# WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION VIRTUAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 

## AGENDA 2

Incorporated in UK
25 November 2023

# WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION LIMITED 

53 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2023

## AGENDA 2 <br> FOR COMPANY REGISTERED IN UK

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

## 1. ATTENDANCE \& PROCEDURES

a) Members represented and number of votes
b) Observers present
c) Others present:
i. By right
ii. By invitation
d) Voting Procedures
e) Appointment of Scrutineers

## 2. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF WSF LIMITED

ANNEXURE A2
Motion proposed by: WSF Board

## Explanation:

The Articles of Association for the new WSF company (incorporated in the UK) were approved by the 2022 AGM. They were based primarily on the Articles for the existing Isle of Man company, using a standard UK framework for articles. However, they have carried over some aspects which are not as clear as they could be, whilst they don't flow as well as they might. The Board therefore wanted to take the opportunity to reorder the articles to be more coherent, whilst proposing some updates and filling some gaps.
The more substantive changes or additions are presented as separate sub-motions within this overall motion. Those which are approved will then be included in motion 2 h ) which proposes the revised articles in their entirety, to include any or all of the motions 2 a) to 2 g ) which are approved.
Lines highlighted in green indicate additional wording added to the Articles.

## a) Motion to change the status of and process for uncontested elections

Motion/Proposal:
To change uncontested elections from automatic election by acclamation to require a majority vote of approval for each candidate. This would apply to the positions of President, Vice Presidents, Ethics Commission Chair/Members and any other future elected positions.

Relates to the following Articles:

- article 17, specifically 17.7, 17.9 and 17.11 (relates to election of the Board)
- original article 57, new article 29 (relates to election of Commissions)


## Rationale:

This change gives Members the opportunity to elect or not elect nominees for key WSF positions in situations where an election would otherwise be uncontested, whilst providing a vote of confidence in the nominees. It will also require nominees to present their manifesto to AGM delegates as
would be expected in a contested election, requiring a higher degree of commitment and accountability compared with the current automatic election by acclamation.

This change is consistent with practice of other international sporting bodies including the International Masters' Games Association and the IOC.

## b) Motion to change the minimum gender composition of the WSF Board

Motion/Proposal:
To change the composition of the Board from a minimum $20 \%$ of one gender to a minimum $40 \%$ of each gender.

Existing article 18.1:
The Board shall comprise the President and four (4) Vice-Presidents (comprising at least one (1) Vice-President of each gender) who have been elected in accordance with the provisions of 17.1 to 17.15 of these Articles

Proposed new article 18.1:
The Board shall comprise the President and four (4) Vice-Presidents (comprising at least two (2) Board members of each gender) who have been elected in accordance with the provisions of 17.1 to 17.15 of these Articles . . . .

## Rationale:

This proposal is consistent with WSF's strategy, vision and values regarding diversity and inclusion, and specifically to improving gender balance across the organisation. It is also more consistent with the trend towards more balanced gender representation across international sporting bodies, including the IOC.

This will require more effort across MNFs to nominate female candidates for Board positions. If there are insufficient candidates to meet the minimum 40\%, the Board has the power to co-op to fill gaps following the AGM.

## c) Motion to change the composition of the Ethics Commission

Motion/Proposal:
To remove the option of Board members also being members of the Ethics Commission.
Relates to existing article 60, new article 28, specifically articles 28. \& 28.2

## Rationale:

The current article permits a maximum of two (2) Board members may be elected to the Ethics Commission. However, at the conclusion of an ethics investigation, the Ethics Commission makes a recommendation for approval by the Board, which creates a conflict wherein up to two Board members may have to declare an interest, leaving the Board only just quorate. Therefore, it makes sense to remove the overlap between Board and Ethics Commission membership.
d) Motion to include removal of suspended Members' access to WSF services

Motion/Proposal:
To clarify access to WSF support for suspended Members. This may include access to World Squash Coaching and WSO for instance.

Relates to existing article 26.2, new article 33.2.
Propose addition of ". . . or receive other benefits or services provided to Members" to article 33.2 as follows:
33.2 A Member which fails to pay its subscription by the end of the calendar year in which it is due shall automatically be suspended from Membership. It shall remain liable for payment of subscriptions during the period of suspension and may be re-admitted to Membership by the Board upon full payment of subscription due. During the period of such suspension the suspended Member may not attend, speak or vote at General meetings of the WSF, participate in WSF World Championships or receive other benefits or services provided to Members.

Rationale:

National Federations that are not in good standing with WSF should not retain access to the same benefits as paid-up Full Members. As WSF has extended the range of support and benefits beyond just the ability to vote and participate in Championships, this article has been extended to cover those additional benefits.

## e) Motion to add qualification criterion to Continental representation on WSF Executive

 BoardMotion/Proposal:
Add a requirement for Continental representatives on WSF Executive Committee to be from a nation in Full Membership of WSF.

Relates to existing article 48.7, new article 34.6.
Propose adding qualifying final sentence as follows:
33.2 Each Continental Federation shall have the right to appoint or re-appoint one member of the WSF Executive Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Continental Federation to make proper arrangements for the appointment or re-appointment of a member from that continent. The Continental representative on WSF Executive Committee must be from a nation whose National Federation is in Full Membership of WSF.

Rationale:
To properly represent the Continental Federation and its constituent National Federations on the Executive Committee, the continental representative should have a tangible interest in and commitment to the purpose, ambitions and contribution of the relevant Continental Federation and of WSF to the sport. Membership of WSF should be a requirement to reflect the necessary commitment and understanding.

## f) Motion to add criterion for Honorary Members

Motion/Proposal:
To add a broad criterion to the article related to appointment of Honorary Members.
Relates to existing article 50.1, new article 36.1.
36.1 The Board may in its discretion recommend to the Members in General Meeting that an individual or organisation be appointed as an Honorary Member of the WSF in recognition of long and distinguished service and contribution to the sport in an international context.

## Rationale:

There is currently no criterion or criteria to guide nominations for Honorary Members. It is hoped the inclusion of guidance / criteria will encourage future nominations.
g) Motion to clarify the status of abstentions in the voting process

Motion/Proposal:
To clarify the status of abstentions and spoiled ballot papers to achieving a majority vote.
Relates to existing article 34.10, new article 50.10
Proposal to add a final sentence to (new) article 50.10 as follows:
50.10 A Full Member may vote for, against or formally register its abstention from voting in respect of a motion or resolution. If a Full Member is absent at the time a vote is taken, or elects not to participate in the voting procedure, its potential votes shall not be recorded and taken into account in determining whether or not the motion or resolution has been carried.
When calculating the number of votes required to obtain a majority neither abstentions nor spoiled ballot papers shall be taken into consideration.

Rationale:
The previous two AGMs have experienced challenges to the voting process related to the status of abstentions in the calculation of a majority (whether simple majority or 75\%). This addition to new article 50.10 (existing article 34.10) clarifies that neither abstentions nor spoiled ballot papers are
taken into consideration, which is consistent with other international sporting bodies such as the International Masters' Sports Association and the IOC.

## h) Motion to approve the proposed amendments in their entirety

Motion/Proposal:
To approve the proposed changes to the Articles of Association of WSF Limited (incorporated in the UK) in their entirety, including those more substantive items 6 a) to 6 g ) which have been approved as part of those articles.

## 3. WSF FINANCE

The WSF UK incorporated company is currently dormant while arranging for banking facilities therefore no accounts were produced in the financial year 2022/23.

## 4. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

(Subject to Clause 56.6 of WSF Articles of Association - "At all General Meetings only the business notified in the agenda shall be transacted. Amendments must be kept within the terms of the motion and the Chairman of the Meeting shall have the power to refuse any amendment which substantially alters the intention of the motion.")
8. FUTURE MEETINGS

