

General Regulations of the European Go Federation

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Chapter 1 - Membership

Article 1. Application for Membership

Application for Membership must be sent to the Secretary by the National Go Organization according to a process established by the Secretary and approved by the Executive Committee. If the Executive Committee is satisfied that the applicant meets all requirements to become a Member of the EGF, it will submit the application for decision to the next General Meeting.

Article 2. Financial Charges

Upon being accepted as a Member, it will be charged an Annual Membership Subscription Fee and any other dues determined by the General Meeting.

Article 3. Annual Membership Subscription Fee

Members are required to pay their Annual Membership Subscription Fee for the considered Financial Year no later than three months after the beginning of the same financial year.

The minimum fee is 200 euro and the rate is 1 euro per each affiliated player or 0.50 euro per each child if the Member charges a reduced fee for children.

Small and developing Members who are unable to pay the full amount can claim a reduction in fees explaining their reasons: If the request gets approved by the Executive Committee the lowest reduced fee allowed is 50 euro.

Members who fail to pay on time are required to pay also an additional 20% penalty fee.

Chapter 2 - General Meeting

Article 4. Delegation

Every delegate shall be a member of the Go organization that he is representing, and nobody shall represent more than one Go organization. Every delegate must have written authority from the Go organization that he/she represents or be able to otherwise satisfy the officers that he/she is the appointed delegate.

Article 5. Agenda

Any item proposed by a Member and received by the Secretary at least two months before the AGM must be put on the Agenda. If such an item is related to another item, they may be combined. The Secretary shall circulate the Agenda including times and dates and details of all proposals not less than six weeks before the beginning of the meeting.

Only those proposals included on the Agenda may be voted upon. Within the item "Any other business" no voting shall take place on matters which would substantially affect the EGF. Decisions on whether such a vote would be permissible require the assent of all those Members present and eligible to vote.

Article 6. Voting System

Proposal 1: One vote per EGF Member

Proposal 2: Gradual: 0-40 members or EGF Member paying a reduced Annual Membership Subscription Fee 1 vote, 40-200 members 2 votes, 200-500 members 3 votes, 500+ members 4 votes.

Article 7. Nomination

Nominations must reach the Secretary at least two months before the AGM. Nominees must be proposed by at least one Member in good standing and must confirm to the Executive Committee their willingness to occupy the post for which they are proposed. Nominations for office must be circulated by the Secretary together with the Agenda.

Article 8. Election

The election of officers and auditors shall be by secret ballot if there is more than one nomination for any office. One ballot per election will be given to each Member, stamped with the EGF seal. If there are more than two nominations for an officer's post and no single delegate receives an absolute majority on the first round, the nominee who received the fewest votes will drop out and the vote will be taken with the remaining nominees. The same procedure is then repeated.

Article 9. Remove a person from an elective position

A person may be removed from an elective position if appropriate or in the event he or she is unavailable for three consecutive meetings of the governing body in which he or she was elected. The proposal shall be included in the Agenda of next General Meeting.

Chapter 3 - Executive Committee

Article 10. Terms

Officers shall begin their terms at the close of the General Meeting at which they are elected and remain in office for a period of three years, to conclude at the end of their third AGM, unless they resign, are dismissed by the General Meeting or cease to be officers for any other reason. In the case of a vacancy arising for any reason other than the normal ending of a term of office, the seat will remain vacant until the next General Meeting at which elections can be held. The person elected to fill the vacancy if necessary shall serve for the remainder of the original term.

Article 11. Meetings

The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings in coordination with the Secretary. The Agenda shall be set by the President and an item may be added by any officer requesting, and it must be circulated early enough. Minutes of the deliberations and resolutions of the Executive Committee shall be made available no later than six weeks following the meeting and shall contain a summary of the deliberations, the proposed resolutions, the declarations which an officer requests to be recorded, and the resolutions with the result of the vote.

Chapter 4 - Auditors

Article 12. Terms

The General Meeting shall decide the terms for the Auditors. The Auditors will choose their chairman or representative internally.

Article 13. Meetings

Meetings of the Auditors may be convened at the request of an auditor.

Chapter 5 - Appeals Committee

Article 14. Terms

The Appeals Committee will have five members. The Appeals Committee will choose its chairman internally. Every year two members with longest continuous service in the committee shall retire and they shall be replaced by two new members appointed by the General Meeting. Until the Appeals Committee is established, the Executive Committee will act in its place but severe sanctions must be approved by the General Meeting.

Article 15. Meetings

Meetings of the Appeals Committee may be convened at the request of its chairman or two of its officers or when an Appeal is lodged.

Chapter 6 - Legal System

Article 16. Appeals

Appeals can be filed by an affected party against decisions of the EGF, including its organs and disciplinary instances, unless such appeal is expressly excluded in these bylaws or in the regulations of the EGF.

Appeals concerning go matters can be filed by players or legal persons:

- who have completed the internal juridical procedure within the go organization in Europe, to which they are affiliated (provided there was an internal procedure which could be followed) or
- against decisions of the go organization in Europe to which they are affiliated, when this go organization has no internal juridical procedure.

Appeal to a decision of General Meeting is not possible, since General Meeting is the highest authority of the EGF.

Article 17. Sanctions

The Appeals Committee may impose the following penalties:

- a Warning
- a fine in an amount commensurate with the gravity of the violation and, where applicable, in accordance with the fine schedule associated with the rule violated
- Disqualification of player(s) from Competitions or from Events
- Suspension of a Member for any period

- Suspension of individuals for any period up to Suspension for life
- a Provisional Suspension or such other interim relief or conservatory measures as it sees fit pending its final determination of the matter.

Chapter 7 - Agonistic Regulations

Article 18. Events and Competitions

An Official European Event must be organised under the EGF Constitution, General Regulations and Agonistic Regulations, including any specific rules that may be established by the relevant Technical Commission. Official European Events are primarily for individuals, however competitions for national or otherwise named teams may be organised.

Article 19. Championships

A European Championship is an Official European Event awarding a European Title.

Article 20. Applications

Allocations for the European Go Congress shall be decided by the Annual General Meeting three years prior to the event.

Allocations for the other Official European Events shall be decided by the Executive Committee on advice of the General Meeting and the relevant Technical Committee possibly two years prior to the event.

Organizing Committee must apply in written form no later than 1st July of the year of the allocation or any other date decided by the Executive Committee.

If no or no suitable application to organise an Official European Event has been received within the deadline, the bid may be re-opened by the EGF and an appropriate allocation may be made by the Executive Committee.

Article 21. Organization of Official European Events

The schedules for all Official European Events must clearly state that the EGF Statutes, General Regulations, and Agonistic Regulations apply.

Official European Competitions may never be held under national rules.

Schedules, notices, instructions and announcements over the public address system at all Official European Events must be written or spoken in an official language in addition to the national language, except in cases where all concerned speak the same language.

The EGF may require Organising Committees of Official European Events to provide sufficient financial guarantees in order to host an EGF Event.

Article 22. Official Calendar

The Executive Committee approves the official Calendar. The dates for EGF Events shall be published as soon as possible after allocation.

Article 23. Participation

All participants must be registered with a Member of the EGF, before they can be entered and permitted to take part in Official European Events, unless otherwise specified by any specific rules that may be established by the relevant Technical Commission.

Article 24. Selection of Representative Teams and Individuals

Members have the final responsibility for the selection of all invited representative to participate in any Official European Events provided that the participants are qualified in all respects under the conditions set forth for each Event and have the nationality of the Member for whom they are competing.

Participants whose Member has been suspended or expelled may not be accepted as entries for any Official European Events during the period of the suspension or expulsion, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Committee.

Article 25. Commercial and Sponsorship

The ownership of the EGF title and EGF logos; the titles, logos, and Competition formulae of all Official European Events are vested with the EGF.

The EGF owns all Official European Ranking Lists and is the beneficial owner of any and all intellectual property rights which may now or at any time in the future exist anywhere in the world in respect of any data or information resulting from the ranking of players competing at the Events and Competitions held under its authority.

The EGF has the exclusive right to exploit the aforesaid properties through all media, including new media, Internet and TV in all its forms, as well as for sponsorship, betting, and marketing purposes according to the conditions set forth. With regard to Official European Events, an Agreement shall be reached between the EGF and the relevant Members and Organizing Committee, which defines their respective rights and duties related to the exploitation of all commercial properties and the possible sharing of the revenues therefrom. The Agreement shall recognise previous commitments of the relevant Members and Organizing Committee and resolve any possible conflicts.

If an Official European Event has a title sponsor, the sponsor's name may appear in conjunction with the relevant title.

Individuals participating in an Official European Event agree to be filmed, televised, photographed, identified, interviewed and otherwise recorded during the Event for the purposes of the media coverage of the Event (by means of all and any media throughout the world in perpetuity) and the promotion of Go. Individuals therefore assign with full title guarantee in perpetuity to the EGF all rights of any nature in any such recordings. Individuals agree that their name and image and any photographs and moving images taken of them at an Official European Event may be used by the EGF and/or Organizing Committee for the purposes of publicising the Event and promoting Go.