



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING
ORGANISATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR CONTINENTAL COUNCILS

Approved by the Executive Board on 7 August 2024

1 STATUTORY REFERENCE

In accordance with Article 15 of the IFSC Statutes (reported verbatim from the IFSC Statutes):

- 1.1 The Continental Councils are responsible for the administration, development, and furtherance of climbing in a specific Continent or geographic area. The five (5) IFSC-recognised Continents currently are: Africa, Asia, Europe, Oceania, Pan America.
- 1.2 The Continental Councils shall serve the interest of the IFSC globally with a specific geographic perspective, and they shall not act as representatives of National Federations.
- 1.3 The Continental Councils shall at all times comply with and enforce the IFSC Rules and Regulations and co-operate with the other IFSC bodies. They shall organise Continental Championships and other competitions in their geographic area.
- 1.4 The Organisational Regulations of the Continental Councils shall be submitted to the Executive Board for its approval and shall not come into effect until such approval has been granted. Subject to prior approval by the General Assembly, the Continental Councils may constitute themselves as separate legal entities.
- 1.5 The Continental Councils shall stipulate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and action plan with the IFSC to be approved by the Executive Board as the roadmap to deliver the objectives of the IFSC Strategic Plan relevant to their geographic area and define roles and responsibilities. They shall report to the Executive Board quarterly and to the General Assembly annually.
- 1.6 Each Continental Council shall have one athletes' representative appointed by the Athletes' Commission to provide a permanent liaison between active athletes and the respective Continental Councils.
- 1.7 The Continental Councils shall have financial autonomy within the framework and limits to be set by the Executive Board. The IFSC has the ultimate responsibility for their finances and compliance with the auditing principles adopted by the IFSC. Keeping of accounts is managed by the administration of the IFSC, under the responsibility of the Secretary General and the VP for Finance.

2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 2.1 These Organisational Regulations regulate the organisation of the Continental Councils for all aspects not expressly provided for by the Statutes. In the event of any inconsistency or contradiction between these regulations and the Statutes, the Statutes shall prevail. Unless otherwise stated herein, all capitalised terms shall have the meaning given to them in the Statutes.
- 2.2 The Continental Councils are established under the legal authority of the IFSC and are therefore subject to the decisions of the General Assembly and Executive Board, the IFSC Statutes, and Swiss law.
- 2.3 In principle, the MOU and action plan mentioned above shall not contradict the present organisational Regulations for Continental Councils. Exceptions must be approved by IFSC Executive Board upon request and where circumstances justify such request. Exceptions shall not be against fundamental principles of Swiss association law and of IFSC regulations.
- 2.4 Continental Councils communicate with National Federations and/or registered members (athletes, team officials, coaches) for what concerns events described under article 7.2.2 of this document. Any interaction (invitation to meetings, events, etc.) with members of other Continental Councils, members of IFSC Commissions, and any other stakeholder, must be done in accordance and alignment with IFSC guidelines. The IFSC Office is responsible for external communications (media, partners, and other stakeholders) and internal communications (Executive Board, Continental Councils, National Federations).

2.5 Definition and Purpose

- 2.5.1 National Federations pertain to a continent in accordance with the NOC division defined by the five IOC recognised continental Olympic Associations (Africa: ANOCA, Asia: OCA, Europe: EOC, Oceania: ONOC, [Pan] America: PASO).



- 2.5.2 The ensemble of National Federations of the same continent constitutes a Continental Council. The IFSC recognises the five (5) Continental Councils as described in Article 15.1 of the Statutes.
- 2.5.3 Continental Councils have the purpose to promote and develop Climbing in their geographic area in accordance with the mission, vision, and objectives set out in the Strategic Plan. The IFSC shall provide the framework and guidelines to support Continental Councils in their activities.

2.6 Duties

- 2.6.1 Continental Councils shall comply with the IFSC Statutes, its values and principles, the Code of Conduct, Disciplinary Rules, and any other IFSC regulation and provision in force.
- 2.6.2 Continental Councils refer to the IFSC for the coordination and delivery of their activities and day-to-day operations (e.g.: meetings, elections, events, etc.).
- 2.6.3 In accordance with Art. 15.5 of the IFSC Statutes, Continental Councils shall stipulate an MOU and action plan to be approved by the Executive Board as the roadmap to deliver the objectives of the Strategic Plan relevant to their geographic area.
- 2.6.4 The action plan and objectives shall draw from and incorporate the goals set out in the Strategic Plan with the purpose to promote and develop Climbing in the relevant geographic area. The strategic objectives relevant to Continental Councils are set out in Articles 1.4 and 2.3 of the Strategic Plan.

2.7 Rights

- 2.7.1 Continental Councils shall have the autonomy to administer their activities in the manner appropriate to satisfy the specific needs of the continent.
- 2.7.2 Continental Councils may divide the territory in sub-regions to facilitate the administration of activities.
- 2.7.3 Continental Councils shall receive the support of the IFSC Office (including but not limited to technical knowledge, guidelines, templates, software, education materials, etc.) to deliver objectives and activities at the required standard of quality.
- 2.7.4 Continental Councils' Chairs may be entrusted signing power in accordance with and subject to the conditions defined in the Financial Regulations, Annex: Delegation of Authority.

3 FINANCE

3.1 General Provisions

- 3.1.1 The IFSC is registered in Switzerland and its financial statements are regulated by the provisions of commercial accounting as set out in the Swiss Civil Code of Obligations. Annual external auditing is conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs).
- 3.1.2 The IFSC is the ultimate responsible for its finances, including for Continental Councils' finances and for their compliance with the auditing principles in force.
- 3.1.3 Continental Councils' accounts are subject to the internal and external auditing procedures of the IFSC. Their annual statements as of 31 December are part of the IFSC consolidated Financial Statements approved by the General Assembly.
- 3.1.4 Continental Councils shall comply with the deadlines set by the IFSC regulations for the submission of documents (annual budgets, reports, etc.)
- 3.1.5 In principle, and where applicable, Continental Councils shall respect and apply the recommendations of the Risk and Finance Commission.
- 3.1.6 Continental Councils are responsible to ensure that operations are carried out in compliance with the IFSC regulations, policies, and protocols in force.



3.2 Management of Finances

- 3.2.1 Continental Councils may request to have a dedicated bank account under the IFSC to manage financial operations appropriately.
- 3.2.2 Keeping of Continental Councils accounts is managed by the IFSC, under the responsibility of the Executive Board.
- 3.2.3 Continental Councils are responsible to provide the IFSC with the necessary information and documents to keep the accounts in good order, ensuring that the Financial Regulations are respected and implemented at all times. Specifically, keeping of accounts is coordinated as per the procedure described in Section 6 of the [Financial Regulations](#).
- 3.2.4 Continental Councils shall submit before 31 December of the previous year an annual budget of activities to be validated by the Executive Board as part of the IFSC budget presented to the General Assembly at its annual meeting.
- 3.2.5 The budget of each Continental Council must be aligned with the activities foreseen in the relevant approved Action Plan.
- 3.2.6 The budget of each Continental Council is intended for the delivery of development activities in the relevant region and is not transferable to other Continental Councils without IFSC approval.

3.3 Delegation of Authority and Events Finances

- 3.3.1 The Chair of each Continental Council may be given a delegation of authority in accordance with the requirements of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce. This delegation of authority shall authorise Continental Councils to co-sign contracts with event organisers and enter third-party sponsorships and media rights deals for continental events listed under point 7.1.2 below. In any case, all contracts shall have joint signature of two (2) IFSC representatives with signatory power.
- 3.3.2 In the event that a partnership or deal conflicts with existing IFSC contracts, mitigating measures shall be agreed between IFSC and the Continental Council on a case by case basis.

4 MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Membership is the sole prerogative of the IFSC and of the General Assembly, as defined in Art. 8 of the IFSC Statutes. In the event that a Continental Council is contacted in relation to membership matters, including admission of new members, the Continental Council shall immediately transfer the information to the IFSC Office.
- 4.2 Continental Council may not admit new members that have not been provisionally admitted by the Executive Board. Similarly, Continental Councils may not invite representatives of organisations that have not been provisionally approved by the Executive Board to any activity.
- 4.3 Each IFSC Member is allocated to the Continental Council of pertinence in accordance with the five IOC recognised continental Olympic Associations (Africa: ANOCA, Asia: OCA, Europe: EOC, Oceania: ONOC, [Pan] America: PASO).
- 4.4 IFSC Members with territories in more than one continent are allocated to the Continental Council of pertinence in accordance with the five IOC Olympic Associations and may be represented in the Continental Council covering the geographic area in which those territories are after signing of an MOU with the IFSC and that Continental Council.

5 MEETINGS

- 5.1 Continental Councils shall determine the appropriate number of Continental Board Meetings and Continental Assemblies. However, a minimum of four (4) Continental Board Meetings shall be held each year, and a minimum of one (1) Continental Assembly shall be held each year.
- 5.2 Continental Councils shall inform the IFSC Executive Board of the annual calendar of Board Meetings and Assembly with due advance.
- 5.3 Continental Councils shall share the minutes/report of all meetings proceedings with the IFSC Office.



- 5.4 The Secretary General or other member of staff shall participate as observer in Continental Board and Assembly meetings to provide logistic and technical support.

6 CONTINENTAL BOARD

6.1 General Provisions

- 6.1.1 The National Federations of each Continental Council shall elect a Continental Board.
- 6.1.2 The Continental Board is accountable to the Executive Board.
- 6.1.3 Members of the Continental Board must belong to different National Federations, with the exception of the Athletes' representatives.
- 6.1.4 Members of the Continental Board, with the exception of the Athletes' Representative, are elected for a term of four (4) years. They may be re-elected for two (2) additional terms and shall serve no longer than twelve (12) years.
- 6.1.5 Members of Continental Boards are subject to the IFSC Code of Conduct, including disclosure of potential Conflicts of Interest, and all other applicable regulations.

6.2 Nomination of Candidates

- 6.2.1 Candidates for Continental Board positions, with the exception of the Athletes' Representative, shall be proposed by a National Federation no later than thirty (30) days before the date of the Continental Assembly at which elections are held.
- 6.2.2 A National Federation can propose up to two (2) Candidates in total. Accordingly, a Candidate cannot be nominated for more than one position. If a National Federation submits two (2) Candidates, they shall be of different gender. Incompliance with 6.1.3 above, if one of the Candidates is elected, the other Candidate will be removed from the remaining election procedure.
- 6.2.3 A National Federation can only nominate persons holding a valid passport with the nationality of the nominating National Federation. Suspended National Federations are not allowed to submit nominations of Candidates. Otherwise, in principle, Continental Councils may establish their own rules for nomination of candidates. In case of conflict with IFSC regulations, the IFSC regulations shall prevail.
- 6.2.4 Candidatures for Continental Board positions shall be sent to the IFSC Office and the Chair of the relevant Continental Council.

6.3 Composition

- 6.3.1 The Continental Board is composed, as a minimum, of the following members:
- Chairperson
 - Two (2) Vice Chairpersons
 - Treasurer
 - Athletes' Representative
- 6.3.2 Each Continental Council may decide to elect additional Members to appropriately cater for the size and needs of their region. The number and role of additional Members shall be defined in the MOU specific to each Continental Council.
- 6.3.3 Continental Boards should strive for 50-50 gender balance and must reach a ratio of no more than 60-40 in one gender.
- 6.3.4 The Athletes' Representative shall be appointed by the IFSC Athletes' Commission, as defined in Article 15.6 of the IFSC Statutes.

6.4 Election of the Continental Board

- 6.4.1 The Continental Council shall complete elections to elect the Continental Board at least sixty (60) days before the next scheduled elective General Assembly.



- 6.4.2 All *Sanctioned Practices* listed under Art. 2.3 of the [IFSC Electoral Regulations](#) shall apply to the election process of the Continental Board.
- 6.4.3 Elections can be held only if listed as a specific point in the agenda of a Continental Assembly.
- 6.4.4 Elections may be held either in person or videoconference or a combination thereof; the means of communication applicable to Continental Board elections are subject to prior communication to and approval of the Executive Board.
- 6.4.5 The Members of the Continental Board, with the exclusion of the Athletes' Representative, shall be elected by the National Federations allocated to the relevant continent.
- 6.4.6 The Athletes' Representative shall be appointed by the IFSC Athletes' Commission, as defined in Article 15.6 of the IFSC Statutes. The continental Athletes' Representative may be a member of the IFSC Athletes' Commission, or an athlete external to the IFSC Athletes' Commission appointed ad hoc for the continental position. The athletes' representative shall be from a country of the relevant continent.
- 6.4.7 Dedicated IFSC staff shall provide support to each Continental Council to guarantee the IFSC standards of governance and support the correct running of the operations related to the electoral process.

6.5 The Chairperson

- 6.5.1 The Chairperson shall be the primary contact with IFSC Executive Board and Office.
- 6.5.2 The Chairperson chairs the Continental Board, coordinates, and runs the meetings of the Continental Board.
- 6.5.3 The Chairperson shall communicate to the IFSC any update related to events, finance, meetings, continental commissions/working groups, and any other activity in a timely manner.

7 EVENTS

7.1 Participation and Registration

- 7.1.1 All events organised at continental level are open to athletes and team officials of countries of the organising Continental Council. In exceptional circumstances, and subject to approval of the IFSC Executive Board, athletes and team officials may represent the country with which they hold an international licence in continental events organised by Continental Councils other than the one of pertinence.
- 7.1.2 Athletes and Team Officials must be licensed and registered via the official IFSC event management and results system platform.

7.2 Calendar

- 7.2.1 In principle, Continental Councils shall determine their calendar of events in autonomy, and such events shall not be in conflict with major IFSC events.
- 7.2.2 Continental Councils shall find and contract qualified event organisers for the following continental events: Continental Championships (only if not qualifying for Olympic Games), Continental Youth Championships, Continental Cups and Continental Youth Cups. Such events shall be organised in compliance with IFSC guidelines.
- 7.2.3 Continental Councils shall apply the IFSC Rules (i.e. Sport Rules) at all times. Subject to prior agreement with the IFSC, different competition formats may be adopted to facilitate the development and delivery of continental events.
- 7.2.4 Continental Olympic Qualifiers, Continental Games, and other regional Multi-Sport Events are coordinated centrally by the IFSC.
- 7.2.5 To be part of the IFSC Calendar, Continental Events must be entered in the official IFSC event management and results system platform.



7.3 Officials

- 7.3.1 The IFSC is responsible for the education, evaluation, and career path of international officials. The IFSC publishes annually the List of Officials.
- 7.3.2 Continental Councils may make the appointment of officials for the continental events set out in point 7.1.2 above. To guarantee universality and equal opportunity, nominations shall be done in accordance with the guidelines provided by the IFSC and are subject to validation by the IFSC.

8 DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

- 8.1 Education programmes for National Federations, officials, and coaches at all IFSC levels, are managed by the IFSC Office.
- 8.2 Continental Councils shall liaise with the IFSC Office to promote development and educational programmes in their region.
- 8.3 Medical and anti-doping education programmes are managed by the IFSC Office.

9 COMMISSIONS

- 9.1 Continental Councils may form working groups or commissions to address specific topics. Such bodies must be validated by the Executive Board to avoid redundancies and overlaps.
- 9.2 Continental Councils shall inform the IFSC Office of any working groups or commission meeting.
- 9.3 The output of continental working groups and/or commissions shall be submitted as part of the quarterly report to the Executive Board.

10 MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 10.1 Continental Councils may have a dedicated section in the IFSC website to be managed and updated by IFSC Office.
- 10.2 Continental Councils may activate a specific domain (URL), which will be addressed to their IFSC website section, to enhance their public awareness.
- 10.3 Continental Councils may request to activate a dedicated YouTube Channel to be managed directly by a person mandated by the Continental Council. Continental Councils may not activate any other social media profiles and shall rely on IFSC social media platforms for the dissemination of their contents.

11 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 11.1 Any dispute arising out of or in relation to these regulations may be addressed to the Disciplinary Commission, with the exceptions set out in the Disciplinary Rules.