily representation expenses for all travel incurred for FILA, at the orders of the FILA President.

Article 21 – Executive Committee

The FILA Executive Committee is made up of the President, the Secretary General and the four Vice-Presidents. All members of the Executive Committee are invited to take part in all Executive Committee meetings.

The Honorary President is invited to attend the FILA Executive Committee meetings with a consultative right.

The Executive Committee is responsible for choosing Championship or Cup organizers from the bid files it receives.

CHAPTER II – THE PRESIDENT

Article 22 – Election

Only elected FILA Bureau members may be candidates. The FILA President is elected for a term of six years, by secret ballot, at a Congress meeting, on the basis of a justified nomination put forward by the FILA Bureau after an examination and study of the candidacies, which must be sent by registered mail to the FILA secretariat at least three months prior to the date of the Congress meeting, the post-mark will be proof of posting.

The President is automatically elected for six years, whatever is the period remaining until the end of his term of office as a Bureau member. If such a case occurs, it is the elected or re-elected Bureau member with the smallest number of votes who will fill the position left vacant.

The President can be re-elected for this position.

Article 23 – Role

The President shall manage FILA's day to day affairs and business as well as following FILA's activities and its general policies. The President's sphere of activity includes, in particular, representing the FILA at international meetings, at the sessions of the International Olympic Committee and before authorities in general. The President legally represents FILA in all acts of civil life. He can be accompanied by the Secretary General or he can delegate some of his tasks to him. He sanctions expenditure.

Among other tasks, he puts forward names of candidates for Commissions to the FILA Bureau and studies questions which concern FILA's general smooth running.

In the event of legal action, the President can only be replaced by a person having a special proxy.

The President or his deputy shall be entitled to be reimbursed for travelling and hotel expenses, as well as representation expenses for all travels in connection with all FILA activities. Furthermore, he shall be entitled to receive an official allowance for his work the amount of which being fixed by the Executive Committee.

The administration of the FILA shall be carried out on the authority of the President.

Article 24 – Vacancy

Should a vacancy arise for the post of President, for any reason whatever, the FILA Bureau shall elect one of its members, by secret ballot, to provisionally fulfil the presidential functions.

A new President must necessarily be elected during the following Congress meeting, under the conditions laid down in Article 22 above.

CHAPTER III – THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Article 25 – Nomination, role and competence

The Secretary General is nominated from the members of the FILA Bureau at the President's suggestion. However, the FILA Bureau may decide to choose a Secretary General outside its members. His mandate lasts six years and is renewable.

The Secretary General seconds the President in the leading and running of FILA and assumes the responsibility of secretary of Bureau and Congress meetings. He draws up the minutes. After receiving approval from the FILA President, he can sanction FILA expenditure.

The Secretary General is responsible for the smooth running of the FILA secretariat and accomplishes all the tasks which the FILA President or the FILA Bureau gives him. He is responsible for relations with the Continental Committees, the Commissions, the working groups, the National Federations, other bodies or individuals, etc. under the direction of the FILA President.

To fulfil his duties, the Secretary General shall be entitled to be reimbursed for travelling, hotel and representation expenses, and to receive an allowance for his work fixed by the Executive Committee.

TITLE IV – AUXILIARY BODIES

CHAPTER I – CONTINENTAL COMMITTEES

Article 26 – Definition

While respecting the principle of FILA's integrity and authority concerning all questions relating to the management and the practice of the sport of wrestling through the world, and with a view to obtaining efficient dialogue and co-operation between them, the National Federations in one continent which are correctly affiliated to the FILA, as well as associated member Federations, are grouped in a Continental Committee, whose role and abilities are laid down by internal Regulations drawn up by FILA and adopted by the FILA Congress.

As it does not have any legislative power in the technical and regulation areas for wrestling as governed by FILA, powers which remain the FILA Bureau's, the Continental Committee remains an internal organization of FILA belonging to the continent concerned, not a member but an auxiliary body of FILA which cannot be affiliated as such.

The main aim is to promote and develop wrestling on the continent concerned, to apply FILA's directives and to ensure that the FILA Constitution and Regulations are followed.

Article 27 – Structures and competence

The Continental Committees are managed by an Executive Commission comprised of five individuals elected by the General Assembly (President, Vice-President and three members) whose mandates last four years and are renewable. The headquarters and the secretariat of the Continental Committee must be in the President's residence and must be assured by the National Federation who put forward the candidature for the presidency of the Continental Committee.

The General Assembly meets every two years during the Continental Championships. The Continental Committee's General Assemblies follow the same procedures as the FILA Congress.

The agenda and the invitations to the Continental Committees' General Assemblies must be approved by the FILA President. If a Continental Committee President has not convened an electoral general assembly, the FILA Bureau will convene one in his place.

The Continental Committees' main task is to co-ordinate and to promote the popularization and development of wrestling on their continent.

Article 28 – Respect of the FILA Constitution and regulations

Under no circumstances may a decision taken by a Continental Committee with regard to a National Federation be taken and said to be executory if it has not been pronounced by the FILA Bureau.

CHAPTER II – COMMISSIONS

Article 29 – Definition

Commissions are auxiliary bodies which are set up by the FILA Bureau to achieve the objectives assigned to them by the FILA, in particular, those laid down in Article 2 above.

Article 30 – Structures

The main Commissions which are necessary for running FILA are the following:

- Technical Commission
- Officiating Commission
- Medical and Anti Doping Commission
- Promotion Commission
- Athlete Commission

The FILA Bureau can create other Commissions or working groups for the studying of problems or specific activities. The FILA Bureau can also appoint individuals responsible for specific areas and call on the services of experts, including persons outside FILA.

Article 31 – Composition

The Commissions comprise one President, one vice-president, one secretary and four members. The Commission members are nominated by the FILA Bureau at the FILA President's suggestion.

They are taken from specialists in the field particular to that Commission and have working knowledge of one of the official FILA languages (French or English).

Each candidacy must be put forward by the National Federation of the candidate concerned, accompanied by a written statement from the National Federation assuring that it will bear the travel and accommodation costs for its candidate for the Commission's meetings to which he is summoned.

The members' mandates last four years and are renewable after the Olympic Congress.

TITLE V – GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I – BASIC RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Article 32 – Principles

National Federations (and their affiliated sports clubs) may only participate in competitions organized by the Federations affiliated or associated with FILA. However, at the request of a National Federation, the FILA Bureau may agree that a National Federation not yet affiliated to FILA participates in a tournament provided that the competition concerned contributes to the development of wrestling in the participants' countries and provided that this Federation has indicated its intention to become affiliated to FILA. Moreover, if the desired affiliation has not become effective within two years from the time the authorization was granted, no other authorization will be granted to the requesting affiliated Federation as long as the Federation, subject of the dispensation, is not affiliated.

At the Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee Charter and the FILA Regulations shall be applied.

The Organization Regulations for the various Continental Championships, which remain under the same exclusive control of FILA, must conform to the principles established for the World Championships, and no special provisions which transgress the Regulations shall be allowed. Each Championship will be attributed following a bidding process and following the signing of a contract between the host Federation and the FILA. The General Regulations and the FILA requirements for international contests and competitions shall establish the organization and venue conditions for all international events.

Any wrestling club or association where wrestling is practiced may only organize or participate in an international competition if their National Federation is affiliated to the FILA, and provided that it is not the subject of a suspension action. The National Federations affiliated to FILA may not:

- a) Accept participation from wrestlers, leaders or officials who are members of associations not affiliated to the FILA.
- b) Accept participation from wrestlers, leaders or officials who are non-affiliated or who are subject to a disciplinary measure of suspension.
- c) Organize any contest or event with associations not affiliated to the FILA, unless authorized to do so in writing by a National Federation which is a member of the FILA from the country of the associations concerned.

Moreover, in view to ensure the promotion of wrestling, wrestling associations or clubs under the authority of a National Federation affiliated to FILA and having its head office on another continent can, in agreement with their governing National Federation, receive from FILA an authorization to participate in competitions organized on the continent where they reside and where they have their activities.

Article 33 – Representation

At the Olympic Games, Continental or Regional Games, World Championships and Cups and Continental Championships and Cups no participant (wrestler or referee) may represent a nation or be part of its national team if he does not have the nationality of the nation concerned.

Article 34 – Foreign Participation, changing nationality, transfer

Every wrestler has the right to wrestle in any country in the world as long as he is in accordance with the FILA Constitution, the Regulations, the Wrestling Rules and the normative documents of the National Federation concerned.

- a) A wrestler who lives abroad may not participate in events organized by the National Federation or affiliated association in the country in which he lives, unless he can produce an official certificate from the National Federation of his country while respecting the FILA Transfer Regulations. However, a wrestler who has been residing in the country where he works for one year or more may participate in club or national events if he is invited and without having received the authorization from the club and from the National Federation of his country.
- b) Invitations to foreign competitors or teams to participate in an event must always be extended through the National Federation of the wrestler or the team concerned. The National Federation will give its permission (or not) depending on the FILA Transfer Regulations. The organizing club must therefore send its invitation through its National Federation to that of the wrestler or club concerned.
- c) In the case of a change of nationality, the following provisions are applicable:

The competitor who has obtained his new nationality through naturalization or through wedding may not participate in competitions and activities coming under the control of the FILA to represent his new country until two years after his last international competition for his country of origin. As far as the Olympic Games are concerned, the provisions of the Olympic Charter must be followed.
- d) A wrestler who is the holder of dual nationality may only represent one country of his/her choice. A wrestler may only change his/her nationality once during his/her sports career according to the condition laid down under point c above.
- e) A wrestler can only change clubs during the transfer period - between 1st November of the year in question and the 1st January of the following year. In any given season, a wrestler cannot change club or wrestle for two clubs in the same period.

- f) The FILA Transfer Regulations are applicable to all wrestlers from all National Federations affiliated to FILA who apply to change clubs temporarily or permanently. A wrestler's transfer takes place with a contract signed by the Presidents of both National Federations and the two clubs concerned, as well as the wrestler mentioned in the contract according to the provisions laid down in the FILA Transfer Regulations. Contracts are individual.
- g) FILA being the highest authority for all questions concerning World Championships and Cups, Continental Championships and all international competitions recognized by FILA it has total power. There is no right of appeal concerning its decisions. FILA may delegate its judicial power to the FILA Executive Committee reserving the right to exercise its power itself when it decides to.

Article 35 – Binding conditions

All international competitions must be included in the annual calendar and approved by FILA. If, for some valid reason, an event is not included in the annual calendar, the organizer must request authorization from the FILA secretariat at least three months in advance stating the date and the place of the event.

The results and records of the international competitions and matches, signed by the officials in charge, must be forwarded to the FILA secretariat within seven days of the events and matches. If the organizers purposely fail to do this, the sanctions in the Disciplinary Regulations shall be applied.

The National Federations organizing international events must have settled all their financial obligations towards FILA, and must not be the subject of any disciplinary sanction or suspension. They must strictly apply the contract signed with FILA, as well as the general regulations for Championships and international competitions and all the obligations which follow at each Championship and international event.

In order to protect the wrestlers' health, more particularly on the occasion of Olympic Games, World Championships, Continental Championships, World Cups, in every style and for all age groups, the organizers must obligatorily use FILA approved and new mats for competition, training and warming-up for each Championship mentioned above.

In the event of FILA signing contracts with suppliers or individuals, the organizer must use equipment from these contracted suppliers.

CHAPTER II – SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Article 36 – Disciplinary procedure

a) Introduction

In order to deal with legal disputes in sporting matters which cannot be settled by FILA's judicial bodies, an arbitration institution called the "Court of Arbitration for Sport" (CAS) has been created under the aegis of the International Council of Arbitration for Sports (ICAS).

b) Procedure

In the event of an infringement of the FILA Constitution, Wrestling Rules and other Regulations, a case will be opened and measures taken. FILA's disciplinary bodies are as follows:

- The FILA attorney
- The Sporting Judge – the only judge
- The FILA Sporting Appeal Commission (three members)

Members are nominated to these posts by the FILA Bureau at the suggestion of the FILA President. The FILA judicial bodies decide whether leave to appeal the first decision will be given. Affiliated National Federations and all the FILA members (FILA Bureau members, wrestlers, coaches, referees, doctors and leaders), through their FILA membership, can appeal only to FILA in the event of disputes arising from the current Constitution and all the FILA Regulations or of all sporting conflicts which can arise between them and which they cannot settle amicably.

c) Appeal against the decision

Conflicts between FILA and one of its members or between members among themselves which are not resolved by a decision of the FILA Sports Judge, Disciplinary Commission or FILA Bureau will be submitted to the CAS for judgment, any state jurisdiction being excluded. As a last resort, the "Court of Arbitration for Sport" (CAS) will decide and judge all the valid appeals which are submitted to it by the affiliated National Federation or one of the FILA members against the decision(s) made by the FILA Sports Judge, the Disciplinary Commission or the FILA Bureau.

The appellants must be willing to conform exclusively to the CAS Constitution and Regulations and to the decision it makes.

Article 37 – Patrimony

Any contracts signed by and on behalf of the FILA shall be its sole responsibility. No affiliated National Federation or individual member shall be held responsible for it.

Article 38 – Remuneration

The members of the FILA Bureau and National Federations may not receive any payment as members.

Article 39 – Internal regulations

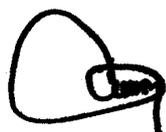
By virtue of this Constitution and the operating principles of FILA, the FILA Bureau is authorized to establish all Internal Regulations and relevant documents.

Article 40 – Statutory Principle

For all questions or problems not mentioned in this Constitution, as well as any amendments which may be made to the latter due to circumstances arising, the FILA Bureau is empowered and authorized to take all necessary decisions which shall remain in force until the following meeting of the FILA Congress which shall be called upon to be informed of the contents of the decisions and to discuss them.

However, the decisions taken and all Regulations, of any kind, laid down by FILA, as well as the Regulations of the affiliated National Federations, may not be contrary to the provisions and spirit of this Constitution.

The up-dating of this Constitution was adopted by the decisions taken at the Moscow (RUS) Congress in September 2002.



Michel Dusson
Secretary General



Raphaël Martinetti
FILA President

Note: This document is available in the French and English versions on the FILA website at the address:
<http://www.fila-wrestling.com>