



**MEMORANDUM AND RULES
AND REGULATIONS OF
INDIAN OLYMPIC
ASSOCIATION**

**(AS AMENDED UPTO 2nd
NOVEMBER 2022)**

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**Memorandum of Association of
The Indian Olympic Association
(Registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)**

- I.** The name of the Society is **“Indian Olympic Association” & “Bharatiya Olympic Sangh”**.
- II.** The Registered Office of the Society situated at B-29, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi 110016.
- III.** The Indian Olympic Association is a non-governmental not-for-profit organization, of unlimited duration, which exercises its jurisdiction over the whole territory of India.
- IV.** The **objects** for which the Society is registered are:-
 - 1.** The Indian Olympic Association, being part of the Olympic movement, undertake to respect provisions of the Olympic Charter, the Olympic movement, the World Anti-Doping Code and to abide by the decisions of the International Olympic Committee.
 - a.** At National Level to participate in events to promote peace and to promote women in sport.
 - b.** To develop, promote and protect the Olympic movement in India in accordance with the Olympic charter.
 - c.** To support and encourage the promotion of sports ethics, to protect the integrity of sports by fighting against doping and by taking action against all forms of manipulation of competitions and related corruption and to demonstrate a responsible concern to environmental issues.
 - 2.** To promote and encourage the physical, moral and cultural education of the youth of the nation for the development of character, good health and good citizenship.
 - 3.** To enforce all rules and regulations of the International Olympic Committee and the Indian Olympic Association and not to indulge in or associate with any activity which is in contradiction with the Olympic Charter.

To follow, observe and uphold the primacy and domination of the Olympic Charter in case of any contradiction between it and the rules, bye-laws and the constitution framed by the Indian Olympic Association.

4. To enforce and defend the exclusive right of the IOC and the Association to the use of the Olympic properties pursuant to the Olympic Charter.
5. To be the official organization in complete and sole charge of all Olympic matters in the country.
6. To educate the public of the country as to the value of sport and the spirit of Olympism.
7. In cooperation with National Sports Federations to guard and enforce the applicable rules.
8. To maintain the highest ideals of sport and to promote interest therein, particularly in connection with the Olympic Games and other Games under the patronage of the I.O.C. as well as the I.O.A.
9. To have full and complete jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the participation of India in the Olympic Games and other Games under the patronage of the IOC as well as the IOA.

To participate in the Games of the Olympiad by sending athletes and to constitute, organize and lead its delegation at the Olympic Games and at the regional, continental or world multi-sports competitions patronized by the IOC. It shall also ensure that the members of the delegation shall conduct themselves in a responsible and dignified manner at all such meets.

10. To assist in cooperation with National Sports Federations the selection, training and coaching of the teams that will represent India in the Olympic /Asian/Commonwealth /South Asian Games and other international competitions and tournaments, under the patronage of the I.O.C. as well as I.O.A.

After selection of the teams by the National Sports Federation, IOA will supervise and control the participation of the team in the said competitions and tournaments.

11. To undertake with the assistance of National Sports Federations the financing, management, transportation, maintenance and welfare of teams from India taking

part in the Olympic Games and other Games under the patronage of the I.O.C. as well as I.O.A.

12. To certify the eligibility of competitors from India for such international competitions as require such certification.
13. To stimulate the interest of the people of the country in the promotion of sports and games in the Olympic programme as well as form the State/UT Olympic Association in newly-formed State/Union Territory.
14. To act as the channel of communication between National Sports Federations and the Government of India for financial or other assistance to the Federations.
15. To admit the membership of State Olympic Associations and National Sports Federations which shall be required to submit their annual reports and audited statement of accounts to the I.O.A.'s Executive Committee for diligence, failing which disciplinary action can be taken.
16. To take disciplinary action against any affiliated unit for misbehavior or any other undesirable activity bringing discredit to the Olympic and sports Movement.
17. To do all other things that may be necessary or expedient to promote the development of sports and games in the country and for the conduct of its business.
18. To resist in the realm of sports all pressures of any kind, whether of a political, legal, racial, religious or economic nature.
19. To collaborate with schools and university establishments in India to propagate the fundamental principles of Olympism at National level within the framework of sports activity and also take steps for spreading the message of Olympism through the teaching programmes of physical education.
20. To take steps for the creation of national Olympic academies, Olympic museums and other cultural institutes related to the Olympic movement.
21. To collaborate and help National Sports Federation, State/UT Olympic Associations and other sport(s) bodies in the training of the sports administrators for the effective dissemination of sports information in India.
22. To resist and oppose any form of discrimination on grounds of race, religion, legal, politics, gender, caste or otherwise and to resist violence in sport.
23. To lay down guidelines to enforce the World Anti-Doping Code and to fight against the use of substance and procedures prohibited by the International Olympic Committee or the International Federations and to adopt and implement World Anti-Doping Agency Code thereby ensuring that the IOA's Anti-Doping policies and rules, membership

and/or funding requirements and results, management procedures conform with the World Anti-Doping Code and respect all the rules and responsibilities for the National Olympic Committees that are listed within the World Anti-Doping Code.

24. To encourage and support measures relating to the medical care and health of athletes.
 25. To implement the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.
 26. To encourage and support elected representatives of the athletes within the Olympic movement with the IOA's Athletes Commission acting as their supreme representative on all Olympic Games and related matters;
 27. To encourage and support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and in all structures with a view to implementing the principle of equality of men and women;
 28. To create a robust framework and mechanisms for safeguarding athletes and officials from any form of abuse and harassment in sport.
 29. To have full and complete jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the designation of the city which may apply to organize Olympic Games in India.
 30. To have full and complete jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the designation of the city and to organize the National Games every two years.
- V.** The IOA shall constitute and facilitate the administration and working of the following commission as per the Olympic Charter detailed as under:
- a. Athletes Commission Details at Annexure 'A'
 - b. Arbitration Commission Details at Annexure 'B'
 - c. Ethics Commission Details at Annexure 'C'
 - d. Commission for Prevention of Sexual Harassment and any other form or abuse and harassment in sport Details at Annexure [D]
- VI.** Units affiliated with the Indian Olympic Association at Annexure 'E'.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

1. Definitions and Explanations

Unless otherwise indicated by the context:

- 1.1 'Association' means the “Indian Olympic Association” also known as the “I.O.A.” and “Bharatiya Olympic Sangh.”.
- 1.2 Member' means a Member of the Indian Olympic Association.
- 1.3 'General Assembly' means and includes the Representatives deputed by the Members in accordance with the Rules hereinafter contained and the person(s) holding Indian citizenship and who is/are Member(s) of the International Olympic Committee.
- 1.4 'General Meeting' means the meeting of the General Assembly as per Article 7.2.
- 1.5 'Special General Meeting' means the meeting of the General Assembly held as per Article 8.
- 1.6 'Constitution' means this Memorandum, Rules and Regulations.
- 1.7 'Executive Council' means the Executive Council of the Indian Olympic Association constituted under the rules and regulations hereinafter contained to whom the management of the affairs of the Association is entrusted.
- 1.8 'Federation' means the National Sport Federations whose sports features in the programme of the Olympic Games, Asian Games and/or the Commonwealth Games.
- 1.9 'Associate Member' means a member of Indian Olympic Association who cannot stand in elections, cannot vote for any decision and also cannot vote in elections of Indian Olympic Association. They can be from national sport federation's (whose games are not a part of the Olympic Games, Asian Games and/or the Commonwealth Games), State Olympic Association, Sports Control Boards or otherwise. The same rules will apply for Associate Member's membership, suspension and termination as they apply in case of other members.
- 1.10 'CEO' means Chief Executive Officer who shall be appointed in the manner given under Article 15.3. Any reference to Secretary General shall mean the CEO.
- 1.11 "Sportsperson of outstanding merit" or "SOM" shall mean and include a sportsperson of Indian nationality with a sound mind not less than eighteen (18) years age, who has retired from active sports (should have not participated any competitive sport event [which leads to selection to represent a district/state or India] for at least one year prior to date of application and who had achieved at least one (1) of any gold, silver or bronze medals in Olympics, Commonwealth Games or Asian Games, while representing India. A medal if

rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit.

2. Association Year

The official year, including financial year, of the Indian Olympic Association shall be from 1st April to 31st March.

3. Membership

The membership of the Association shall be open to the under-mentioned, subject to approval by the General Assembly:

3.1 National sports federations affiliated to international sports federations, which adheres to the international and national sports codes and whose sport is included in the programme of the summer and winter Olympic Games. The representatives of those federations must always constitute the voting majority of the Annual / Special General Meeting.

3.2 National sports federations affiliated to international sports federations, which adheres to the international and national sports codes and whose sport is not included in the programme of the summer and winter Olympic Games but is included in the programme of all Asian and/or Commonwealth Games.

3.3 National sports federations affiliated to international sports federations, which adheres to the international and national sports codes and whose sport is not included in the programme of the summer and winter Olympic Games or the programme of all Asian and/or Commonwealth Games.

3.4 National Sports Federations of indigenous games.

3.5 Indian citizens who are member/s of the International Olympic Committee. All IOC member/s in India, if any, shall have a right to vote in the General Assembly of the Indian Olympic Association. The IOC member/s in India would automatically be member/s of the Indian Olympic Association's Executive Council within which they shall have the right to vote.

3.6 Two (one male and one female) active athletes or retired athletes having taking part in the Olympic Games; subject to the condition that the retired athletes must retire from their post latest by the end of the third Olympiad after the last Olympic Games in which they took part. These two athlete representatives shall be elected by and from the IOA Athletes Commission established as per the IOC guidelines.

3.7 Eight (8) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, including four (4) male and four (4) female. They shall be selected by the Athletes Commission and shall be ratified by the

3.8 General Assembly, prior to the election of the IOA Office Bearers from among candidates who

meet the requirements stipulated in Article 1.11. They shall be selected for a term of four (4) years, until the next elections. The same persons cannot be selected for more than two terms in total.

3.9 State Olympic Associations.

3.10 Union Territories' Olympic Associations.

3.11 Services Sports Control Board.

4. Application for membership

To be accepted as new member, a legal entity eligible for membership shall submit a complete application to the Executive Council which shall review the application within a period of 60 (sixty) days of receipt of the application and present the case at the next (Annual or Special) General Meeting for decision by simple majority of the voting members present.

5. Termination of membership

A member shall cease to be a member for the following reasons:

5.1 With respect to a legal entity:

5.1.1 Upon dissolution or declaration of insolvency;

5.1.2 If the member does no longer fulfill the requirements of this Constitution ;

5.1.3 Upon expulsion in case of violation of this Constitution and/or the Olympic Charter , subject to a decision made by the General Meeting and after having given a reasonable opportunity to the member concerned to be heard. Such decision shall be made by a majority of at least 2/3 of the votes cast by the voting members present.

5.1.4 Upon violation of the IOA Code of Ethics, subject to a decision of the IOA's Ethics Commission.

5.2 With respect to natural persons (applicable also to any representative of a legal entity member of the IOA):

5.2.1 Upon death, resignation, loss of capacity or expulsion as per Article 5.1.3 above;

5.2.2 Upon conviction of an offence and being sentenced for a period of more than 2 (two) years. In the event a person is convicted and sentenced for a period of less than 2 (two) years, the matter shall be referred to the IOA's Ethics Commission for opinion, after the completion of the sentence. A decision on his membership shall be

taken by the General Assembly based on the opinion of the IOA's Ethics Commission.

5.2.3 5A Suspension of membership:

5A.1 Where charges have been framed by any Court in India, in respect of an offence for which a sentence of a period of more than 2 (two) years can be imposed, the Member's / Office Bearer's membership of the IOA shall be deemed to be suspended until completion of the trial.

5.2.4 5B Miscellaneous Membership provisions:

5B. 1 Any member of IOA whose conduct / behavior compromised with IOC Ethics shall be referred to the IOA Ethics Commission for final decision.

6. General Assembly

6.1 Functions and duties :

6.1.1 To formulate and enforce the policy of the Association.

6.1.2 To carry into effect the objects of the Association.

6.1.3 To hold election of office-bearers and the Executive Council at least once every four years, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

6.1.4 To admit to membership any organization eligible under this Constitution or to terminate their membership as per this Constitution.

6.1.5 To suspend, terminate or expel a member for violation of the Constitution or the Olympic Charter.

6.1.6 To hold and control the funds and other properties of the Association.

6.1.7 To consider and adopt the Annual Report of the Executive Council presented by the President and the Secretary General/CEO, including a review of the performance of the IOA teams at the Asian / Commonwealth / Olympic Games and a review of the preparations of the IOA teams for the upcoming Games, audited statement of accounts for the previous financial year, Budget Estimates of the Association, and to appoint independent external Auditors.

6.1.8 To appoint committees or sub-committees, as and when necessary.

6.1.9 To enforce bye laws, all rules and regulations of the International Olympic Committee.

6.1.10 To exercise any other power as the highest decision-making body of the IOA, not

contrary to the Olympic Charter and this Constitution.

7. Annual General Meeting

- 7.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM, also known as Annual Meeting of the General Assembly) shall be held preferably in the last quarter of every year at a Place, Date and Time to be decided upon by the President and ratified by the Executive Council.
- 7.2 The Annual General Meeting may be held in person or, if circumstances require, virtually or in a hybrid format through any appropriate electronic means.
- 7.3 The normal Agenda of the Annual General meetings, amongst other things, shall be (when applicable).
- 7.4 Confirmation of the Minutes of the last General meeting
- 7.5 Consideration and adoption of the Annual Report of the Executive Council presented by the President and Secretary General/CEO, including a review of the performance of the IOA teams at the Asian / Commonwealth / Olympic Games and a review of the preparations of the IOA teams for the upcoming Games.
- 7.6 Consideration and passing of audited Statement of Accounts for the previous financial year, and budget for the next year.
- 7.7 Appointment of independent external Auditors and fixing their remuneration.
- 7.8 General Elections, if due.
- 7.9 Consideration of the Annual Sports Calendar of the IOA.
- 7.10 To discuss development of sports and welfare of Athletes.
- 7.11 Any other item included in the agenda by the Executive Council, the Athletes Commission and/or submitted in written by any voting member of the IOA at least 7 clear days prior to the meeting.

8. Special General Meeting (SGM)

- 8.1 Special General meeting may be summoned at any time by the President IOA through the CEO and/or by decision of a simple majority of the Executive Council members

And/or

Shall be convened on a written requisition signed by Presidents and Secretaries

of not less than 50% Member units entitled to vote, within one month from the date of receipt by the CEO of the said requisition. If the CEO of IOA fails to convene a meeting within the stipulated time, then the requisitionists can convene the meeting under arrangements made directly by them. In the requisitioned meeting only the items enumerated/specified in the original requisition request, shall be considered for discussion.

- 8.2 To pass a resolution of no confidence, it will be a mandatory requirement that such resolution against any or all the Office Bearers be passed at least by 2/3rd members present and voting. A resolution of no-confidence not supported by 2/3rd majority will be deemed to have fallen through and the motion will be treated as null and void. The quorum for such meeting will be 3/4th of the total strength of the members of the IOA entitled to vote.
- 8.3 A Special General Meeting may be held in person or, if circumstances require, virtually or in a hybrid format through any appropriate electronic means.

9. Notices and Quorum for Meetings:

In convening meetings, the Notice period and quorum as given hereunder shall be observed:

Meeting	Notice	Quorum
i. Annual General Meeting (Annual Meeting of the General Assembly)	30 clear days	One third of the representatives entitled to vote
ii. Special General Meetings	15 clear days	-do-
iii. Meetings of the Executive Council	10 clear days	One third of the members of the Executive Council entitled to vote
iv. Emergency Meetings of the Executive Council	7 clear days	-do-

Notes:

- 9.1 Notification for the meetings may be sent by letter or by e-mail/speedpost/courier as considered expedient and be also posted on the IOA website.
- 9.2 For adjourned meetings to be held on the same day or at a later date due to lack of quorum at the first meeting, no quorum is necessary.

10. Composition of the Membership of the General Assembly and Voting:

10.1 The following members shall be entitled to stand for the elections and cast their votes at the Annual General Meetings and the Special General of the I.O.A:-

National sports federations whose sport are included in the Programme of the Olympic/Asian/Commonwealth Games	Two (2) representatives each with one vote each for each representative. Provided that one representative is male and one is female.	
Member(s) of the IOC in India	One vote each.	
Two representatives of the Athletes' Commission	One vote each. Provided that one representative is male and one is female.	
Eight representatives who are Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit	One vote each. Provided that 4 (four) representatives are males and 4 (four) representatives are females.	

10.2 Voting at any Annual or Special General Meeting shall be by show of hands unless any member demands otherwise. Elections of office-bearers and members of Executive Council will be held by secret ballot.

10.3 One representative of each of the Associate Members', which are State/UT Olympic Associations, Sports Control Boards and National Sport Federations not mentioned in Article 10.1, shall be eligible to attend the Annual or Special General Meeting, but shall not have a right to contest for the elections and/or vote. They shall forward to the IOA the names of their representatives at least 7 days prior to the holding of the General Meeting.

10.4 The voting Federations will forward to the IOA the names of their representative(s) (one male and one female) entitled to attend and vote at the Elective General Meeting of the IOA at least 20 days prior to the holding of the General Meeting. The representatives nominated by each unit must be members of such units. The nominations shall be signed by both President and Secretary-General (This can also come by 2 separate e-mails) of the concerned unit. The right of exercising the vote shall vest with the authorized representatives of the voting member unit.

Representatives deputed by Member Units to attend Annual or Special General Assembly meetings shall be citizens of India and person(s) of good standing, sound judgment and independent mind with a knowledge of and belief in Olympic principles. The President or, in his absence, the Chairman of the meeting shall approve the accreditation of all members before the commencement of the Annual or Special General Assembly meeting. In case of any doubt or dispute, the case shall be submitted to the General Meeting for final decision at the commencement of the meeting.

10.5 In any of the AGM/SGM the voting majority shall consist of the votes cast by National Federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games as laid down in the Olympic Charter, failing which the said meeting will be adjourned.

10.5.1 While dealing with the question related to the Olympic Games (e.g. selection, preparation of the team etc.), only the votes cast by the members of the National Sports Federations affiliated to the International Federations governing the sport included in the Olympic Games programme and the votes cast by the IOC members referred to in 10.1 above, the two representatives of the Athletes Commission and the members of the Executive Council shall be taken into consideration.

10.6 Unless otherwise provided in this Constitution, the decisions at any meetings shall be taken by a simple majority of the voting members present when the quorum required is met.

10.7 In case of tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote (except for elections).

10.8 Voting by proxy is not allowed.

11. Executive Council

11.1 Election, composition, administration and voting:

11.1.1 Elections shall be held at least once every four years when due at an Annual or Special General Meeting to elect the Executive Council as shown below, from amongst the eligible members /representatives present.

1. President
2. **One (1)** Senior Vice President.
3. **Two (2)** Vice-Presidents, including one male and one female Vice President
4. Treasurer
5. **Two (2)** Joint Secretaries, including one male and one female Joint Secretary
6. **Six (6)** other Executive Council members, out of which two(2), one male and one female, shall be from the elected SOMs.
7. **Two (2)** representatives, one male and one female, elected by the Athletes Commission from among its members

11.1.2. The IOC member(s) in India must be ex-officio member(s) of the Executive Council with a right to vote.

11.1.3. The CEO shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Council with no voting rights.

11.1.4. The voting majority of the Executive Council shall consist of the votes cast by the Federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives in accordance with the Olympic Charter.

11.1.5. Unless otherwise specified in this Constitution, any vacancy which occurs in Executive Council shall be temporarily filled by cooption from amongst the remaining office bearers and member of the general assembly until the next General Assembly at which the vacant position shall be elected for the remainder of the initial term.

- 11.1.6.** The Executive Council shall be elected by the IOA General Assembly from among the eligible voting members/representatives.
- 11.1.7.** The Executive Council meetings may be held in person or, if circumstances require, virtually or in a hybrid format through any appropriate electronic means.
- 11.1.8.** The decisions of the Executive Council shall be taken by simple majority. In case of tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 11.1.9.** Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.
- 11.1.10.** General conditions: To be eligible as an office-bearer of the Executive Council, a member must:
- i) Be a citizen of India;
 - ii) Be in full possession of his/her civil rights;
 - iii) Be less than 70 years old on the election date;
 - iv) Not have been convicted or have had a negative opinion rendered by the Ethics Commission, as specified in Article 5.2.2.
 - v) Not have had charges framed by any Court in India as specified in article 5A.1.

11.2 Election Procedure

The procedure for the election of the members of the Executive Council shall be as indicated in Bye-law 1 to the Rules and nominations forms along with notice of the meeting shall be sent to all voting members of the IOA not later than 30 days before the elections.

12. Powers, functions and duties of the Executive Council

- 12.1** To conduct the business of the Association during the interval between meetings of the Annual / Special General Meetings and duly report all the decisions and the actions to the Annual / General Meetings to which the Executive Council is accountable.
- 12.2** To impose fine and/or caution a member for violation of the Constitution or the Olympic Charter.
- 12.3** To recommend to the General Assembly to suspend, terminate or expel a member for violation of the Constitution or the Olympic Charter.
- 12.4** To appoint the CEO of the IOA.

- 12.5 To determine, in consultation with the National Sports Federations, the number of competitors, and qualified officials (managers, coaches etc.) to be selected by the IOA for any International multi-sports competition under the aegis of IOA.
- 12.6 To be responsible for the proper supervision of the Indian teams for the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and other international multi-sport events/competitions during the period of the Games and their trip to and from the Games.
- 12.7 To initiate and recommend to the General Assembly schemes for the promotion and development of sports and games in the country.
- 12.8 To consider and, if feasible, recommend to the Annual / Special General Meetings schemes and proposals for the grant of financial assistance to State Olympic Associations and National Sports Federation for development of sports and games, with special reference to those that are not developed or in areas that are under-developed.
- 12.9 To submit its Annual Report to the Annual General Meeting through the President and Secretary General/CEO.
- 12.10 One member Independent Election Commissioner will be proposed by the Executive Council for ratification by the General Assembly who will also act as the Returning Officer in order to conduct, monitor and supervise the election process. The Election Commissioner (with the reserve/ Commissioner/ alternate Member in case the nominated members quits / unavailable) must be from amongst independent, impartial and unquestionable personalities, must not be candidates for any position, must not be voting members and must have no interest in the election process. The name and a brief background of the proposed Election Commissioner (and of the reserve alternate Member/Commissioner) will be submitted to all the voting Members of the General Meeting for ratification within 7 days of intimation by more than 50 percent members of the General Meeting in its meeting or through an electronic ratification process. No reply received within 7 days will mean approval of the concerned Member for ratification of the Election Commissioner along with the reserve alternate member.
- 12.11 To exercise any other duty or power within its jurisdiction and/or as delegated by the General Meeting, provided that it is not contrary to the Olympic Charter and this Constitution.

13. Office Bearers

All members of the Executive Council shall be called Office Bearers.

14. Tenure of Posts

Office-bearers of the Association shall be elected for a term not exceeding four (4) years as per the procedure for elections defined in Bye-law 1 to the Rules.

They may be eligible for re-election as below:

14.1 Office Bearers shall be elected on obtaining more than 50% of the votes validly cast by the members present and voting in the election. If none of the candidates for a specific position obtains more than 50% of the votes validly cast, a second round shall be organized between the two candidates who have obtained the highest number of votes validly cast in the first round. The candidate obtaining more than 50% of the votes validly cast in the second round shall then be declared elected.

14.2 'Term' shall normally mean a period of 4 years.

14.3 'Cooling Off Period' shall mean a period of four years.

14.4 No member shall be eligible for any post of Office Bearer if he/she has attained the age of 70 (seventy) on the election date.

14.5 No Office Bearer shall be allowed to hold office for more than 3 (Three) terms. No member shall hold one or more Office Bearer Post for more than 2 (two) consecutive terms. An office bearer shall have to undergo a cooling-off period after 2 (two) consecutive terms, subsequent to which he/she shall be eligible to hold office for another term.

14.6 Two terms shall be treated as consecutive when the gap between them is less than the cooling off period.

Members who have already completed 3 (three) terms (consecutive or not) in any post of Office Bearer shall not be eligible to contest for any post of Office Bearer.

14.7 Any other nominated Post given to any member in the IOA which has been assigned functions expected to be carried out by an Office Bearer will also be termed as an Office Bearer Post.

Provided that if the defined functions of an Office Bearer have been assigned to a Member temporarily for a duration of less than one year, the said member will not be treated as holding the Post of an Office Bearer.

Provided further, if a Member discharges any duties as a Member of any Committee/Sub Committee set up by the General Council / Executive Council for

carrying out specific tasks for the Association, s/he will be not be treated as holding an Officer Bearer Post under the definition for the Post of Office Bearer.

15. Duties of Office-Bearers

15.1 PRESIDENT

The President shall be the Head of the Indian Olympic Association and shall preside over all meetings of the General Assembly and Executive Council. He shall guide the Indian Olympic Association in all its activities. He shall exercise superintendence over office-bearers and members of the Executive Council and other Commissions in the discharge of their duties. He shall have overall powers of supervision over the working of the Association and its efficient administration.

In particular, the President shall have the following powers/ responsibilities:-

- 15.1.1 To implement the objectives of the Association;
- 15.1.2 To direct the CEO to call for the meeting of the General Assembly, Special General Assembly, Executive Committee or any other meeting as per the Constitution;
- 15.1.3 In case of any emergency situation, the President is authorized to sanction expenditure in excess of Rs 2,00,000/- which has to be regularized by the Executive Council
- 15.1.4 To deal with all disciplinary matter arising in the IOA or in relation to the National Sports Federations / Associations / State Olympic Associations, as per rules on the subject provided that any decision in relation to those matters shall be made by the Executive Council and/or the General Meeting
- 15.1.5 The President of IOA may propose the formation of various IOA Commission / Committees and the Members of those Committees and Commission, subject to ratification by the Executive Council and/or the General Meeting.
- 15.1.6 The President may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the Executive Council or the General Meeting.

15.2 SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/ VICE PRESIDENT

- 15.2.1 In the absence of the President, the Senior Vice President shall preside over the meetings. In the event of prolonged absence of the President, the Senior Vice President will take over the duties and responsibilities of the President

during the period of absence. If the position of President becomes vacant, the Senior Vice President will serve as the Acting President until the next General Assembly which will elect a new President for the remainder of the initial term.

- 15.2.2 The Senior Vice President and the Vice Presidents may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Council or the General Meeting.

15.3 **SECRETARY GENERAL/ CEO**

- 15.3.1 The IOA's Executive Council shall appoint a Secretary General/CEO within 1 (one) month from the time such a position is vacated or is lying vacant due to any reason. The CEO shall be proposed by a nomination committee comprising of the President, chairman of the Athletes Commission and one IOC member from India. The nomination committee shall follow the due process of selection, including advertising the position, prior to the nomination of the CEO to the Executive Council. The CEO must be a person who is a management professional with management experience of at least 10 (ten) years as the CEO of a company/entity with a turnover of atleast rupees 25 crores.
- 15.3.2 The IOA shall employ a CEO on terms the Executive Council deems appropriate. A person who is subject matter of disqualification under this Constitution, shall not be eligible for appointment as a CEO hereunder and the CEO's employment shall terminate automatically upon the occurrence of any disqualification. The CEO shall devote his/her entire time and service to the affairs of the IOA and shall not engage in any other profession or employment. The CEO shall not be a former Office Bearer of the IOA or a national sport federation. On completion of the CEO's term of employment, he/she shall not be eligible to contest to be a member or Office Bearer of IOA.
- 15.3.3 The Secretary General/CEO shall be in charge of:
- a) the day-to-day administration of the Association;
 - b) shall transact all office business in accordance with the decisions of the President, IOA, General Assembly and Executive Council;
 - c) Manage all staff functions of the IOA;
 - d) Determine the size and compensation of, hire and terminate the professional staff in accordance with the compensation policy laid down by the Executive Council;
 - e) Be responsible for resource generation and utilization;
 - f) Manage key government relationships and coordinate government relations of the IOA, together with the IOA President;
 - g) Act as the IOA's spokesperson;

- h) Be primarily responsible for coordinating the IOA's communications on all issues, subject to communication policies established by the Executive Council;
- i) Prepare a business plan, the annual and quadrennial reports, and submit a quadrennial and annual budgets to the Executive Council;
- j) He shall be responsible for calling meetings of the IOA Annual General/Special General Assembly/Executive Council or other meetings, as per rules and to implement their decisions;
- k) He shall be responsible for carrying on all correspondence in the name of the Association save as otherwise directed by the President;
- l) He shall keep and maintain the minutes of all meetings of the IOA General Assembly and Executive Council of the Association, the register of Members and all such records as may be necessary for the smooth and efficient working of the Association;
- m) He shall also be responsible for the maintenance of the properties (Movable and Immovable) of the Association. He shall prepare and submit, together with the President, at the Annual General meetings of the Association the Annual Report of the Executive Council. He shall convene meetings of the Association under the directive of the President. The financial powers of the CEO are restricted to sanctioning of Rs. 2,00,000/- for any one item as clarified in 18.1.7.
- n) The CEO may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Council or the General Meeting.

15.4 JOINT SECRETARIES

- 15.4.1 They shall perform such duties may be assigned to them from time to time by the President.
- 15.4.2 The Joint Secretaries may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, , the Executive Council or the General Meeting. If the office of the CEO is vacated for any reason, a Joint Secretary shall function as the CEO until a new CEO is appointed within 60 days from the position being declared vacant.

15.5 TREASURER

- 15.5.1 He shall be responsible for the management of the finances of the Association and ensure that the accounts of the Association have been maintained properly and audited regularly. He shall also maintain an inventory of the Association's property and submit the same along with the accounts.

15.5.2 The Treasurer may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Council or the General Meeting.

16. Bank Account

Accounts shall be maintained in such Scheduled or Nationalized Bank or Banks, as may be approved by the Executive Council in the name of the Association and shall be operated by the CEO in coordination and consultation with the President and Treasurer.. In the absence of the availability of CEO for any reason, the account shall be jointly operated by the Treasurer and the President.

17. Powers, Functions and Duties of the Commissions / Committees

17.1 Member Finance Committee: To advise the I.O.A. on

17.1.1 Control of the finances and accounts of the Association

17.1.2 Transfer or accept transfer of any immovable or movable property on behalf of the Association with the concurrence of the I.O.A. Executive Council.

17.1.3 Consideration of the accounts and scrutinize proposals for expenditure.

17.1.4 Ways and means to raise funds for the Association.

17.1.5 To review the internal audit and statutory audit reports and verify and confirm the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer and the CEO.

17.1.6 Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and ensure that all procedures, processes, Statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly.

17.1.7 Approval of expenditure above Rs 2.00 Lacs will be required from minimum three members from amongst the Finance Commission and below Rs 2.00 lac by any two members of finance commission plus Secretary General/CEO.

17.2 Athletes' Committee:

An Athletes' Commission / Committee shall be established as per the IOC guidelines.

17.3 Ethics Committee:

An Ethics Committee shall be established to address any ethical issue involving any member or delegate of the IOA. The Ethics Committee shall consist of seven (7) independent members selected and proposed by a nomination committee prescribed under the IOA's Code of Ethics, which shall be ratified by the IOA General Assembly upon such proposal. The Ethics Committee shall include at least four (4) members with a legal background, at least three (3) members of each gender and at least one (1) athletes' representative elected by the IOA Athletes' Commission. The powers, composition and operations of the Ethics Committee shall be regulated by a specific Bye-law approved by the General Assembly.

17.4 Arbitration Committee:

An Arbitration Committee shall be established to address any appeal to decisions taken by the IOA or any unresolved disputes arising within the IOA or amongst its members. The Arbitration Committee shall consist of seven (7) independent members whose membership shall be ratified by the IOA General Assembly upon proposal of the Executive Council. The Arbitration Committee shall include at least four (4) members with a legal background, at least three (3) members of each gender and at least one (1) athletes' representative elected by the IOA Athletes' Commission. The powers, composition, and operations of the Arbitration Committee shall be regulated by a specific Bye-law approved by the General Assembly.

17.5 Other Commissions/Committees

All required Commissions/Committees will be formed by the President to be ratified by the Executive Council or by the Annual / Special General Meeting.

18. Eligibility Code

To be eligible for participation in the Olympic Games and any other International Competition and Tournament:

18.1 A competitor must:-

Observe and abide by the rules of the International Olympic Committee and, in addition, the rules of his or her International Federation, as approved by the I.O.C. as well as Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and any other international competitions, recognized by the I.O.C., Commonwealth Games Federation and Olympic Council of Asia.

18.2 A competitor must not:-

Use or be allowed to use any other logo sponsored other than as used approved by Indian Olympic Association during Olympic, Asian, Commonwealth, South Asian and National Games.

Carry advertising material on his person or clothing in the Olympic Games, World or Continental Championships and Games, under the patronage of IOC, Commonwealth Games Federation and the Olympic Council of Asia other than trademarks on technical equipment or clothing as agreed by the IOC/Commonwealth Games Federation/Olympic Council of Asia with the International Sports Federation.

19. Amendment of Rules and Regulations

No amendment shall be made to these Rules and Regulations except at the Annual or Special meeting of the General Assembly and unless supported by two-thirds of the representatives present and voting. All proposed amendments must be presented to the Secretary General/CEO at the latest a week before the meeting, and forwarded by him to every Member.

20. General Disciplinary Regulations

- 20.1** Violation of the existing rules cannot be excused on grounds of ignorance of the said rules.
- 20.2** Whoever incites a member Unit to commit an infraction or aids and abets the said Unit infraction shall be sanctioned in the same manner as the Unit which commits the infraction.
- 20.3** All Units of the Indian Olympic Association shall undertake to supply to the I.O.A., copy of their respective statutes, Constitution and Rules & Regulations, a list of their respective accredited Members Units and their office-bearers and Members, a copy of Annual Report, Annual Balance-sheet and Audited Statement of Accounts, and a report of their activities, duly approved by their general body, within six months of the closing of the financial year, along with a calendar of sports for the ensuing year. Failure to supply this information within the stipulated period will constitute a breach of this rule and may render the defaulting Unit to disciplinary action under these rules.
- 20.4** The President, IOA shall have the power to call for explanation from its member units regarding the issue where a sports-person has been found guilty of violating World Anti- Doping Code or IOC prohibited substances but no action has been taken by the concerned member unit. The recommendations of the IOA President shall be placed before the Executive Council and/or the General body for appropriate disciplinary action as per the World Anti Doping Agency Code.
- 20.5** Every National Sports Federation should make sure that it should not make any provision which would be in contradiction with rules and regulations of its respective International Federation to which it is affiliated.

20.6 Every State Olympic Association should make sure that they should not make any provision which would be contradiction with rules and regulations of IOA.

21. Settlement of Disputes/Conflicts in the National Sports Federations/State Olympic Associations

21.1 All National Sports Federations (subject to regulations and directives of their respective International Federations)/State Olympic Associations/ Union Territory Olympic Associations/Services Sports Control Board shall include in their Constitution a provision that the Federations/Associations would have all unresolved disputes settled by the Arbitration Commission of the IOA and their Members shall voluntarily surrender their right of seeking redress in any Court of Law.

21.2 All unresolved disputes arising within the National Sports Federations (subject to regulations and directives of their respective International Federations)/ State Olympic Associations/ Union Territory Olympic Associations/Services Sports Control Board, shall be referred by the Federations/Associations to the IOA for settlement for arbitration process by the Arbitration Commission of the IOA.

21.3 As a general rule, before any important resolution or a measure such as mentioned above affecting a National Sports Federation is taken by IOA, the IOA will first inform, consult and co-ordinate with the International Federation concerned. The IOA must respect the autonomy of the National Sports Federation as an independent legal entity.

21.4 Before taking any decision it will be imperative that IOA should consult the concerned International Federation in order to avoid any potential conflict with the International Federation concerned.

21.5 No decision can be taken except in consultation with the concerned International Federation. IOA must respect the autonomy of the National Sports Federation and the concerned National Sports Federation must abide by the regulation of its respective International Sports Federation to which it is affiliated.

21.6 All matters in relation to breach of ethics shall be referred to the Ethics Commission of the IOA as per the regulations of the Ethics Commission.

22. Disciplinary Sanctions

In case of violation of this Constitution and/or the Olympic Charter and/or the IOA or IOC's Code of Ethics, the I.O.A. member units or their representatives and the members of the Executive Council are liable to the following disciplinary sanctions:

- 22.1 Caution;
- 22.2 Fine;
- 22.3 Suspension; and/or
- 22.4 Termination/expulsion.
- 22.5 Any member of IOA whose conduct / behavior compromised with IOA Code of Ethics shall be referred to the IOA Ethics Commission for final decision.
- 22.6 Any allegation of unethical conduct shall be referred to the Ethics Commission, which shall render its decision normally within 60 days from the incident being referred to the Ethics Commission.

Note :-

- (i) No penalty shall be imposed before the Unit at fault has been heard at the interrogation specially conducted for this purpose.
- (ii) Should an affiliate Unit/person fail to present itself through its accredited office-bearer at the interrogation, it shall be considered as having been interrogated.
- (iii) As a general rule, except in special circumstances duly appreciated, suspension shall be applied as a temporary measure.

23. Appeal

- 23.1 Any decision taken by IOA is subject to appeal before the Arbitration Commission of the IOA within 21 days after the receipt of decision.
- 23.2 All National Sports Federations (subject to regulations and directives of their respective International Federations) and State Olympic Associations affiliated to the I.O.A. shall commit themselves to refer their unresolved sports-related disputes for settlement through the process of arbitration with Arbitration Commission which would be the highest internal authority for the resolution of sports-related disputes in India.

23.3 Any appeal against a decision made by the Arbitration Commission may be submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sport-related Arbitration. Such appeal shall be submitted to the CAS within 21 days after the receipt of the decision from the Arbitration Commission, failing which the decision given by the Arbitration Commission shall be final and binding. Under no circumstances, the time limit of 21 days shall be extended.

24. Unsportsman-like Behavior and Act of Violence:

During the Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, South Asian Games and National Games, or any other International competitions, any unsportsman like behavior on the part of a sportsman/sportswoman, official or coach, which includes insulting, making undesirable gestures, abusing the decision of the Judges/Referees and provoking the opponents or spectators, etc., in a word, committing any act not in keeping with the propriety of sports, shall be punished as follows:

24.1 Disqualification for the duration of the activity of that item of sports;

24.2 Disqualification for the entire duration of the competition;

24.3 Prohibition from participation in competitions for a fixed period of time.

25. Residual Powers

25.1 In the event of disagreement concerning the above Disciplinary Rules, the interpretation of these regulations shall fall within the competence of the I.O.A. General Assembly, which shall be the final authority.

25.2 The Indian Olympic Association shall be governed in accordance with the IOA Constitution, the Olympic Charter and the law of the land.

25.3 Any matter not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with by the General Council.

26. Disaffiliation/De Recognition/Suspension of National Sports Federations/ State Olympic Associations/Union Territories' Olympic Associations/Services Sports Control Board

26.1 The I.O.A. General Assembly, either directly or through the I.O.A. Executive Council, is entitled to consider disaffiliation/de-recognition/suspension of the

National Sports Federations/State Olympic Associations on one or more of the under mentioned grounds, after ensuring that a Show Cause Notice has been served and an explanation has been obtained and considered from the organization recommended for disaffiliation/de- recognition/ suspension.

- 26.1.1 Non-observance of directives issued by the Indian Olympic Association from time to time.
 - 26.1.2 Not holding elections after the completion of the normal tenure for which the office bearers are elected.
 - 26.1.3 Not submitting annual audited statement of accounts, annual report and list of current office-bearers within the stipulated time period.
 - 26.1.4 Disaffiliation/De-Recognition by the International Federation of the Sport.
 - 26.1.5 Loss of recognition due to non-adherence under the international or national sports code.
- 26.2 Whatever the decision of the I.O.A. General Assembly, it must be supported by two- third majority votes of the Members present and voting.
- 26.3 As a general rule, before any important resolution or a measure such as mentioned above, affecting a National Sports Federation is taken by the IOA, the IOA will first inform, consult and co-ordinate with the International Federation concerned. IOA must respect the autonomy of the National Sports Federations as independent legal entity and these provisions are subject to the regulations of the International Sports Federations concerned.
- 26.4 Before taking any decision, it will be imperative that the IOA consult the concerned International Federation in order to avoid any potential conflict with the International Federation concerned.
- 26.5 No decision can be taken except in consultation with the concerned International Sports Federation. IOA must respect the autonomy of the National Sports Federation and the concerned National Sports Federation must abide by regulation of their respective International Sports Federation to which they are affiliated.

27. State Olympic Association

- 27.1 The State Olympic Associations should formulate their Constitution in consonance with the IOA Constitution. No provision of constitution of State Olympic Association should be in contradiction to the Constitution of the IOA.

- 27.2 The State Olympic Association will elect their office bearers who are residents of that state and only out of the State Sports Associations affiliated to the National Sports Federations as recognized by the IOA.
- 27.3 No office bearers of one Sports Association in a State will be a member of another State Sports Association.
- 27.4 The State Olympic Association will also have an Athletes' Commission. The General Body of State Olympic Association should have 2 (two) members from the Athletes' Commission elected amongst them and one member in the Executive Body of State Olympic Association.
- 27.5 It would be mandatory for State Sports Associations to have all their disputes resolved through the aegis of Arbitration Commission set up by the Indian Olympic Association. Under no circumstances any member of the State Olympic Association would resort to litigation in a court of law. In the Constitution it would be mandatory for State Olympic Association to include a provision that anyone going to the Court contrary to the provisions of State Olympic Association will entail sanction and disciplinary action.
- 27.6 The State Olympic Associations would be responsible for conduct of State Games every alternate year and National Games as and when allotted in the best possible manner without any interference.
- 27.7 The State Olympic Associations for the previous year should submit their annual accounts by at the end of their financial year duly audited and approved by their General Assembly. They would also submit their list of members of their General Assembly and office bearers before and after election is held to the IOA.
- 27.8 The affiliated State Olympic Associations will abide by the Constitution of IOA.

28. National Sports Federations

- 28.1 The National Sports Federation will have their autonomy. Their constitution should be in consonance with the constitution of their respective International Sports Federation. None of the provisions of constitution of State Sports Associations should be in contradiction to the constitution of International Sports Federations.
- 28.2 The National Sports Federations should submit their annual accounts at the end of their financial year for the previous financial year duly audited and approved by their General Assembly. They would also submit the list of the members of General Assembly and office bearers immediately before after their elections are conducted.

29. Holding of Office

No office-bearer of a National Sports Federation can be office bearer of any other National Sports Federation, affiliated to Indian Olympic Association.

30. Miscellaneous

- 30.1** The I.O.A. will ensure that:
- 30.1.1** Each National Sports Federation in their particular field of specialization will appoint a National Coach for Senior and Junior and prepare and send their annual calendar of activities.
 - 30.1.2** The National Sports Federation, in their respective field of specialization, must hold competitions annually each for specified age-groups and for each gender for senior, junior and sub-junior levels.
 - 30.1.3** The right to vote in any of the National Sports Federations is granted to those Associations that have only one Sports Association in one State for that sport. It implies, therefore, that in the field of Sports, it will be “One State, One Unit” and at the National level it will also be one unit (National Sports Federation) for one sport.
- 30.2** No National Sports Federation shall affiliate a sports Unit of any State/Department that has not been approved by its Executive Council by majority.
- 30.3** The Association may sue or be sued in the name of the Secretary General, IOA. A lawsuit can only be filed at New Delhi, the headquarters of the I.O.A.
- 30.4** The provisions of the Societies Registration Act of 1860 as applicable in NCT of Delhi will apply to the Association to the extent that they are not in contradiction with the Olympic Charter.
- 30.5** No provisions national sports code shall be applicable to the IOA if they are in contradiction with the Olympic Charter and this newly adopted Constitution.
- 30.6** In all matters relating to the interpretation and application of the Constitution, as well as in matters not specifically provided for herein, the decision of the General Assembly shall be final and binding on all concerned, to the extent that such decision is not in contradiction with the Olympic Charter.
- 30.7** The General Assembly, upon recommendation being made by the Executive Council,

- may at its discretion, frame bye-laws not inconsistent with or contrary to this Constitution, for the proper and efficient administration of the Association and its Executive Council.
- 30.8** The I.O.A. shall be guided by the Statutes, Rules, Regulations bye- laws, directions and instructions issued from time to time by the International Olympic Committee.
- 30.9** In case of interpretation difficulties of the Articles mentioned in this Constitution or in the eventuality of a conflict with the Rules of the 'Olympic Charter" the Rules contained in the latter (Olympic Charter) shall prevail.
- 30.10** The IOA will affiliate and approve, with the exception of widely played Indian Games, only such National Sports Federations, the game of which is on the list of the I.O.C. for the Olympic Games, on the approved list of the Commonwealth Games Federation for the Commonwealth Games, and on the approved list of the Olympic Council of Asia for the Asian Games.
- 30.11** It shall be binding on all the National Sports Federations/State Olympic Associations/ Union Territory Olympic Associations/Services Sports Control Board to forward their Annual report and Audited Statement of Account every year by 31 December. The affiliated units shall also conduct their elections as and when due. The non- compliance of these requirements may result in disaffiliation of the defaulting Units by the I.O.A. General Assembly on the recommendations of the Executive Council.
- 30.12** All the National Sports Federations/State Olympic Associations/ Union Territory Olympic Association/ Service Sports Control Board will forward to the I.O.A. a copy of their updated Constitution.
- 30.13** The Executive Council may frame guidelines to carry out the objectives contained in the Memorandum of Association and giving effect to the rules.
- 30.14** The Terms of Reference, Rules and Regulations can be approved electronically by the Executive Council which will then have to be ratified in the meeting of the Executive Council, before they are submitted to the General Meeting for consideration and adoption in accordance with Article 19 of this Constitution.

31. Audit

The accounts of the IOA shall be audited once a year by an auditor appointed by the General Assembly.

32. Force of the Rules and Bye-Laws

For all the purpose of the bye laws made under the rules of the Society as Provided for in this constitution shall have the same force as of the rules in the constitution. If there is any doubt as to the signification or interpretation of the bye laws, or if there is any contradiction between the bye laws and this Constitution, the latter (i.e. the IOA Constitution) takes precedence.

33. Flag and Emblem

The flag and emblem adopted by the IOA and the anthem for use in relation to its activities including the Olympic Games shall be subject to the approval of the IOC.

34. IOC Approval

The Constitution as well as any subsequent change or modification to this Constitution must be submitted to the IOC for its approval.

35. Annual List of the Governing Body

Once in every year a list of office bearers and members of the Executive Board shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, Delhi as required under the Societies Registration Act 1860.

36. Essential Certificate

It is certified that this is a correct copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Society.
