



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING

## STATUTES

### INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING

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## 1 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 Capitalised terms used in these Statutes and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in Section 20 of these Statutes.
- 1.2 In these Statutes, references to:
  - 1.2.1 sections and annexes are, unless otherwise specified, references to sections and annexes to these Statutes;
  - 1.2.2 a “person” includes any person, firm, company, corporation, government, state or agency of a state or any association, trust or partnership;
  - 1.2.3 where the context so permits, words importing the singular only shall include the plural and vice versa and words importing the neuter gender shall include all genders.

## 2 NAME, LEGAL STATUS, HEADQUARTERS AND REGISTRATION

- 2.1 The International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) is the sole and exclusive international sport federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) governing Climbing and Para Climbing competitions in all their formats and disciplines worldwide, including any forms of eClimbing and ePara Climbing competitions.
- 2.2 The IFSC is established for an indefinite period with legal status as an association in accordance with Articles 60 *et seq.* of the Swiss Civil Code having its legal seat in Bern, Switzerland. The IFSC is a non-profit and non-governmental international organisation.
- 2.3 World Climbing is the designation used operationally by IFSC. Any reference to or use of World Climbing in these Statutes or other official documents shall apply to the IFSC.
- 2.4 The operational headquarters of the IFSC are in Torino, Italy.
- 2.5 The IFSC is registered in the commercial register of the canton of Bern, Switzerland.

## 3 AUTHORITY

- 3.1 The IFSC is the sole and exclusive world governing authority acting in all matters connected with Climbing and Para Climbing as competitive sports.
- 3.2 The IFSC owns and may use the designs, logograms, symbols, and similar features identified in **Annex 1** (as amended from time to time). The IFSC reserves all of its rights, including any and all intellectual property rights, in relation to the designs, logograms, symbols and similar features identified in **Annex 1** (as amended from time to time).
- 3.3 The IFSC owns the Intellectual Property Rights in:
  - 3.3.1 any and all IFSC Materials;
  - 3.3.2 the IFSC Competitions, including the IFSC World Championships, the IFSC World Cups and any other IFSC Events; and
  - 3.3.3 any other materials, events and/or property in respect of which the IFSC may acquire such interests as are customarily subject to intellectual property rights.

**4 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

- 4.1 The official language of the IFSC, including its bodies and constituents, is English.
- 4.2 All documents and communications by the IFSC and its bodies and constituents shall be drawn up in English. All verbal and written statements, reports, minutes, official documents, communications, and announcements of all IFSC bodies and events shall be in English.
- 4.3 National Federations may, at their discretion, translate IFSC official documents into their preferred language. In case of divergence on the wording and interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

**5 VALUES AND PRINCIPLES**

- 5.1 The IFSC shall perform its activities according to the highest ethical standards and shall require compliance with such standards from its National Federations and other stakeholders in Climbing and Para Climbing. In particular, the IFSC shall be bound by and comply with the values of the Olympic Charter and the Constitution and the Regulations of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).
- 5.2 The IFSC shall not allow any discrimination against a Country, National Federation, person or group on account of race, national or social origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, political opinion, or other reason.
- 5.3 The IFSC shall promote the values of Climbing and Para Climbing through balanced, inclusive and representative governance structures.
- 5.4 The IFSC shall respect the autonomy of its National Federations.
- 5.5 The IFSC shall use reasonable efforts to carry out its activities in alignment with the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- 5.6 The IFSC shall fight against doping, illegal betting, and all other forms of abuse that may undermine IFSC Competitions and equality, health and safeguarding of the athletes.

**6 OBJECTIVES**

- 6.1 The objectives of the IFSC are:
  - 6.1.1 to promote and grow the international development of Climbing and Para Climbing as competitive sports worldwide in all material respects, including eClimbing and ePara Climbing;
  - 6.1.2 to promote the sport of Climbing and Para Climbing as recreational and leisure sports in the interest of all climbers and especially as a healthy activity for the youth;
  - 6.1.3 to be a programme sport in the Olympic and Paralympic Games;
  - 6.1.4 to deliver world-class international competitions showcasing all IFSC Disciplines equally;
  - 6.1.5 to establish, maintain, and enforce rules for the organisation and participation in international Climbing and Para Climbing competitions, including eClimbing and ePara Climbing competitions;
  - 6.1.6 to recognise the international competitions that comply with the IFSC Rules and Regulations;
  - 6.1.7 to promote and organise the IFSC World Championships, the IFSC World Cup series and any other IFSC Events in all IFSC Disciplines;
  - 6.1.8 to create, deliver, and maintain programmes for the continued education of Technical Officials;
  - 6.1.9 to support development initiatives identified by IFSC bodies and approved by the Executive Board;

- 6.1.10 to enforce and update as necessary these Statutes and other ensuing regulations and operations manuals;
- 6.1.11 to promote clean and safe sport through the adoption and enforcement of the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC), the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions and other measures for the protection and safeguarding of competitions and athletes;
- 6.1.12 to develop sponsorships and marketing opportunities to sustain the activities of the IFSC; and
- 6.1.13 to promote diversity and universality in IFSC leadership and activities.

- 6.2 The IFSC may establish branch offices and subsidiaries and acquire participations in other companies.
- 6.3 The IFSC may engage in any activities that are suitable to promote its objectives or relate to its objectives, including commercial, financial, and other activities.

## **7 RESOURCES**

- 7.1 The IFSC is a non-profit organisation. It uses its Resources to pursue its objectives.
- 7.2 The resources of the IFSC include (but are not limited to):
  - 7.2.1 the annual Membership Fees from the National Federations;
  - 7.2.2 the proceeds from the sale and licensing of commercial rights owned by the IFSC, including but not limited to events and commercial branding owned by the IFSC, such as sponsorship and television rights and any other proceeds in relation to the IFSC World Championships, the IFSC World Cup series and other IFSC Events;
  - 7.2.3 the proceeds from merchandising of IFSC branded products;
  - 7.2.4 donations; and
  - 7.2.5 income from various sources, including interest and capital gains on financial investments.



## 8 MEMBERSHIP

### 8.1 Eligibility

- 8.1.1 The national institution or organisation governing IFSC Disciplines in any Country shall be eligible to be an IFSC-approved National Federation.
- 8.1.2 Only one (1) institution or organisation recognised by the IFSC as a National Federation and as the national governing body for IFSC Disciplines in a Country can become a member of the IFSC.
- 8.1.3 In order to be eligible for membership of the IFSC, the constitution and governing rules of a National Federation shall be compliant with the principles, values, and objectives of the IFSC. Such constitution and governing rules must not be in conflict with these Statutes or the IFSC Rules and Regulations.
- 8.1.4 Each National Federation shall acknowledge and respect that it shall recognise the IFSC as the only international organisation that governs the IFSC Disciplines.
- 8.1.5 A National Federation may have branches located in different geographical areas, provided that the National Federation notifies the IFSC of the identity of each such branch and that the National Federation assumes ultimate responsibility for each such branch.

### 8.2 Rights and Obligations of National Federations

- 8.2.1 All National Federations are entitled:
  - 8.2.1.1 to have access to the services of the IFSC;
  - 8.2.1.2 to appoint delegates to participate, speak and vote in the General Assembly meetings, in accordance with these Statutes;
  - 8.2.1.3 to register athletes and participate in the IFSC World Championships, the IFSC World Cup series and any other IFSC Events when they are eligible to participate in accordance with applicable IFSC Rules and Regulations;
  - 8.2.1.4 to exercise all rights of a National Federation and receive all benefits as specified in these Statutes and the IFSC Rules and Regulations;
  - 8.2.1.5 to make proposals to change these Statutes and, where applicable, the IFSC Rules and Regulations and to make nominations of Candidates for the positions within the Executive Board and other IFSC bodies, where applicable;
  - 8.2.1.6 to submit proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly (see Section 10.6 below);
  - 8.2.1.7 to have access and benefit from IFSC development and educational programmes; and
  - 8.2.1.8 to submit requests to the IFSC to organise international climbing and Para Climbing competitions.

8.2.2 All National Federations shall:

- 8.2.2.1 share and enforce the values and principles of the IFSC and support the IFSC in achieving its objectives;
- 8.2.2.2 comply with these Statutes and the IFSC Rules and Regulations at all times;
- 8.2.2.3 ensure that their own constitution and governing rules comply at all times with these Statutes and the IFSC Rules and Regulations, and to amend and/or supplement them as may be necessary from time to time for this purpose;
- 8.2.2.4 ensure athletes' representation within their organisation;
- 8.2.2.5 encourage and promote diversity and gender equality in electing and appointing officials and members of its governing bodies and commissions;
- 8.2.2.6 comply with and implement decisions and directives of the IFSC, i.e., the General Assembly, the Executive Board and other competent IFSC bodies, as well as the decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) at all times;
- 8.2.2.7 ensure that their own members and other stakeholders comply with and implement the IFSC Rules and Regulations, as well as directives and decisions of the IFSC bodies;
- 8.2.2.8 to include within its constitution and governing rules valid and enforceable provisions that allow out-of-competition doping control by the IFSC, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the International Testing Agency (ITA) and other testing authorities upon delegation of the IFSC;
- 8.2.2.9 to make reasonable efforts to participate in international competitions in all IFSC Disciplines, the IFSC World Championships, the IFSC World Cup series and other IFSC Events;
- 8.2.2.10 to promptly pay the annual Membership Fee as required by these Statutes and comply with all other financial obligations to the IFSC.

8.2.3 National Federations shall be active in the IFSC to retain membership. The membership of a National Federation that is no longer active may be terminated by the General Assembly. To be an active member means:

- 8.2.3.1 to attend the Ordinary General Assembly;
- 8.2.3.2 to organise a national championship every year in at least one of the IFSC Disciplines and all categories;
- 8.2.3.3 to have an athletes' commission or other form of athletes' representation;
- 8.2.3.4 to comply with the required IFSC Anti-Doping Rules (see Section 8.2.2.8 above); and
- 8.2.3.5 to be a member in good standing and implement good governance practices as more specifically set out in Section 8.2.2 above.

- 8.2.4 In case a National Federation does not fulfil the requirements of being an active member (Section 8.2.3 above), the Executive Board may issue a warning to that National Federation. If no corrective action satisfactory to the Executive Board is initiated within reasonable time, the Executive Board may recommend the membership of that National Federation for termination to the next General Assembly (see Section 8.5 below).
- 8.2.5 No National Federation or member thereof shall participate in any international climbing or Para Climbing events and receive prizes or awards from such events organised by other sports associations in competition with the IFSC unless such events are approved by the IFSC.
- 8.2.6 National Federations shall have no liability for debts and other liabilities of the IFSC.

### **8.3 Admission of New Members**

- 8.3.1 Application for membership of the IFSC shall be submitted by the Applicant with all documents accompanied by an English translation to the IFSC Office for approval by the General Assembly together with:
  - 8.3.1.1 a statement of the name and legal entity of the Applicant and a confirmation of its good financial standing;
  - 8.3.1.2 the official address and contact details of the Applicant;
  - 8.3.1.3 a copy of the current constitution and rules and regulations of the Applicant in original and in English;
  - 8.3.1.4 a list of the main officers of the Applicant;
  - 8.3.1.5 a list of the Applicant's active membership (i.e., number of clubs, athletes, coaches, officials);
  - 8.3.1.6 a formal undertaking by the Applicant to observe and abide by these Statutes, the IFSC Rules and Regulations, the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC) as well as the jurisdiction and decisions of the CAS; and
  - 8.3.1.7 confirmation of payment of a non-refundable administrative application fee as determined by the Executive Board;
- 8.3.2 The Executive Board shall have the power to approve an Applicant for provisional membership, subject to final approval by the General Assembly at its next meeting. The rights and duties of a new member shall come into effect upon provisional approval by the Executive Board, with the exception of the right to vote, which may only be exercised after admission of the Applicant by the General Assembly.
- 8.3.3 Once admitted by the General Assembly, a National Federation is a member of the IFSC for an indefinite period, unless it withdraws its membership, or its status is otherwise changed in accordance with these Statutes.
- 8.3.4 Once admitted, each National Federation is assigned to the respective Continental Council and may participate in all relevant continental activities. A National Federation may not be admitted as Member of a Continental Council until it has been admitted by the IFSC.

#### 8.4 Suspension of Membership

8.4.1 The Executive Board shall have the power to suspend the membership of a National Federation (and to impose such further measures as the Executive Board may deem reasonable):

- 8.4.1.1 for significant violation of these Statutes and/or the IFSC Rules and Regulations and upon other grounds deemed significant by the Executive Board;
- 8.4.1.2 for failing to pay the fees required to be paid by these Statutes and/or the IFSC Rules and Regulations;
- 8.4.1.3 upon the initiation of bankruptcy, administration, liquidation proceedings or receivership in relation to that National Federation; or
- 8.4.1.4 in the event of a dispute as to which national body may represent the IFSC Disciplines in a Country and until such dispute has been resolved in that Country.

8.4.2 The suspension shall have the consequences and scope deemed appropriate by the Executive Board. In particular, a suspended National Federation may be subject to the temporary forfeiture, total or partial, of the membership rights granted under these Statutes. The Executive Board shall carry out the necessary investigations and take the necessary measures to assist and support the suspended National Federation in having its membership reinstated. If no corrective action satisfactory to the Executive Board is achieved within reasonable time, the Executive Board may recommend the membership of the suspended National Federation for termination to the next General Assembly (see Section 8.5 below).

8.4.3 In case of suspension, the Executive Board may assign the sporting power to a third party (another National Federation or other IFSC body) at conditions the Executive Board deems appropriate in order to ensure that athletes from the suspended National Federation are able to compete and minimise the impact of such suspension on the athletes.

8.4.4 The decision of suspension of the Executive Board is subject to appeal to the General Assembly. The time limit for the appeal shall be thirty (30) days. The decision of the General Assembly confirming the suspension shall be subject to further appeal to CAS in accordance with Section 17 below.

#### 8.5 Termination of Membership

8.5.1 Membership of the IFSC shall cease on the date when:

- 8.5.1.1 the National Federation ceases to exist, or
- 8.5.1.2 the membership of the National Federation is terminated by the General Assembly (see Sections 8.2.4 and 8.4.2 above), or
- 8.5.1.3 the National Federation withdraws its membership. A National Federation wishing to withdraw its membership of the IFSC must give written notice of such withdrawal to the Secretary General. That National Federation's membership shall end on the date specified in such notice or, if no date is specified, on the date of receipt of such notice by the Secretary General.

8.5.2 In the event of such termination or withdrawal:

- 8.5.2.1 the IFSC shall have no obligation to make any refund of any kind whatsoever to the National Federation;
- 8.5.2.2 the National Federation shall continue to be bound by any provision in these Statutes and/or the IFSC Rules and Regulations that survives the termination and/or withdrawal of such membership;

- 8.5.2.3 the National Federation shall comply with any reasonable request of the IFSC for purposes of completing the orderly withdrawal of such membership; and
- 8.5.2.4 the representation of that Country within the IFSC becomes vacant and available for a new national governing body. In case the same national governing body applies for new admission, it must comply with the requirements and procedures set out in Section 8.3 above.

#### **8.6 List of Members**

- 8.6.1 The IFSC shall maintain a list of its member National Federations, including their names and addresses.
- 8.6.2 The list shall be maintained in a manner allowing it to be accessed at any time at the legal seat in Bern, Switzerland.
- 8.6.3 The details of each member and any supporting documents shall be kept for no less than five years after the member has been removed from the list.
- 8.6.4 A person who is domiciled in Switzerland and able to represent the IFSC must have access to the list of members.

### **9 ORGANISATION OF THE IFSC**

- 9.1 The IFSC may pursue its objectives with the assistance of the following bodies:

- 9.1.1 the General Assembly;
- 9.1.2 the Executive Board;
- 9.1.3 the President;
- 9.1.4 the Secretary General and the IFSC Office;
- 9.1.5 the Commissions;
- 9.1.6 the Continental Councils;
- 9.1.7 temporary Working Groups; and
- 9.1.8 the independent Auditor.

## 10 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 10.1 General Provisions

- 10.1.1 The General Assembly of the National Federations is the highest authority of the IFSC and has ultimate authority over all IFSC activities.
- 10.1.2 The General Assembly shall in principle meet every year (see Section 10.3: Ordinary General Assembly).
- 10.1.3 The National Federation hosting the General Assembly shall in principle be approved at the meeting of the General Assembly two years in advance (see Section 10.3.7 below).

### 10.2 Powers of the General Assembly

- 10.2.1 The General Assembly has the following powers:
  - 10.2.1.1 to adopt, amend and/or supplement these Statutes;
  - 10.2.1.2 to approve the annual report of the Executive Board;
  - 10.2.1.3 to review the annual budget and approve the audited annual accounts;
  - 10.2.1.4 to grant discharge to the Executive Board;
  - 10.2.1.5 to elect the Members of the Executive Board;
  - 10.2.1.6 to appoint the members of the Disciplinary and Ethics Commissions upon the recommendation of the Executive Board;
  - 10.2.1.7 to elect the independent Auditor;
  - 10.2.1.8 to approve the minutes of General Assembly meetings;
  - 10.2.1.9 to determine membership of National Federations;
  - 10.2.1.10 to determine the annual Membership Fee;
  - 10.2.1.11 to confer the title of Honorary President of the IFSC and Honorary Member of the IFSC to individuals. Other awards may be conferred by the Executive Board;
  - 10.2.1.12 to adopt the IFSC Strategic Plan;
  - 10.2.1.13 to award the IFSC World Championships;
  - 10.2.1.14 to decide on proposals by the National Federations and the Executive Board; and
  - 10.2.1.15 to decide on any other matters that are not conferred to any other IFSC body by these Statutes or the IFSC Rules and Regulations.

### 10.3 Ordinary General Assembly

- 10.3.1 The Ordinary General Assembly shall take place every year, in principle before 30 June. The calling notice shall be sent to the National Federations at least ninety (90) days ahead of the date of the meeting, in case of elections at least one-hundred-twenty (120) days in advance.
- 10.3.2 The Secretary General shall notify the National Federations of the agenda for each Ordinary General Assembly together with the supporting documentation thirty (30) days before the meeting. A provisional agenda shall be circulated at least sixty (60) days ahead of the meeting. Proposals to amend these Statutes shall be circulated with the provisional agenda at least sixty (60) days ahead of the meeting.
- 10.3.3 The Executive Board shall determine the date of the Ordinary General Assembly and shall be responsible for the necessary preparations. The Ordinary General Assembly may be held in-person, by videoconference or by any other means of communication or a combination thereof. In principle, the Ordinary General Assembly is held in person, while ensuring that participation and voting is available for remote delegates.
- 10.3.4 The Executive Board shall make reasonable efforts to provide simultaneous translation into at least two languages other than English at the Ordinary General Assembly using objective criteria for choosing those additional two languages such as, for example but without limitation, the language of the hosting country and the language that is most widely used by National Federations.
- 10.3.5 The National Federations shall make reasonable efforts to attend each Ordinary General Assembly through their delegates. Each National Federation may register up to three (3) delegates, one of whom shall exercise the voting rights. If a National Federation registers more than one (1) delegate to the Ordinary General Assembly (in-person or remote), the IFSC encourages the second delegate to be of different gender. If the National Federation registers a third delegate, such third delegate shall be of different gender.
- 10.3.6 If compelling reasons so require, the Executive Board may postpone the date of an in-person Ordinary General Assembly by up to ninety (90) days or determine that the respective Assembly be held only virtually.
- 10.3.7 The General Assembly shall entrust the hosting and organisation of the Ordinary General Assembly with physical presence to a National Federation of a country capable of fulfilling the conditions specified by the Executive Board.

### 10.4 Extraordinary General Assembly

- 10.4.1 The Executive Board may call an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time on its own initiative or shall do so upon a proposal supported by the majority of the National Federations.
- 10.4.2 Any such proposal must be substantiated and be accompanied by a proposal for the agenda for such Extraordinary General Assembly.
- 10.4.3 The Executive Board shall establish the agenda of an Extraordinary General Assembly in accordance with the proposal submitted and call the Extraordinary General Assembly within ninety (90) days after receipt of such proposal. The Secretary General shall notify the National Federations of the agenda for such Extraordinary General Assembly together with the supporting documentation thirty (30) days before the meeting.
- 10.4.4 Any Extraordinary General Assembly shall, in principle, be held by videoconferencing. Instead of calling an Extraordinary General Assembly, the Executive Board may submit a proposal for Electronic Voting.

## 10.5 Conduct of the General Assembly

- 10.5.1 The President shall lead the General Assembly. The President shall be entitled to participate in the discussions and to submit proposals during any form of General Assembly.
- 10.5.2 If the President is unable to attend the General Assembly, the Executive Board shall appoint a substitute.

## 10.6 Proposals

- 10.6.1 Proposals to the General Assembly may be submitted by the National Federations and/or the Executive Board.
- 10.6.2 Proposals from National Federations must reach the Secretary General forty-five (45) days before the General Assembly. The IFSC Office shall submit the proposals of the National Federations to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall review the proposals and make recommendations to the General Assembly.
- 10.6.3 The proposals along with the recommendations of the Executive Board must be presented to the National Federations no later than thirty (30) days before the Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly.
- 10.6.4 Proposals reaching the IFSC Office after the expiry of the time limit specified in Section 10.6.2 or which are submitted at the General Assembly may be dealt with only if either the majority of two thirds (2/3) of all votes cast by the Executive Board or the majority of two thirds (2/3) of all Valid Votes cast by the National Federations present at the General Assembly have decided to consider such proposals as urgent.
- 10.6.5 Proposals of National Federations for the mere modification of proposals listed and specified in the agenda of an Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly are not subject to the time limit specified in Section 10.6.2 but shall be submitted to the Secretary General as soon as possible after receipt of the agenda.

## 10.7 Number of Votes and Representation

- 10.7.1 For purposes of any form of General Assembly, each National Federation shall have one (1) vote.
- 10.7.2 A National Federation in good standing may be represented by another National Federation by means of a written proxy in accordance with the relevant regulations approved by the Executive Board. A National Federation may not represent more than one (1) additional National Federation at the same time.
- 10.7.3 A National Federation that has not fully paid all amounts due in accordance with these Statutes or the IFSC Rules and Regulations may participate in such General Assembly but shall have no voting rights and may not submit any proposals.
- 10.7.4 The Secretary General shall keep a voting register that shall be presented to the participants at the opening of the General Assembly.

## 10.8 Voting Procedure

- 10.8.1 For purposes of any form of General Assembly, the General Assembly may only make determinations and take decisions with regard to items on the agenda for that General Assembly or in respect of urgent proposals submitted in accordance with Section 10.6.4.
- 10.8.2 Voting shall be conducted electronically and shall be secret. If no Electronic Voting system is available, voting shall be by show of hands unless one or more delegates or Members of the Executive Board request that the voting shall be by secret Ballot.
- 10.8.3 The votes shall be counted by two (2) tellers appointed by that General Assembly.
- 10.8.4 The decisions of the General Assembly shall take immediate effect, unless it decides otherwise. The terms of individuals elected by the General Assembly shall commence on the day following the respective General Assembly.

## 10.9 Quorum and Majority

- 10.9.1 In order to validly deliberate, the General Assembly requires a minimum of one third (1/3) of its members to be present in person, from remote, or a combination thereof.
- 10.9.2 The General Assembly shall adopt its decisions and carry out its elections with the majority of all Valid Votes cast by the National Federations present or represented, unless mandatory law or these Statutes provides otherwise.
- 10.9.3 Any adoption of proposed amendment(s) of these Statutes shall require the majority of two thirds (2/3) of all Valid Votes cast.
- 10.9.4 The dissolution of the IFSC is subject to the requirements set out in Section 18.1 below.

## 10.10 Elections

### 10.10.1 General Provisions

- 10.10.1.1 Elections of the President, Vice-Presidents and Continental Board Members shall in principle be held every four (4) years, if possible at the Ordinary General Assembly in the year following the Summer Olympic Games.
- 10.10.1.2 For each election, a Nomination Committee shall be established *ad hoc* to oversee the electoral process, in accordance with the relevant regulations approved by the General Assembly.
- 10.10.1.3 Candidates for the offices of the President, Vice-Presidents, or Continental Board Members:
  - (i) must be proposed by a National Federation no later than sixty (60) days before the General Assembly;
  - (ii) must hold a valid passport with the nationality of their nominating National Federation;
  - (iii) disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest in accordance with the IOC Code of Ethics; and
  - (iv) must be of different nationalities.
- 10.10.1.4 The President shall be elected prior to the election of the four (4) Vice-Presidents and the Vice-Presidents before the five (5) Continental Board Members.

- 10.10.1.5 A National Federation can propose up to two (2) Candidates for the position of President or the positions of Vice-President and/or Continental Board Member. If a National Federation submits two (2) Candidates for consideration, they shall be of different gender. If one of either Candidates is elected for a position, the other Candidate will be removed from the remaining election procedure.
- 10.10.1.6 The list of proposed Candidates for President, Vice-Presidents and Continental Board Member shall be sent to the National Federations no later than thirty (30) days before the General Assembly.
- 10.10.1.7 The term of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Continental Board Members, and the representatives of the Athletes Commission shall be four (4) years.
- 10.10.1.8 The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Continental Board Members may be re-elected but shall serve no longer than twelve (12) years.
- 10.10.1.9 The term of the representatives of the Athletes' Commission may be renewed once by four (4) years, for a total period of eight (8) years. If a former representative of the Athletes' Commission is later elected as an ordinary Executive Board Member, the new maximum term is twelve (12) years, pursuant to Section 10.10.1.8. The transition from representative of the Athletes' Commission to elected Executive Board Member is not subject to a time off, but the person concerned should in principle have retired from their competitive career before running for an elected Executive Board Member position.
- 10.10.1.10 If there is a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice-Presidents, or the Continental Board Members for any reasons, the following shall apply:
  - (i) a new President, Vice-President or Continental Board Member shall be elected for the remainder of the term of the office of the outgoing President, Vice-President, or Continental Board Member;
  - (ii) the election of a new President, Vice-President, or Continental Board Member during the term of office of the former office holder shall take place at the next Ordinary General Assembly;
  - (iii) the Executive Board shall elect an Interim President from among the Vice-Presidents or Executive Board Members for the time until the General Assembly can elect a successor of the former President.

#### 10.10.2 Election of the President

- 10.10.2.1 The President shall be elected by the majority of all Valid Votes cast.
- 10.10.2.2 If no Candidate obtains the majority of all Valid Votes cast in the first round, there will be a second round in which the Candidate with the fewest votes in the first round is eliminated. This procedure shall be repeated until a Candidate receives the majority of all Valid Votes cast.
- 10.10.2.3 In the event of a tie between two Candidates with the fewest votes, there will be an intermediate voting round between those who tied to determine the Candidate to be eliminated. In case of a further tie, the Candidate to be eliminated will be determined by way of a draw.

#### 10.10.3 Election of the Vice-Presidents

- 10.10.3.1 Following the election of the President, the four (4) Vice-Presidents shall be elected in one single voting round.

10.10.3.2 The four (4) Candidates with the most votes are elected as Vice-Presidents, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) there must be at least two (2) Vice-Presidents in total of each gender. Accordingly, the two (2) Candidates of each gender with the most votes are deemed to be elected, irrespective of whether they are placed among the four (4) Candidates with the most votes;
- (ii) if there is a tie between Candidates for one of the open seats, there will be an additional voting round between those who tied to determine the Candidate to be eliminated. In case of a further tie, the winner will be determined by way of a draw.

#### 10.10.4 Election of the Continental Board Members

10.10.4.1 Following the election of the Vice-Presidents, the five (5) Continental Board Members shall be elected in one single voting round.

10.10.4.2 The five (5) Candidates with the most votes are elected as Continental Board Members, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) there must be at least one (1) Continental Board Member from each of the five (5) IFSC-recognised Continents (see Section 15.1 below). Accordingly,
  - (a) the Candidate with the most votes will be deemed elected and allocated to the Continent of the respective nominating National Federation; and
  - (b) the Candidate(s) with the most votes from each of the four (4) remaining Continents will be deemed elected and allocated to the Continent of the respective nominating National Federation, irrespective of whether they are placed among the four (4) Candidates with the most votes;
- (ii) if there is a tie between Candidates for one of the remaining open seats, there will be an additional voting round between those who tied to determine the Candidate to be eliminated. In case of a further tie, the winner will be determined by way of a draw.

#### 10.11 Minutes of the General Assembly

10.11.1 The Secretary General shall be responsible for the Minutes of the General Assembly.

10.11.2 The minutes including all decisions taken by the General Assembly shall be circulated to the National Federations no later than six (6) months after the General Assembly and reproduced in the language determined in Section 4.1.

## 11 THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

### 11.1 General provisions

- 11.1.1 The Executive Board is accountable to the General Assembly and is the supreme authority of the IFSC between the General Assembly meetings.
- 11.1.2 The Members of the Executive Board must take office in their personal capacity and not as representatives of any National Federation or Continental Council. The Members of the Executive Board may not act as delegates, representatives, or advisors of a National Federation at the General Assembly or any other IFSC Event.
- 11.1.3 The President and the Executive Board Members have a fiduciary responsibility towards the IFSC and are subject to the IFSC Code of Conduct on Sports Betting Integrity. Any breach of this fiduciary responsibility may result in disciplinary sanctions.

### 11.2 Composition

- 11.2.1 The Executive Board consists of twelve (12) members, namely:
  - 11.2.1.1 the President elected by the General Assembly;
  - 11.2.1.2 four (4) Vice-Presidents elected by the General Assembly – two male and two female;
  - 11.2.1.3 five (5) Continental Board Members elected by the General Assembly – coming from each of the five (5) IFSC-recognised Continents (see Section 15.1 below); and
  - 11.2.1.4 two (2) members – one male and one female – elected by the Athletes' Commission.
- 11.2.2 The minority gender shall be represented on the Executive Board by at least three (3) members.
- 11.2.3 The President and the other Members of the Executive Board must belong to different National Federations with the exception of the representatives of the Athletes Commission.
- 11.2.4 In addition, five (5) Executive Board Members shall belong to different IFSC-recognised Continents (see Section 15.1 below). Their role is not to represent any of the Continental Councils but the interests of IFSC globally while offering a geographic perspective.
- 11.2.5 The President chairs the Executive Board.
- 11.2.6 After the closing of the General Assembly at which its members have been elected, the Executive Board shall designate from among the four (4) Vice-Presidents one who shall be responsible for Para Climbing (VP for Para Climbing). Otherwise, the Executive Board shall constitute itself.

### 11.3 Powers and Responsibilities

- 11.3.1 The Executive Board takes all necessary decisions. As far as such decisions fall within the competence of the General Assembly, they are valid until the next General Assembly and must be ratified by the General Assembly at its next meeting.
- 11.3.2 The Executive Board is responsible for the strategy and the overall conduct of business of the IFSC. It shall deliver the objectives of the IFSC and carry out the activities through the Secretary General and the IFSC Office, and according to the IFSC Strategic Plan.

11.3.3 The Executive Board has the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- 11.3.3.1 to provisionally approve membership applications of new National Federations, to provisionally suspend National Federations and recommend to the General Assembly to terminate the membership of National Federations that do not meet the eligibility criteria (see Section 8.1 above) or fail to comply with the obligations of National Federations set out in these Statutes (see Section 8.2.4 above);
- 11.3.3.2 to recommend changes to these Statutes;
- 11.3.3.3 to establish and amend the IFSC Rules and Regulations;
- 11.3.3.4 to nominate the Members of the Commissions for appointment by the General Assembly (see Section 10.2.1.6 above);
- 11.3.3.5 to issue and review the Terms of Reference for all IFSC bodies;
- 11.3.3.6 to review, approve or reject proposals of the Commissions;
- 11.3.3.7 to supervise the preparation of the General Assembly;
- 11.3.3.8 to submit proposals to the General Assembly;
- 11.3.3.9 to approve the annual budget and present it to the General Assembly;
- 11.3.3.10 to prepare the annual report to the General Assembly;
- 11.3.3.11 to set the IFSC strategy in consultation with its stakeholders.
- 11.3.3.12 to supervise the execution of the decisions taken by the General Assembly;
- 11.3.3.13 to recommend the place of the next IFSC World Championships and to decide on all matters concerning the IFSC World Championship rights;
- 11.3.3.14 to award the IFSC World Cup Competitions and to decide on all matters concerning the IFSC World Cup rights;
- 11.3.3.15 to ensure that these Statutes, the IFSC Rules and Regulations and the decisions of the Executive Board are observed;
- 11.3.3.16 to take timely the necessary measures for succession planning in the Executive Board;
- 11.3.3.17 to resolve and determine any matters of dispute for which an alternative resolution mechanism is not provided in these Statutes or the IFSC Rules and Regulations.

11.3.4 The Executive Board appoints the Secretary General. Under the supervision of the Executive Board, the Secretary General shall be responsible to the fullest extent possible for all operational activities of the IFSC, including the management of the staff and the operations of the IFSC Office.

11.3.5 The Executive Board may delegate some of its tasks to the President and/or to the Secretary General, or other qualified individuals.

11.3.6 The Executive Board may establish Working Groups for advice on a specific matter. It defines the mandate of the Working Groups and appoints their members, who shall be experts in the relevant fields and do not have to be affiliated with a National Federation.

## 11.4 The Executive Board Meetings

### 11.4.1 General Provisions

- 11.4.1.1 Executive Board Members elected by the General Assembly shall act and vote as independent individuals and not as representatives of a National Federation or a Continental Council. The two representatives of the Athletes Commission act and vote as representatives of the athletes.
- 11.4.1.2 The Executive Board meets at the invitation of the President, as often as the business requires, but no less than four (4) times a year. In addition, an Executive Board meeting must be held as soon as possible if a majority of the Executive Board Members submits a written request to the President, which must include a proposal for the agenda of the requested meeting.
- 11.4.1.3 Executive Board meetings may be held in-person, by videoconference or by any other means of communication or a combination thereof. If possible, at least one meeting per year shall be held in-person.
- 11.4.1.4 The agenda of Executive Board meetings is prepared by the Secretary General and the President. The agenda including supporting documents shall be made available to the Executive Board Members no less than five (5) days before the meeting. The Executive Board Members may submit proposals for inclusion in the agenda; such proposals shall be sent to the Secretary General no less than ten (10) days before the meeting.
- 11.4.1.5 The Secretary General takes the minutes of the Executive Board meetings. The Secretary General sends the minutes and a summary of the decisions and action points of each Executive Board meeting to the Executive Board Members as soon as possible. Matters of confidential nature, commercially sensitive information and any such information which is subject to data protection rights shall not be published.

### 11.4.2 Voting

- 11.4.2.1 The Executive Board may take decisions if at least the majority of its Members are present, subject to Section 11.4.2.6 below.
- 11.4.2.2 Each Executive Board Member has one (1) vote; no voting rights may be exercised by proxy.
- 11.4.2.3 Voting shall be taken by show of hands unless the decision is by Electronic Voting.
- 11.4.2.4 A proposal is accepted by a majority of all votes cast; abstentions shall not be counted to calculate the majority of votes.
- 11.4.2.5 In the event of a tie, the President may cast a deciding vote.
- 11.4.2.6 If the President so requests, the Executive Board may take its decisions also by Electronic Voting. A decision by Electronic Voting requires the majority of all Executive Board Members.
- 11.4.2.7 The Secretary General attends the Executive Board meetings and may participate in the discussions but has no voting right.

## 12 THE PRESIDENT

- 12.1 The President shall lead the IFSC and represent the IFSC towards the National Federations, the public, the state authorities, and the sports organisations, including the IOC, IPC, and WADA.
- 12.2 The President shall chair the General Assembly and the meetings of the Executive Board.
- 12.3 The President shall take care of such specific tasks that have been delegated to the President by the General Assembly and the Executive Board.
- 12.4 The President may make proposals to the Executive Board at any time.
- 12.5 The President may invite independent experts to the meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Board.

## 13 THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- 13.1 The Secretary General shall be appointed by the Executive Board and act as the secretary of the General Assembly and the Executive Board.
- 13.2 The Secretary General shall be the head of the administration of the IFSC.
- 13.3 The Secretary General shall supervise the activities and work of Commissions and the amendment of the IFSC Rules and Regulations.
- 13.4 The Secretary General shall support the President in working with the stakeholders in Climbing and Para Climbing.
- 13.5 The Secretary General shall be accountable to the Executive Board.

## 14 THE COMMISSIONS

### 14.1 General Provisions

- 14.1.1 The activities of the IFSC shall be supported by the Standing Commissions set out in Sections 14.2-14.7 below, as well as any *ad hoc* Commissions established by the President and the Executive Board as advisory and consultative bodies in order to assist the gathering of information and decision-making processes of the Executive Board.
- 14.1.2 All Commissions shall be constituted and operate based on the corresponding Terms of Reference established by the Executive Board and, where applicable, approved by the General Assembly. In general, the Executive Board shall review the Terms of Reference at least every four years and make the necessary adjustments and amendments.
- 14.1.3 Members of the Disciplinary and Ethics Commissions shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Executive Board. Members of all other Commissions are appointed by the Executive Board, with the exception of the Athletes' Commission.
- 14.1.4 All Commissions shall follow the cycle of the Executive Board. They are appointed every four years by the newly elected Executive Board and are not subject to term limits unless the Terms of Reference specify otherwise.
- 14.1.5 All Commissions shall report quarterly to the Executive Board and annually to the General Assembly as set out in the respective Terms of Reference.
- 14.1.6 All Commissions shall be advisory in nature, subject to specific exceptions as set out in these Statutes or the respective Terms of Reference.

## 14.2 The Athletes' Commission

14.2.1 The Athletes' Commission shall:

- 14.2.1.1 represent active athletes so as to provide input in the governance of Climbing, including providing advice to the Executive Board on matters affecting the IFSC from the perspective of the athletes. Proposals from the Athletes' Commission will be put on the agenda of the next Executive Board meeting for approval;
- 14.2.1.2 serve as a liaison for the Athletes' Commissions in the Continental Councils and, as the case may be, the National Federations and assist their establishment;
- 14.2.1.3 liaise with the IOC, IPC, and WADA and other appropriate Athletes' Commissions; and
- 14.2.1.4 elect two representatives – one female and one male – to represent the Athletes Commission in the Executive Board.

14.2.2 The composition and functioning of the Athletes' Commission are described in the relevant Terms of Reference approved by the General Assembly.

## 14.3 The Para Climbing Commission

14.3.1 The Para Climbing Commission shall represent Para Climbing and promote the growth of Para Climbing.

14.3.2 The composition and functioning of the Para Climbing Commission are described in the relevant Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Board.

## 14.4 Disciplinary Commission

14.4.1 The Disciplinary Commission shall investigate, adjudicate, and take appropriate action following any complaint concerning a breach of the IFSC Rules and Regulations or misconduct reported to the IFSC, in accordance with the Disciplinary Rules approved by the General Assembly. The Disciplinary Commission shall not investigate, adjudicate, and take appropriate action in case of violations of the applicable anti-doping rules, which shall be assessed by the Anti-Doping Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

14.4.2 The composition and functioning of the Disciplinary Commission are described in the relevant Terms of Reference approved by the General Assembly.

## 14.5 The Ethics Commission

14.5.1 The Ethics Commission shall:

- 14.5.1.1 address issues of ethical nature that may lead to conflicts on ethical issues referred to it by the Executive Board;
- 14.5.1.2 receive complaints and address cases regarding any infringement of the IFSC Code of Conduct;
- 14.5.1.3 conduct research on ethical practices and recommend further measures for the application and implementation within IFSC;
- 14.5.1.4 advise on how to avoid or resolve perceived or existing conflicts of interests;

14.5.2 The composition and functioning of the Ethics Commission are described in the relevant Terms of Reference approved by the General Assembly.

#### **14.6 Medical and Anti-Doping Commission**

- 14.6.1 The Medical and Anti-Doping Commission shall protect and maintain the standards of the health of the athletes and of Climbing as a safe sport. It shall address issues impacting the health of athletes and make recommendations to define the medical regulations for the safe running of IFSC Competitions.
- 14.6.2 The Medical and Anti-Doping Commission shall ensure that the IFSC complies with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC) and implement programmes for the promotion of clean sport.
- 14.6.3 The composition and functioning of the Medical and Anti-Doping Commission are described in the relevant Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Board.

#### **14.7 The Sports and Technical Commission**

- 14.7.1 The Sports and Technical Commission shall be responsible to make recommendations for the establishment, implementation, control, and review of all sporting and technical aspects related to Climbing including, but not limited to, competition rules, routesetting, equipment, judges etc. The Sport and Technical Commission may organise itself through the formation of sub-committees.
- 14.7.2 The composition and functioning of the Sports and Technical Commission are described in the relevant Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Board.

### **15 THE CONTINENTAL COUNCILS**

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 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.
- 15.3 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.
- 15.4 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.
- 15.5 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.
- 15.6 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 Council.
- 15.7 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.

## 16 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

- 16.1 The General Assembly shall elect a reputable and independent firm of auditors as Auditor for a term of one (1) year until the completion of the next Ordinary General Assembly to audit the accounts of the IFSC. The same firm of auditors shall not be eligible for re-appointment after five (5) consecutive years of service.
- 16.2 The Auditor shall have to comply with the applicable legal requirements. The Auditor shall have the powers and duties vested in it by law.
- 16.3 The accounts of the IFSC shall be audited on an annual basis in accordance with internationally recognised standards. The IFSC audited financial statements shall be submitted to the National Federations at least thirty (30) days before the opening of the Ordinary General Assembly at which they are to be approved.
- 16.4 The Executive Board may request the Auditor at any time to perform special investigations, in particular interim audits, and to prepare a report on their findings.

## 17 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 17.1 Any dispute arising out of or in relation to these Statutes, the IFSC Rules and Regulations or otherwise, between National Federations or between one or more National Federations and the IFSC, which cannot satisfactorily be resolved within the IFSC, shall be finally decided by the Appeal Arbitration Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. The time limit for the appeal shall be thirty (30) days.
- 17.2 Any decision of the Disciplinary Commission (see Section 14.4 above), including decisions on violations of the IFSC Code of Conduct, shall be subject to appeal to the Appeal Arbitration Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. The time limit for the appeal shall be thirty (30) days.
- 17.3 Any violation within the IFSC of the applicable anti-doping rules, including the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC), shall be referred to adjudication by the Anti-Doping Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland (CAS ADD). The decision of the CAS ADD shall be subject to appeal to the Appeal Arbitration Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

## 18 DISSOLUTION OF THE IFSC

- 18.1 The General Assembly may dissolve the IFSC by the majority of three quarters (3/4) of all Valid Votes cast, provided that at least two thirds (2/3) of the National Federations are present at the respective General Assembly.
- 18.2 If the IFSC is dissolved, the remaining capital after settlement of all outstanding debts shall be entrusted to another "for public benefit" utility in Switzerland (tax free declared institution) and shall be used for the objectives stated in Section 6 of these Statutes, particularly for climbing and Para Climbing as a popular, competitive and recreational sport.
- 18.3 In the circumstances described in Section 18.1, the General Assembly that dissolves the IFSC shall make such additional recommendations as it deems appropriate.

## 19 MISCELLANEOUS

### 19.1 Financial Year and Currency

- 19.1.1 Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, the financial year of the IFSC is one (1) year, beginning on 1 January and ending on 31 December of that year.
- 19.1.2 Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, the currency of reference for annual accounting purposes is the Euro.

## 19.2 Management of Finances and Compensation

- 19.2.1 The Financial Regulations shall define the principles and protocols for the management of the Resources. The Financial Regulations shall be approved by the Executive Board and shared with the General Assembly.
- 19.2.2 Expenses and compensation of the President, Executive Board Members and other individuals serving on IFSC bodies shall be regulated by the relevant annexes to the Financial Regulations to be approved by the General Assembly.

## 19.3 Indemnity

- 19.3.1 Every member of the Executive Board, every member of a Commission, the Secretary General and the staff of the IFSC shall be indemnified by the IFSC, to the fullest extent permitted under Swiss Law, in respect of any personal liability arising from any claim of whatever nature that is made against them as a result of their office or the exercise of their powers or the execution of their duties under these Statutes and/or the IFSC Rules and Regulations, provided that they can demonstrate that they have acted at all times in good faith.

## 19.4 Liability

- 19.4.1 Only the assets of the IFSC can be used to settle the liabilities and obligations of the IFSC.
- 19.4.2 Any liability of the IFSC for the liabilities of the National Federations is excluded.

## 19.5 Severability

- 19.5.1 Where a matter arises for which provision has not been made in these Statutes and/or the IFSC Rules and Regulations, the Executive Board may provide for the matter as it deems appropriate.
- 19.5.2 If any provision of these Statutes is determined to be unlawful or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of these Statutes shall remain unaffected and enforceable.

## 19.6 Amendments to the Statutes

- 19.6.1 Subject to Section 19.6.2, these Statutes may only be amended, supplemented, or repealed by a motion passed at a General Assembly meeting.
- 19.6.2 Amendments to these Statutes may be made by the Executive Board to correct typographical, grammatical, or clerical errors or clarification or where those amendments arise from motions to amend these Statutes, provided that the amendments do not materially contradict the decisions of the General Assembly.

## 19.7 Notifications and Communications

- 19.7.1 All notifications and communications by the IFSC shall be validly made to the last known address of the recipient for whom the same is intended, as notified by that recipient.
- 19.7.2 Any such notification or communication may be made by delivery against receipt, registered post, courier, email, or any other means of telecommunication that provides a record of the sending thereof.
- 19.7.3 The IFSC's official medium of publication is the Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce (SOGC).

## 19.8 Effective Date

19.8.1 These Statutes have been adopted by the Extraordinary General Assembly of 31 October 2023 and have become effective on that date. They supersede all prior statutes of the IFSC as from the effective date.

19.8.2 The application of term limits for Executive Board Members shall be retroactive.

19.8.3 The provisions related to the Executive Board including but not limited to its composition and eligibility, shall apply as of the next general elections in 2025.

## 20 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### 20.1 Definitions

Applicant	means a national organisation governing IFSC Disciplines in a Country, which applies for Membership with the IFSC.
Athletes Commission	means the body representing the active athletes and providing input and advice on matters affecting the IFSC and the IFSC Disciplines from the perspective of the athletes.
Auditor	means a person or legal entity appointed and authorised to examine the annual accounts and accounting records of the IFSC.
Ballot	means a sheet of paper or a digital form on which a voter marks his or her vote or the names of Candidates for election.
Candidate	means an individual who runs for election as President, Vice-President or Continental Board Member.
Commission	means any group, organisation and body or committee irrespectively of its name, which has been established by the General Assembly, the Executive Board or the President in support of the objectives of the IFSC. The composition, task and competence of any Commission is set out in the respective Terms of Reference.
Continents	means the IFSC-recognised Continents specified in Section 15.1 of these Statutes.
Country	means a sovereign state as recognised by the United Nations and any other political entity acknowledged by the IFSC.
Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)	means the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, which has exclusive jurisdiction to adjudicate disputes related to the IFSC Statutes and/or the IFSC Rules and Regulations either between National Federations or between National Federations and the IFSC and to hear appeals against final decisions of the General Assembly and the Disciplinary Commission.
Disciplinary Commission	means the dispute resolution body which hears and adjudicates breaches of the IFSC Rules and Regulations (with the exception of the IFSC Anti-Doping Rules) or misconduct reported to the IFSC.
Electronic Voting	means voting by email or any other form of electronic communication, whereby voters are asked one (1) or more specific questions and return their answer(s) by electronic communication or enter them into an online voting system.
Ethics Commission	means the commission with the task to hear cases because of alleged breaches of the IFSC Code of Conduct. It shall also assist in conflict of interest matters.
Executive Board	means the supreme authority of the IFSC between the General Assembly meetings. The Executive Board is accountable to the General Assembly.
Executive Board Member	means any member of the Executive Board entitled to vote.
Extraordinary General Assembly	means a General Assembly called by the Executive Board upon an urgent proposal supported by two thirds (2/3) of all Executive Board Members or a majority of votes of National Federations. Extraordinary General Assembly meetings are held by videoconferencing.
General Assembly	means the general assembly of the National Federations and the highest authority of the IFSC.
Honorary Membership	means a special award for individuals who have rendered outstanding services to the IFSC or the IFSC Disciplines.
IFSC	means the International Federation of Sport Climbing, i.e. the worldwide governing body of the IFSC Disciplines. The abbreviation IFSC is used in all languages.
IFSC Anti-Doping Rules	means the Anti-Doping Rules of the IFSC, as based on the World Anti-Doping Code and recognised by WADA.
IFSC Competition	means a sport or paraspot competition in one of the IFSC Disciplines acknowledged, sanctioned, organised or sponsored by the IFSC.

IFSC Disciplines	means the sport disciplines governed and supported by the IFSC, which include Lead, Boulder and Speed Climbing.
IFSC Events	means the totality of all IFSC approved events, including IFSC Competitions, conventions, ceremonies, seminars and other educational or training events.
IFSC Materials	means any materials, regardless of form or purpose, produced by the IFSC in conducting its activities
IFSC Rules and Regulations	means the entirety of the rules issued or approved by the IFSC and published on the IFSC website.
IFSC Strategic Plan	means the long-term roadmap for the future of Climbing and Para Climbing established by the Executive Board.
IFSC World Championships	means World Championships in any IFSC Discipline.
IFSC World Cup	means a series of IFSC Competitions in any IFSC Discipline with an individual classification of each competition, and overall rankings of all competitions in a Discipline.
Intellectual Property Rights	means all rights and goodwill in copyright works, names, trademarks, service marks, devices, logos, designs, patents, processes, confidential information, formats and trade secrets relating to the IFSC or to any event, competition activity or programme conducted, promoted or administered by or on behalf of the IFSC.
Interim President	means a substitute holder of the Presidential office after the elected President is incapacitated until either the return of the elected President or the election of a successor of the elected President by the General Assembly.
Membership Fee	means the annual fee that a National Federation must pay to the IFSC. The Membership Fee is determined by the General Assembly.
National Federation	means the national body governing IFSC Disciplines in any Country which has been accepted as an IFSC member.
Ordinary General Assembly	means the annual general assembly of the National Federations.
President	means the person elected by the General Assembly to lead and represent the IFSC towards the National Federations, the public, the state authorities and the sports organisations.
Resources	means the financial assets and income of the IFSC with which it fulfils its tasks.
Secretary General	means the secretary of the General Assembly and the Executive Board with the responsibilities assigned to him or her by the Statutes and the Terms of Reference.
Standing Commissions	means the Commissions specified in Sections 14.2-14.7 of these Statutes.
Statutes	means the present statutes of the IFSC as amended or supplemented from time to time.
Technical Officials	means individuals who have been certified by the IFSC for competition safety, judging, routesetting, and classification, at all levels, or who have undertaken a path to attain such certification.
Terms of Reference	means the description of the purpose and structures of a commission, body, Working Group, or any similar group of people who have been appointed to work together to accomplish a specific goal.
Valid Votes	means any vote which is duly cast by a National Federation in the General Assembly, including any vote declared as yes, no or abstention.
Working Group	means an informal and temporary committee called by the General Assembly, the Executive Board or the President to review and provide advice on a specific issue.

## 20.2 Abbreviations

CAS	The Court of Arbitration for Sport
IFSC	International Federation of Sport Climbing
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
ITA	International Testing Agency
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency
WADC	World Anti-Doping Code
VP	Vice-President