



INTERNATIONAL SURFING ASSOCIATION

Surfing's World Governing Authority

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
SURFING
ASSOCIATION**

As amended at the BGM on
OCTOBER 12, 2008
In Costa de Caparica, Portugal

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SURFING ASSOCIATION

1 - MISSION STATEMENT:

The International Surfing Association, hereinafter called the ISA, is the World Governing Authority for Surfing, Bodyboarding and Surfriding. The ISA is dedicated to the development of these sports worldwide. The ISA's mission is to provide guidance and advice to its members around the world.

2 – DEFINITIONS:

- (a) Surfing is defined as follows:
 - Any sport in which the primary force that moves the participant's surfing equipment, is a wave either of natural or artificial source.
 - An activity on the waves on any type of equipment used for surfing.
 - An activity in calm waters on any type of equipment used for surfing.

- (b) Members are defined as the National Governing Bodies, hereinafter called NGB, for surfing and bodyboarding, representing a country, nation or territory, as recognized by the ISA. A country, nation or territory can only be represented by one NGB. In addition members are also any international surfing or wave riding organization, as recognized by the ISA.

3 – OBJECTS: The objects of the Association shall be:

- (a) To establish and maintain an international association to promote the interests of surfing in all its forms throughout all countries of the world, to which all recognized National Governing bodies, concerned with the sport of surf riding, surfing or its related activities may gain affiliation;

- (b) To encourage the formation of NGBs in individual countries, nations or territories not yet members of the ISA, thus increasing membership worldwide;

- (c) To promote and co-ordinate the activities of NGBs within their own jurisdiction;

- (d) To establish laws, rules, criteria and standards for judging at, and for conducting international surfing contests. These measures shall inter alia apply to the sport, to those participating in it, and to the dimensions, design, size and type of surfboard or equipment when used in international competition;

- (e) To promote uniformity of laws for the control and regulation of surfing and surfriding throughout the world, by encouraging NGBs to adopt the ISA's established laws, rules and standards;

- (f) To co-ordinate the international activities of NGBs by providing a forum for arranging international contests;
- (g) To organize and/or authorize a member and/or third party to host the World Surfing Championships, World Surfing Games and any other international events as decided by the ISA;
- (h) To work for the conservation and improvement of coastal environments and the protecting of surfing resources worldwide;
- (i) To promote the values of good sportsmanship, particularly amongst the younger generation of surfers and Bodyboarders of the world;
- (j) To promote the educational, scientific, literary and charitable aspects of the sport, improving cultural and sporting contacts between the surfing nations of the world;
- (k) To work towards the inclusion of surfing in the Olympic Games and other Continental and regional multi-sports events;
- (l) To purchase, acquire, sell, deal in, build, construct or reconstruct, take on lease or in exchange or otherwise acquire or dispose of any movable, immovable, corporeal or incorporeal property anywhere in the world;
- (m) To enter into any contract, association or negotiation for the purpose of giving effect to any of the aforementioned objects.

4 – JURISDICTION:

- (a) The laws and/or rules and/or regulations of the ISA shall be binding on all NGBs which are members of the ISA. Every NGB shall, however, be autonomous, having exclusive control of its membership, funds and property, and shall be managed by its own committees and office bearers in such manner as it may deem fit.
- (b) The ISA shall have the right to take such disciplinary action against any NGB or person, as it might deem necessary for the purpose of enforcing the laws and/or rules and/or regulations of the ISA.

5 – MEMBERSHIP, AFFILIATION AND FEES:

- (a) The voting members of the ISA consist of recognized NGBs which have been accepted by the ISA and whose name appear in the ISA's register of members. In addition, voting members are any international surfing organizations as recognized by the ISA.

- (b) An organization applying for affiliation to the ISA, for NGB status, shall on request forward a copy of its charter or constitution and shall provide such further information as the ISA may require from time to time.
- (c) Any application for affiliation to the ISA shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee, which when approved, shall be voted on at the next Biennial General Meeting of the General Assembly.
- (e) The Executive Committee of the ISA shall from time to time determine the amount payable by NGBs as annual affiliation fees to the ISA.
- (f) That debtors of the ISA whose names appear on the ISA official receivables lists, be liable to such disciplinary action as the EC deems, including financial penalty, suspension from membership and / or participation in ISA sanctioned events.
- (g) A substantially lower Annual Membership Fee shall be made available to non-voting, non-competing countries as decided by time to time by the Executive Committee.

6 – MANAGEMENT:

- (a) The ISA will be governed and managed by an Executive Committee comprising of:
 - (i) A President
 - (ii) Four (4) Vice-presidents
 - (iii) An Executive Director
 - (iv) A Contest Director
 - (v) A Technical Director
- (b) The ISA's offices are at the address of the Executive Director.
- (c) The President and the Vice-presidents shall be elected by majority vote at Biennial General Meetings, to serve four (4) year terms, or until the Biennial General Meeting held on the fourth year from their election. For the election process, the EC is divided into two groups, Group 1 for President and two Vice-presidents, Group 2 for two Vice-presidents. At each Biennial Meeting of the General Assembly an election for the appropriate group shall be held. Group 1 elections will be held in years 2010, 2014, and so on. Group 2 elections will be held in years 2008, 2012, and so on.
- (d) Not more than two representatives from any one member body shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee at the Biennial Meeting of the General Assembly.
(It is noted that the NGB for Hawaii is a completely separate and independent NGB from that representing the United States of America.)
- (e) Should a vacancy occur in the membership of the Executive Committee between elections, such vacancy shall be filled by resolution of the Executive Committee.

- (f) The Executive Committee shall meet twice a year. The Executive Director of the ISA shall keep a true and accurate record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Executive Committee.
- (g) The conduct of the affairs of the Executive Committee shall be the responsibility of the President, who, in consultation with the members of such Committee, shall define the responsibilities of each member, and shall in addition take such action as is necessary to ensure the efficient functioning of the Committee.
- (h) The Executive Committee shall have the power to do or cause to be done all such things as may be necessary for the proper implementation of the objects of the ISA, and in particular:
 - (i) It may appoint individuals to hold honorary positions such as patron or benefactor;
 - (ii) It may appoint any employees, including a medical consultant, and prescribe the conditions under which their appointment shall be made and terminated;
 - (iii) It may appoint subcommittees to examine specific issues and to make recommendations;
 - (iv) It shall lay down the conduct related to ISA Sanctioned events;
 - (v) It shall recommend to the General Assembly the financial and organizational responsibilities of the organizing entity of ISA sanctioned events.

7 – GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- (a) Each NGB will appoint one Delegate with full powers of representation to the General Assembly. If the Delegate is other than the Head of the NGB, such appointment should be in writing. The Head of any NGB may give a proxy to any representative attending the meeting, such proxy to be given in writing.
- (b) Each NGB should have only one vote. In the event of a tied vote on any issue, the President shall have a casting vote.
- (c) The Meetings of the General Assembly shall be convened at the instance of the President of the ISA and notice thereof shall be sent to all persons who are members of the General Assembly, at least 30 days before such meeting.
- (d) The quorum for the holding of meetings of the General Assembly shall be ten Delegates of NGBs.
- (e) The President of the ISA or any person nominated by him in writing, provided such a person is a member of the Executive Committee, shall preside over any meeting of the General Assembly.
- (f) Members of the Executive Committee are entitled to attend and propose motions, but not to vote.

8 – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS:

- (a) Annual General Meetings of the General Assembly should be held once a year, to review the report of the Executive Committee, including the ISA's Financial Statements, consider current issues and vote as required.
- (b) These meetings will also be informed about any changes to the Rule Book, as approved by the Technical and Executive Committees of the ISA.
- (c) Notice convening the AGM of the General Assembly, shall be issued by the President or Executive Director, at least 30 days before such meeting.

9 – BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING:

- (a) The Biennial General Meeting of the Association shall be held no later than the 31st of December in each alternate year.
- (b) Notice convening the Biennial General Meeting of the General Assembly, shall be issued by the President or Executive Director, at least 30 days before such meeting.
- (c) The following items of business shall be considered at every Biennial General Meeting of the Association:
 - (ii) The President's report;
 - (iii) The Executive Director's report, including the presentation of the Financial Statements of the ISA.
 - (iv) The election of persons to serve on the Executive Committee of the ISA;
 - (v) Details of ISA sanctioned events.
 - (vi) Approval of new members.
 - (vii) Constitution amendments, if any, provided that the requirements of Section 13 have been complied with.
 - (viii) Any other item of business which has been requested in writing by a member of the General Assembly or the Executive Committee, provided it has been placed on the agenda of the meeting of the ISA not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting;

10 – SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING:

- (a) A Special General Meeting of the General Assembly shall be convened by the President, or when requested to do so, in writing by at least ten (10) NGBs.
- (b) Notice convening any special general meeting of the ISA shall be given in the manner already provided.

11 – RECORDS AND INFORMATION:

- (a) Proper books of account will be maintained by the ISA and annual Financial Statements will be prepared and distributed to the members. These financial statements will be approved each year at the General Assembly meetings.
- (b) All books, documents and records of the ISA shall be made available for inspection by members of the Executive Committee or any person nominated by the Executive Committee at such reasonable times and places as the Executive Committee may specify in writing.
- (c) All recognized NGBs shall forward to the ISA the full name and registered address of their association, the list of the office bearers and the name and address of the person to whom correspondence should be addressed. NGBs must update this information periodically.
- (d) The affairs of the ISA shall be conducted in accordance with the law of the land of the offices of the ISA.

12 – MOTION TO RESCIND:

- (a) Any motion to rescind a resolution passed at a previous general meeting of the Association or at any Executive Council Meeting must be signed by at least three (3) members of the Executive Committee or five affiliated national surfing organizations.

13 – MODIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION:

- (a) The Constitution may only be changed at the Biennial General Meeting of the Association, by proposals from the Executive Committee, or by proposals made by half of the members of the ISA, such proposed amendment to be approved by a majority of attending members.

14 – DISSOLUTION:

- (a) The dissolution of the ISA may only be carried out at a Special General Meeting of the ISA. Any vote to dissolve the ISA shall require a two-thirds majority of members present at such Special General Meeting.
- (b) When a motion of dissolution is passed, the members present at such Special General Meeting shall designate two delegates to liquidate the accounts of the ISA. One such delegate shall be a member of the Executive Committee of the ISA. The members present shall in addition decide on the disposal of the assets of the Association, in any manner that they deem fit.



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RECOGNIZED BY THE
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COMMITTEE

Member of:

