

NORWEGIAN OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE AND CONFEDERATION OF SPORTS

REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTORY REGULATIONS

§ 1-1 Organisation and scope

(1) The Norwegian Olympic Committee and Confederation of Sports (NIF) is a joint organisation for sports in Norway.

(2) NIF's General Meeting is the highest authority in Norwegian sports. NIF is a voluntary, non-party political and independent organisation. The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) charter applies in matters concerning Norway's preparations for and participation in the Olympic Games. The International Paralympic Committee's (IPC) charter applies in matters concerning Norway's preparations for and participation in the Paralympic Games.

(3) The following organisational units belong under NIF: National Sports Federations, Regional Confederations, Regional Federations, Sports Councils and clubs. Clubs and the National Sports Federations are members of NIF.

(4) These statutes apply to all organisational units and all activities organised under NIF.

§ 1-2 Objective

(1) NIF shall endeavour to provide all people with the opportunity to participate in sports on the basis of their own needs and wishes, and without being subject to unreasonable or disproportionate difference in treatment. Sports is defined as activities which satisfy the following conditions:

- a) Physical activity by way of competition, training and/or exercise
- b) The competition activity is measurable according to approved regulations
- c) The activity complies with the ethical standards of Norwegian sports

(2) The organisation shall create positive values for individuals and the society, and thereby strengthen its position as a nationwide movement and driving force in society.

(3) The work of the organisation shall be characterised by volunteerism, democracy, loyalty and equality. All sporting activity shall be based on the fundamental values of the enjoyment of sports, fellowship, health and honesty.

§ 1-3 Duties

NIF aims to achieve its objective through co-operation with members and organisational units and with public authorities, the business community and organisations outside sports within the framework applying to sports at the national level and in IOC's charter and IPC's rules.

§ 1-4 Self-adjudication

Disputes connected with NIF and underlying organisational units shall as far as possible be finally decided upon within the organisation's executive and adjudicative bodies.

§ 1-5 Amendment of statutes

(1) Changes to NIF's statutes are adopted by an ordinary or extraordinary General Meeting. A motion to amend the statutes must be included in the agenda and requires a 2/3 majority of the votes cast. Amendments of § 1-8 requires a 3/4 majority of the votes

cast. Amendments to NIF's statutes enter into force immediately unless the adopted resolution states otherwise.

(2) NIF's executive board may by an unanimous decision pass temporary amendments to the statutes between the NIF's General Assemblies. The motion for the statutes amendments must be dealt with and recommended in advance by NIF's Legal Committee. The amendments must be approved on the next General Meeting. The amendments enter into force immediately and apply until the next General Meeting. NIF's executive board may only pass temporary amendments to chapter 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the NIF statutes.

(3) Amendments to NIF's statutes that previously are approved by the IOC or IPC shall be sent IOC and IPC with a request for approval.

§ 1-6 Membership fees

NIF and the Regional Sports Bodies may not charge membership fees from sports clubs. National Sports Federations, National Sports Federations' Regional Bodies, Sports Councils and sports clubs determine their membership dues themselves. Membership dues are decided by the General Meeting

(2) NIF's General Meeting may make decisions regarding the size of membership dues and charges.

§ 1-7 Accounting year

NIF's accounting year is from 1 January until 31 December.

§ 1-8 Dissolution of the NIF

A motion for the dissolution of NIF can only be dealt with by an ordinary General Meeting after having been included on the agenda. If the motion is passed with at least a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority, an extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened, to be held 3 to 6 months later. If the resolution is confirmed by the extraordinary General Meeting by majority of at least $\frac{3}{4}$, NIF is dissolved. This General Meeting shall at the same time decide on the allocation of NIF's assets. The assets may only be used for sporting purposes and their use must be approved by the Ministry.

Chapter 2: JOINT REGULATIONS FOR ALL ORGANISATION UNITS

I. Scope – higher ranking organizational authority - statutes

§ 2-1 Scope

The provisions of this chapter apply to all organisational units affiliated to NIF. This applies regardless of whether the regulations are included in the individual organisational units' own regulations.

§ 2-2 The statutes of the organisation units, model statutes and amendments

(1) Organisational units affiliated to NIF shall comply with NIF's rules and decisions, and pass statutes that instruct their members to do the same. In case an organisational unit has statutes that are in violation of NIF's statutes, NIF's statutes shall prevail.

(2) Organisational units that are affiliated to or subordinated another organisational unit, are obliged to follow this organisational unit's rules and decisions. NIF's organisational units are obliged to use the model statutes adopted by the General Meeting. Regional Federations are obliged to use the model statutes adopted by the National Sports Federation based on NIF's model statutes.

If an organizational unit has statutes that are in violation with NIF statutes, the NIF statutes shall prevail.

(3) Sports clubs and National Sports Federations shall when being affiliated to NIF use NIF's model statutes. The statutes and possible amendments shall be approved by the executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board.

(4) An organisational unit's statutes may only be amended by an ordinary or extraordinary general meeting, the motion to amend the statutes having been included in the agenda and requiring a 2/3 majority of the votes cast. Amendments to § 2-23 requires a ¾ majority of the votes cast. Amendments are to be sent to the executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board.

(5) Amendments to the statutes of an organisational unit as a result of changes in NIF's statutes, enter into force immediately. Amendments passed by the organisational unit do not enter into force until they are approved by the executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board. The executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board, may during their review instruct the organisational unit to perform necessary changes to avoid a conflict with NIF's rules. The review is limited to those statutes that are included in NIF's statutes.

2-3 NIF and organisational units as higher ranking authority

(1) A higher ranking organisational unit may demand a lower ranking organisational unit to hand over accounts, minutes, correspondence, vouchers, membership lists etc. A lower ranking organisational unit has a duty to without being asked to send the higher ranking organisational unit copies of letters they have received from their auditor.

(2) A higher-ranking organisational unit may, in special circumstances, convene extraordinary general meetings in a lower-ranking organisational unit.

(3) A higher-ranking organisational unit may, if there are special reasons for doing so, take over the administration of a lower-ranking unit and appoint persons to necessary offices.

(4) If an organisational unit is incapable of meeting its financial obligations as and when they are due, the organisational unit in question shall immediately inform its higher-ranking organisational unit about the situation.

II. Representatives and employees

§ 2-4 Gender distribution

(1) When electing/appointing meeting members to executive boards, councils and committees etc, and when electing/appointing representatives to general meetings, both sexes shall be represented. The composition shall be proportionate to the gender distribution among the members, however, that when more than three persons are elected there shall be at least two representatives from each sex. This rule shall also apply when more than one deputy members is elected. The employees' representative does not count when calculating the gender distribution.

(2) If members to executive boards, councils and committees etc. are elected or appointed in violation of this rule, the board shall within 1 month after the general meeting issue a summons to an extraordinary general meeting where new elections are carried out. Existing members of the board or committee etc. in question shall remain in their post until a new board, committee etc. is elected.

(3) When representing in a general meeting, the delegation that participates must fulfil the rule. If not, the delegation loses the number of representatives it lacks to fulfil the rule.

(4) The executive board or the Regional Confederation can instruct an organizational unit to fulfil the rule, including to summon a new general meeting, cf. § 2-3, or carry out new appointments.

(5) NIF's executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board, may, when special circumstances apply, give exemption from this rule. It shall as far as possible be applied for an exemption before the meeting in question. An application for an exemption shall at latest be submitted to the body that shall decide the matter within 14 days after the general meeting. An exemption can only be given for one election period/appointment at a time.

§ 2-5 General rules on voting rights, eligibility for office, propose motions etc.

(1) Only persons aged 15 or more, who have been members of a sports club for at least one month, and who have fulfilled their membership duties, cf § 10-4, are entitled to vote and be eligible for office. The same applies where a person shall be appointed as representative to a general meeting in a higher ranking organizational unit. Attendance or voting by proxy is not permitted, cf § 2-21.

(2) A member who is an employee or an independent contractor cf. § 2-6 (4), in a Sports club may not vote at a general meeting of the club. This does not apply to athletes who are members and employees of the club.

(3) A person may not simultaneously hold more than one office as either member of the board, election committee, control committee, legal committee, auditor, sanction committee, adjudication committee or appeals committee.

(4) A person may not hold office in more than one sports club that participates in the same competition.

(5) A person who is excluded as members of the IOC is not eligible for the NIF's executive board and may not be a delegate at the NIF's General Meeting.

(6) The right to propose motions to the general meeting:

a) A member has the right to propose motions to and during the general meeting of the club.

b) The board of an organizational unit has the right to propose motions to and during their own general meeting.

c) An organizational unit with the right of representation has a right to propose motions to the general meeting of a higher ranking organizational unit, and its representatives may propose motions during the General meeting.

d) Committees and councils with the right to attend a general meeting have the right to propose motions within the committee's or council's area of work.

e) A member younger than 15 years old has the right to propose motions to and during the general meeting of the club.

(7) The right to speak during the General meeting:

a) The auditor is entitled to speak during the General meeting in matters that lie within his/her field of work.

b) Representatives of higher-ranking organisational units are entitled to speak in General meetings in lower-ranking organisational units.

§ 2-6 Eligibility and the right to represent organisational units for employees and independent contractors

(1) An employee in an organisational unit is not eligible for office in executive boards, councils and committees etc in the organisational unit, or in a higher ranking organisational unit. An employee in a club in a sports club alliance, is not eligible for office in other clubs in the alliance. An office holder who receives relevant employment has a duty to resign from his office when the employment commences, and may not be reinstated until the employment ceases.

(2) An employee in an organisational unit may not be elected or appointed to be a representative at a general meeting or meeting in a higher ranking organisational unit.

One may also not elect or appoint an employee of the organizational unit of which the meeting is taking place, to be a representative to that meeting.

(3) The rule applies for independent contractors who have a contract which may be comparable to an employment with the organisational unit.

(4) The rule does not apply for employees who are players/athletes with a contract with, and a membership in, the club, and does not prevent an organizational unit giving the employees the right to appoint one or more staff representatives to the board of the organizational unit.

(5) A person elected or appointed in violation of this rule is considered not elected or appointed.

(6) NIF's executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board may, when special circumstances are present, grant an exemption from this rule. It shall as far as possible be applied for an exemption before the election or appointment in question takes place. An exemption can only be given for one election period/appointment at a time.

§ 2-7 Eligibility and the right to represent organisational units for other persons with an affiliation to the organisational unit

(1) A person who has an agreement with the organisational unit which gives the person a financial interest in the running of the organisational unit is not eligible for office in executive board, councils and committees etc in the organisational unit or in higher ranking organisational units. The same applies for board members, employees in or shareholders with a substantial influence in a corporate body that has an agreement as mentioned in the first sentence. This limitation does not apply to board members appointed by an organisational unit. An office holder who receives such agreement, board position, employment or ownership, has a duty to resign from his office, and will not be reinstated until the employment ceases. A person elected or appointed in violation of this rule is considered not elected or appointed.

(2)) A person who according to the first section may not hold office, may not be elected or appointed to be a representative at a general meeting or a chair persons meeting in a higher ranking organisational unit, or in such meetings in the organizational unit that may elect or appoint the person.

(3) NIF's executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board may, when special circumstances are present, grant an exemption from this rule. It shall as far as possible be applied for an exemption before the election or appointment in question takes place. An exemption can only be given for one election period/appointment at a time.

§ 2-8 Disqualification

(1) Office-holders, elected representatives and employees of an organisational unit are disqualified from preparing the basis for a decision or making a decision:

- a) when the person in question has an interest in the matter
- b) when the person in question is related to, or related by marriage to, a party to the matter, in a direct line of ascent or descent or laterally related up to and including siblings
- c) when the person in question is or has been married to, engaged to or cohabitant with a party to the matter
- d) when the person in question is chairperson of, has an executive position in or is member of the board of directors of an legal person which is party to the matter.

(2) Similarly, a person is disqualified when other special conditions prevail which are liable to undermine confidence in the impartiality of the person in question; emphasis

shall inter alia be placed on whether the decision in the matter in hand may entail special benefit, loss or disadvantage for the person in question him/herself, or for any person closely associated with same. Emphasis shall also be placed on whether objections on the grounds of partiality have been raised by any of the parties.

(3) When a higher-ranking person is disqualified, the decision in the matter may not be taken by a direct subordinate in the same organisational unit.

(4) The rules on disqualification shall not apply if it is clear that the office-holder's or employee's connection to the matter or the parties can in no way influence the person in question's point of view, and the interests of sports does not require that he/she should step down.

(5) By party in the context of this regulation is meant a person, including a legal person, who is the subject of a decision or who is otherwise directly affected by the matter in hand.

(6) Boards and committees decide on disqualification them selves without the relevant person attending the meeting. If more than one member is alleged to be impartial, none of them may take part in the decision of their own or another member's competence, unless the board or committee would not form a quorum. In this case all members shall take part in the decision. A member shall in a timely manner notify if there are issues that may or will make the member impartial. Deputy members of the board or committee should be summoned to take part in the meeting before the question is decided, if this may be done without substantial cost or loss of time.

(7) In other situations the person concerned decides if he or she is competent. The person concerned should refer the question to his or her superior, if this may be done without substantial loss of time or if the person for other reasons finds it justified.

(8) This rules does not apply for general assemblies in sports clubs.

§ 2-9 Quorum rules, majority rules and minutes of meeting

(1) Unless anything else is decided, boards and committees in organisational units have a quorum when a majority of the members are present. Decisions are made by a simple majority of the votes cast. In case of an equality of votes the chairperson casts the deciding vote.

(2) Decisions may be made by written procedure or telephone/video conference. When using a written procedure copies of the relevant documents are to be sent all members with a proposal for a decision. A majority of the members must accept the proposal, and that the decision has been made using a written procedure. When using telephone/video conferences, all members must be able to hear and communicate with each other.

(3) All organisational units are committed by the board. For sports clubs with group boards, this means the main board.

(4) Minutes of board meetings are to be taken.

§ 2-10 Refund of expenses. Remuneration.

(1) An office-holder may receive a refund of necessary, actual expenses incurred in connection with the performance of the office-holder's duties.

(2) An office-holder may receive reasonable remuneration for his/her work.

(3) Remuneration to the board and the manager shall clearly be included in the budget and accounts.

III FINANCIAL ISSUES

§2-11 Accounts, auditing and control committee

(1) All organisational units are accountable and shall be audited. The accounting year is the calendar year. NIF's executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board may, when special circumstances are present, grant an exception to use a divergent financial year.

(2) Small organisational units shall follow NIF's accounting and auditing regulations, but may choose to follow the Accounting act.

(3) Small organisational units are Regional Federations, Sports Councils, sports clubs and company sports clubs with an annual turnover of less than 5.000.000.

(4) Large organisational units shall follow the Accounting act and the Auditing act, but shall always engage an auditor independent of what is stated in the said acts.

(5) Large organizational units are NIF, National Sports Federations, Regional Confederations and other organizational units with a turnover of more than 5.000.000.

(6) All organisational units that have engaged an auditor shall elect a control committee with at least two members.

(7) Bank accounts shall be linked to the organisational unit, and shall be administered by two persons jointly. Insurance coverage against embezzlement from the persons administering the bank account shall be obtained.

(8) The yearly accounts and the annual report shall be settled at latest six months after the end of the accounting year. The NIF executive board may set an earlier deadline for the organizational units.

(9) The yearly accounts and the annual report shall be signed by all board members. If the organizational unit has a manager, the manager shall also sign.

§ 2-12 The Control Committee

(1) The Control Committee shall supervise the organisational unit's economy. The Control Committee shall see to that the organisational units funds are used in accordance with the laws, decisions, allocations and financial limits, and that the financial decisions are in accordance with the organisational units statutes and decisions made by the general meeting. The Control Committee shall further more make sure that the organisational unit's internal financial control is adequate and reasonable.

(2) The Control Committee shall see to that the organisational unit's accounting is trustworthy and that the annual accounts and periodical accounts give a correct picture of the organisational units operation and financial position. The Control Committee shall by reviewing the accounts evaluate the organisational unit's financial position, management and operation.

(3) The Control Committee shall have access to all accounts and minutes from meetings from the board and committees, and shall review reports submitted by the engaged auditor. The Control Committee may base their work on the work the engaged auditor has performed when it is appropriate.

(4) The Control Committee shall take minutes from their deliberations and submit their report to the annual general meeting regarding their review of the accounts and the organisational unit's affairs, including budgets and budget control, the management in general and the work and annual report of the board.

(5) For organisational units which do not have annual general meetings, the Control Committee shall submit a report for each financial year. The Control Committee may

further more raise necessary issues and report through numbered reports to the board and auditor.

(6) The Control Committee may ask the auditor to perform special auditing acts if the Control committee finds it necessary. Such auditing acts may not contravene the prevailing auditing legislation. A separate instruction must in such cases be made by the Control Committee. The board must be informed of any financial implications of instructing the auditor to perform additional work.

§ 2-13 Operating budget

(1) The annual general meeting shall pass a budget that shall contain all main items of the profit and loss account.

(2) National Sports Federations and Regional Confederations shall on their general meetings pass a long term budget covering at least two years. For National Sports Federations and Regional Confederations which do not have annual general meetings, the board shall determine the yearly budgets within the limits of the long term, and when appropriate submit the budgets to the chairpersons meetings in the years between the general meetings if applicable.

(3) The budget shall be realistic, and the result shall not be negative unless it is covered by positive equity.

(4) The approved budget shall appear in a separate column when the year-end accounts are submitted for approval.

§2-14 Loans and guarantees

Organisational units shall not give loans or guarantees for loans unless the loan or guarantee is adequately secured by mortgage or other adequate security. The security for loans and guarantees shall be stated in an annotation to the yearly accounts. Organisational units may however participate in NIF's joint account system after application and decision of the NIF executive board.

IV General meetings

§2-15 Highest authority

The general meeting is the organisational unit's highest authority. The board is the highest authority between the general meetings.

§2-16 Notice of general meetings

(1) Notice of general meetings shall be submitted within the following minimum deadlines:

NIF:	5 months.
Regional Confederation.	3 months.
National Sports Federations:	2 months
Other organizational units	1 month

(2) Motions to the general meeting shall be submitted within the following minimum deadlines:

NIF:	4 months
Regional Confederations:	2 months
National Sports Federations:	1month
Other organizational units:	2 weeks

(3) A complete agenda and other necessary documents including motions for the general meeting must have been made available within the following minimum deadlines

NIF and the Regional Confederations:	1 month
National Sports Federations:	2 weeks

Other organizational units

1 week

(4) If notice has been given in violation with this rule, the general meeting/meeting shall decide under the acceptance of the notice and agenda, as the case might be, if the general meeting/meeting has been legally convened and if there are issues/motions that may not be dealt with.

(5) Notice shall be given directly to those entitled to representation. Sports clubs may give notice in another reasonable manner, including notification in the press or on the clubs internet site.

(6) The notice may refer to that the agenda papers may be made available on the organizational unit's internet page or by other reasonable ways. In this case the notice shall inform that the documents will be made available within the dead line in the third paragraph.

§ 2-17 Quorum for general assemblies/meetings – consider items on the agenda

(1) General meetings form a quorum with the number of approved delegates/members in attendance.

(2) General meetings in sports clubs have a quorum the number of members in attendance is at least equivalent to the number of members of the board according to the sports clubs law. If the annual general meeting of a sports club does not have a quorum, a new annual general meeting may be convened without a minimum participation requirement.

(3) Motions for the amendment of statutes that have not been included on the agenda that has been dispatched or made available, may not be dealt with by general meetings. Other matters may be dealt with and decided when 2/3 of those in attendance with the right to vote so decide in connection with the resolution on approval of the agenda.

§2-18 Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee is elected freely after a nomination from the board. The Nomination Committee shall submit a recommendation for candidates for all other officers that are to be elected by the general meeting. Members of NIF's Nomination Committee are elected pursuant to the rules in §§ 3-4 and 3-7. A member of the Nomination Committee that becomes a candidate for office must resign from the Nomination Committee.

§ 2-19 Extraordinary general meeting

(1) An extraordinary general meeting is convened by the board of an organisational unit according to:

- a) Decision made by the board of the organisational unit
- b) Decision made by the general meeting of the organisational unit
- c) Decision made by the board of a higher ranking organisational unit
- d) In addition:

For National Sports Federations: Written demand from the organisational units that represented at least ¼ of the representatives that were eligible to vote at the last general meeting.

For Regional Confederations: Written demand from the organisational units that represented at least ¼ of the representatives that were eligible to vote at the last general meeting.

Regional Federations:	Written demand from at least ¼ of the sports clubs in the region
Sports Councils:	Written demand from 2/3 of the sports club affiliated to the Sports Council
Sports clubs:	Written demand from 1/3 of the clubs members that are eligible to vote.

(2) Notice of an extraordinary general meeting shall be submitted within the following deadlines:

NIF and Regional Confederations:	At least 1 month
Other Organisational Units	At least 2 weeks

Notice shall be given directly to those entitled to representation. Sports clubs may give notice in another reasonable manner, including notification in the press or on the clubs internet site.

(3) The agenda and all necessary documents shall either be enclosed with the notice or be made available on the organizational unit's internet page or in another reasonable manner. In the last mentioned case, the notice shall refer to that the agenda documents are made available in another manner, and the documents shall be made available on the time of the notice.

(4) An Extraordinary general meeting has a quorum with the number of approved delegates/members in attendance. An Extraordinary general meeting in a sports club has a quorum if the number of members entitled to vote in attendance at least is equivalent to the number of members of the board according to the sports clubs law. If the Extraordinary general meeting does not have a quorum, a new meeting may be convened without a minimum participation requirement.

(5) An extraordinary General Meeting shall only deal with those matters stipulated in the resolution or demand that a General Meeting be held.

(6) If a notice is sent in violation of this rule, the extraordinary general meeting decides during the approval of the notice and agenda if the extraordinary general meeting is legally convened, and if there are items on the agenda that cannot be addressed.

§ 2-20 Chairperson/ secretary

General meetings shall be chaired by an elected chairperson. Neither the chairperson nor the elected secretary needs to be members or elected representatives. More than one chairperson and secretary may be elected.

§ 2-21 Voting

(1) Unless otherwise stipulated in these statutes, a resolution is valid if it is carried by a simple majority of the votes cast. No delegate has more than one vote. Blank votes are deemed not to have been cast.

(2) Elections shall be by ballot if there is more than one motion, or a demand for a ballot is put forward. If the vote is to be by ballot, only nominated candidates may be entered on the ballot paper. Ballot papers which are blank or which contain names of candidates who have not been nominated or which do not contain the correct number of candidates, shall not count and the votes shall be deemed not to have been cast.

(3) In the case of individual elections in which a candidate does not achieve a majority of the votes cast, a new ballot must be conducted between the two candidates who have received the most votes. If the new ballot results in a parity of votes, the election shall be decided by drawing lots.

(4) When more than one person is to be elected in one ballot, all the candidates must receive more than half of the votes cast in order to be deemed elected. This does not apply to deputy representatives. If an insufficient number of candidates achieve this in the first ballot, those who have received more than half the votes cast shall be deemed elected. A new ballot among the other candidates shall then be held and after this new ballot, those who have received most votes shall be deemed elected. If there is parity of votes in the new ballot, the election shall be decided by drawing lots.

§ 2-22 Decisions of extraordinary character or substantial size

Transactions, including loan raising; of extraordinary character or substantial size in relation to the organisational unit's size or activity, shall only be decided by the general meeting.

V DISSOLUTION

§ 2-23 Dissolution – bankruptcy - merger

(1) A motion proposing the dissolution of a National Sports Federation or sports club must first be dealt with by an ordinary general meeting. If a dissolution resolution is adopted with at least a 2/3 majority, an extraordinary general meeting must be convened 3 months later. For dissolution to take place the resolution must be re-adopted with a 2/3 majority.

(2) A Regional federation may only be dissolved by the National Sports Federation in question. Regional Confederations may only be dissolved by NIF. Sports Councils may only be dissolved by the Regional Confederation in question.

(3) Upon dissolution or other termination of an organisational unit, the net funds of the organisational unit after the liquidation shall pass to a cause approved by NIF or the body given such authority by NIF. Notification of dissolution of a club shall be sent to the Regional Confederation in question 14 days before the club holds its ordinary general meeting to deal with the matter.

(4) An organisational unit is deemed to be dissolved when bankruptcy proceedings are finalized, and the unit loses its membership in the NIF.

(5) A merger is not deemed to be dissolution. A resolution on a merger and the necessary amendment of statutes in this connection, shall be adopted in accordance with the regulations on amendment to statutes, cf. § 2-2.

CHAPTER 3: NIF's GENERAL MEETING

§ 3-1 Norwegian sports' highest authority.

NIF's General Meeting has supreme authority in NIF and is held once every four years within the end of June.

§ 3-2 Representation

(1) The following attend NIF's General Meeting with the right to vote:

- a) NIF's executive board
- b) 75 delegates from the Regional Confederations distributed according to the number of affiliated clubs as follows:
 - no. 1 - 4 are entitled to 5 delegates
 - no. 5 - 14 are entitled to 4 delegates
 - no. 15 - 19 are entitled to 3 delegates
- c) 75 delegates from National Sports Federations distributed as follows:
 - each National Sports Federation: one delegate
 - federations with at least 1,200 clubs: three additional delegates
 - federations with 600 to 1,199 clubs: two additional delegates.

The remaining delegates from National Sports Federations shall be distributed among other federations in proportion to the number of clubs (as far as the total number of delegates allows).

Representation pursuant to b and c above shall be calculated by NIF's executive board on the basis of the number of clubs specified in the report submitted on 1 January the year before the General Meeting, and notification will be sent to the organisations at the same time as the notice convening the General Meeting. The executive board lays down more detailed rules.

Chairpersons of Regional Sports Bodies and National Sports Federations attend as delegates. Should the chairperson be unable to attend, or if the person in question is a member of NIF's executive board, the deputy chairperson shall attend in his/her place. The other delegates must be elected by the Regional Sports Bodies' or National Sports Federations' general meetings, or be appointed by the executive board on the authorisation of the Regional Sports Bodies' or National Sports Federations' General meeting, and NIF's executive board must be notified of the elected delegates 1 month at the latest before NIF's General Meeting.

d) 3 representatives for athletes. One representative for Olympic sports, one representative for Paralympic sports and one representative for non-olympic or non-paralympic sports. The NIF's executive board determines rules concerning the nomination of the athlete representative.

Furthermore, the following shall attend without the right to vote:

- e) members of NIF's Legal Committee
- f) the chairpersons of the standing committees
- g) members of the Control Committee
- h) members of the Nomination Committee
- i) NIF's general secretary
- j) NIF's auditor.

In the event that the chairperson is unable to attend, the deputy chairperson shall attend in his/her place. If both the chairperson and deputy chairperson are unable to attend, another member may be elected.

(2) When dealing with Olympic matters, including Norway's preparations for or participation in the Olympic Games, representatives of the National Sports Federations included in the Olympic programme shall constitute the majority eligible to vote.

(3) The delegate's travel and subsistence expenses shall be covered by NIF at rates approved by the executive board.

§ 3-3 Notice

(1) Notice of an ordinary NIF General Meeting shall be dispatched by NIF's executive board at least 5 months before the General Meeting.

(2) Motions to the General Meeting must be sent to the executive board at least 4 months before the General Meeting is to be held. A complete agenda with other necessary documents including motions must be dispatched by the executive board at least 1 month prior to the General Meeting.

§ 3-4 The duties of NIF's General Meeting

(1) NIF's General Meeting shall:

- a) approve the credentials of the delegates in attendance
- b) approve the notice, agenda and order of business
- c) elect a chairperson(s) and minutes secretary(ies) as well as a drafting committee for the General Meeting comprising 5 members.

- d) approve NIF's reports
- e) approve NIF's audited accounts
- f) appoint a certified public auditor and determine his/her fee
- g) decide Norway's participation in the Olympic and Paralympic Games
- h) evaluate issues relating to a Norwegian application to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games
- i) adopt guidelines for applications for public and lottery funds
- j) adopt guidelines for the distribution of assets at the disposal of NIF
- k) determine the organisational affiliation of individual sports to NIF, including their status as National Sports Federations
- l) adopt amendments to NIF's Statutes
- m) consider submitted motions and other business
- n) discuss the long-term budget and long-term plan
- o) hold the following elections to NIF's executive board:

- president
- 1st and 2nd vice president
- 8 board members

At least one member of the executive board shall at the election be 26 years or younger.

A majority of NIF's executive board members shall represent the Olympic sports. The president and vice-president shall be elected separately. The other board members shall be elected in one ballot.

- p) hold the following other elections:
 - a Control Committee comprising a chairperson, 2 members and 2 deputy members
 - a Legal Committee comprising a chairperson, deputy chairperson, 3 members and 2 deputy members
 - an Adjudication Committee comprising a chairperson, deputy chairperson, 4 members and two deputy members. The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall be educated as lawyers and have experience from the courts.
 - an Appeal Committee comprising a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 4 members. The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall be educated as lawyers and have experience from the courts. At least half of the other members shall be educated as lawyers.
 - a chairperson and personal deputy of the Nomination Committee for the next NIF General Meeting. The remaining members of the Nomination Committee shall be elected at the Chairpersons' meeting the year before the General Meeting, cf. § 3-7.

(2) The chairperson and deputy chairperson of the committees shall be elected separately. The other committee members and deputy members shall be elected in one ballot.

(3) The electoral rules are set out in § 2-21 of these Statutes.

§ 3-5 Intermediate General Meeting

(1) NIF's executive board may convene an intermediate General Meeting every second year in order to:

- a) adopt amendments to NIF's Statutes
- b) deal with submitted motions and other business
- c) hold supplementary elections.

(2) The regulations in §§ 3-2 and 3-3 regarding notice and representation apply correspondingly.

§ 3-6 Extraordinary General Meeting

- (1) An extraordinary General Meeting can be convened by NIF's executive board with minimum one month's notice following:
- a) a resolution by NIF's General Meeting
 - b) a unanimous decision by NIF's executive board
 - c) a demand by Regional Sports Bodies and/or National Sports Federations which had at least 40 delegates with voting rights at the previous General Meeting.
 - d) a demand by at least 2/3 of the National Sports Federations
- (2) An extraordinary General Meeting shall only deal with those matters stipulated in the resolution or the demand that a General Meeting be held.

§ 3-7 Chairpersons' meeting

- (1) Every year between General Assemblies a chairpersons meeting shall be held for NIF's executive board and the chairpersons of the Regional Confederations and National Sports Federations. Chairpersons' meetings shall not be held in those years an Intermediate General Meeting is held.
- (2) In the event of non-attendance by a chairperson, the deputy chairperson shall attend instead. If both the chairperson and deputy chairperson are unable to attend, another board member may be elected.
- (3) Chairpersons meetings are convened by NIF's executive board at 3 months' notice. National Sports Federations and Regional Confederations may propose matters for discussion. The agenda shall be drawn up by NIF's executive board and dispatched 1 month prior to the meeting. When drawing up the agenda, special emphasis shall be put on matters relating to reporting status in relation to the long-term plan and long-term budget adopted by NIF's General Meeting, any changes to the order of priority, accounting and budget reporting and organisational matters of principle.
- (4) Matters relating to Norway's preparations for and participation in the Olympic Games shall be dealt with at chairpersons meetings.
- (5) At the chairpersons meeting the year before NIF's General Meeting, elections shall be held for 6 members and four deputy members of the Nomination Committee. The National Sports Federations' representatives elect 3 members and two deputy member, and 3 members and two deputy member shall be elected by the Regional Confederations representatives.
- (6) The representatives' travel and subsistence expenses shall be covered by NIF at rates stipulated by NIF's executive board.

CHAPTER 4: NIF'S EXECUTIVE BOARD ETC.

§ 4-1 Authority of NIF's Executive Board

The executive board is NIF's highest authority between NIF's General Assemblies, with the exceptions that follow from § 6-2. NIF's executive board has overall responsibility for general sports policy and other joint tasks at the national and international level.

§ 4-2 Composition. Quorum rules

- (1) NIF's executive board consists of:
- President
 - 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents
 - 8 board members
 - IOC representative(s) in Norway
 - one representative from NIF employees, elected by and among the employees. This representative shall have a personal deputy.
- (2) At least one member of the executive board shall during the election be 26 years old or younger.

(3) The executive board form a quorum when a majority of the members are present.

(4) When considering Olympic matters, the majority shall be representatives of Olympic sports.

(5) The President or person(s) authorised by NIF's executive board shall represent and sign on behalf of NIF.

§ 4-3 Notice of meeting

The President shall send notice of board meetings to the board members. Meetings shall be held at least four times a year. Board meetings shall also be held when demanded by at least four of the board members.

§ 4-4 The duties of NIF's Executive Board

NIF's executive board shall inter alia:

- a) implement the decisions of NIF's General Meeting
- b) carry out general administration
- c) adopt model statutes. Model statutes shall be submitted to the National Sports Federations and the Regional Confederations before a final decision is made
- d) approve the statutes of all the organisational units
- e) set boundaries for the Regional Federations and approve their names
- f) prepare an annual report and submit audited accounts, and prepare matters to be discussed at NIF's General Meeting
- g) process applications for public- and lottery funds
- h) adopt the budget and allocate available assets
- i) control the finances of the organisational units. Such control is inter alia done by:
 - drawing up and adopting accounting and auditing regulations and instructions for all organisational units
 - where desirable, demand the submission of accounts, membership records etc. for review.
- j) prohibit international representation or international events that will be detrimental to the interests of the nation and sports
- k) appoint committees as required, and draw up instructions for these
- l) ensure that statutes and provisions are complied with
- m) select participants and leaders for the Olympic Games on the recommendation of the National Sports Federations.

§ 4-5 General Secretary

(1) The General Secretary is the leader of the Secretariat. The General Secretary shall be responsible for all administrative functions in NIF and shall comply with the orders of and implement the resolutions passed by the executive board. The General Secretary shall work in accordance with the instructions adopted by the executive board.

(2) The General Secretary attends NIF's General Meeting, chairpersons meetings, meetings of NIF's executive board and Executive Committee and meetings of all committees, at all of which he/ she has the right to speak and propose motions.

§ 4-6 Committees

(1) The Confederation's standing committees shall work according to instructions and guidelines adopted by the executive board.

(2) The Legal Committee shall give its opinion on submitted statute proposals and questions of interpretation submitted by the executive board. The Legal Committee shall also be entitled to submit proposals on its own account.

(3) The Control Committee performs its work according to § 2-12 and submits its report to the General Meeting.

(4) The Adjudication and Appeals Committee shall work in accordance with the regulations in Chapters 11 and 12, and shall not be subject to the instructional authority of the governing bodies.

CHAPTER 5: REGIONAL SPORTS BODIES

§ 5-1 Objective etc.

A Regional Confederation is a joint body for sports within its geographical area. Its highest authority is the Regional Confederation's general meeting, which is held one year prior and one year after the NIF General Meeting. The period between the Regional Confederation's general meeting is two years.

§ 5-2 Duties

(1) The Regional Confederation shall work with the following:

- a) statutory responsibilities and matters of common interest for sports
- b) sports-political focus-areas, especially towards the province, regional service departments/bodies and the municipalities, in order to strengthen the role of sports and improve the clubs' overall conditions.
- c) service and support towards the Sports Councils, Regional Federations and clubs to strengthen activity-, competence- and development of sports facilities
- d) information and education work relating to sports values and creation of values.

(2) The Regional Confederation shall work to develop a good framework for a diverse offer of sports, independent on how the individual sports are organized.

(3) The Regional Confederation has the responsibility to establish Sports Councils in the municipalities.

§ 5-3 Members

All sports clubs in the area in question that are members of NIF are members of the Regional Confederation.

§ 5-4 Statutes

The Regional Confederation shall have statutes that conform to the model statutes adopted by NIF's executive board. The statutes of each Regional Confederation shall be approved by NIF's executive board, cf. § 2-2.

§ 5-5 Right to representation at a Regional Confederation's general meeting

(1) The following have voting rights at a Regional Confederation's general meeting:

- a) the Regional Confederation's executive board
- b) delegates pursuant to the statutes of the Regional Confederation, however that the Sports Councils shall be represented.

(2) The following attend meetings without voting rights, but with the right to speak and propose motions in matters that are within the scope of the committee's field of work:

- a) the chairpersons of the specialist committees, or the deputy chairperson or a board member if the chairperson is unable to attend.
- b) members of the Control Committee.
- c) members of the Nomination Committee
- d) the auditor

(3) The manager participates with the right to speak and propose motions.

(4) Pursuant to the first paragraph, b), the right of representation shall be allocated by the executive board of the Regional Confederation. The Regional Confederation's general meeting shall determine the total number of delegates and adopt rules for the allocation process. Allocation of the right to representation in the Regional Confederation shall be

announced in the summon to the general meeting. Representatives must be elected at annual meetings or appointed by their executive board, as authorised by their annual meeting, and the Regional Confederation shall be notified one week at the latest before the general meeting.

§ 5-6 Travel expenses

The Regional Confederation's executive board determines what proportion of the representatives' travel expenses shall be covered by the Regional Confederation. Weighted distribution in the allocation of travel expenses may be used.

§ 5-7 Notice of meeting

The Regional Confederation's general meeting shall be convened by the Regional Confederation's executive board, giving three months' notice. Motions to be considered must be submitted at least two months before the general meeting. A complete agenda and other necessary documents including motions shall be dispatched at least a month before the general meeting.

§ 5-8 Extraordinary general meeting

(1) Extraordinary general meetings of Regional Confederation shall be convened by the Regional Confederation's executive boards, giving at least one month's notice following:

- a) a resolution by the Regional Confederation's general meeting
- b) decision by the Regional Confederation's executive board
- c) a demand by organisational units accounting for at least 1/4 of the delegates with voting rights at the last Regional Confederation's general meeting

(2) An extraordinary general meeting of a Regional Confederation shall only consider matters specified in the resolution or the demand for the convening of the general meeting.

§ 5-9 The duties of the Regional Confederation's general meeting

(1) The Regional Confederation's general meeting shall:

- a) approve the credentials of the delegates in attendance
- b) approve the notice, agenda and order of business
- c) elect (a) chairperson(s), secretary(ies) and 2 delegates to sign the minutes
- d) approve the Regional Confederation's report and accounts
- e) approve the Regional Confederation's long-term plan and long-term budget
- f) consider submitted motions and matters
- g) appoint a certified public auditor / registered public auditor to audit the accounts,
- h) adopt guidelines for the allocation of the funds at the Regional Confederation's disposal
- i) conduct elections for the following offices:
 - the Regional SSpport Body's executive board, comprising a chairperson, deputy chairperson
 -members and deputy members
 - a control committee with 2 members and 2 deputy members
 - delegates to NIF's General meeting
 - a nomination committee comprising a chairperson and 2 members and a deputy member for the next Regional Confederation's general meeting.

(2) The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall be elected separately. The other members of the board shall then be elected in one ballot, after which the deputy members shall be elected collectively. Elections shall be held in accordance with the regulations in § 2-21.

§ 5-10 Meetings/ joint meetings

The Regional Confederation arranges meetings with organisational units when required. The Regional Confederation determines the form of the meeting.

§ 5-11 The duties of the Executive Board

The Regional Confederation's executive board is the highest authority between the general assemblies. The chairperson summons to board meetings. The executive board shall:

- a) implement the decisions of NIF's General Meeting and higher-ranking sports authorities
- b) adopt the budget and allocate the funds at its disposal
- c) ensure that the Regional Confederation's funds are used and managed in a careful manner according to the decisions made by the general meeting or by higher ranking organizational bodies. The executive board shall furthermore ensure that the Regional Confederation has an adequate organization of the accounting- and budget function and has a sound financial management
- d) work with matters mentioned in § 5-2
- e) appoint committees/councils as required and prepare instructions for these
- e) admit new clubs to NIF and approve the names of the clubs, cf. § 10-1.

§ 5-12 Manager

(1) The manager heads the secretariat. The manager is responsible for all administrative functions within the Regional Confederation and carries out the orders and implements the decisions of the Regional Confederation's executive board.

(2) The organisation manager has the right to speak and proposed motions at the Regional Confederation's general meeting, chairpersons meeting, meetings of the Regional Confederation's executive board and executive committee and in all committees.

CHAPTER 6: NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS

§ 6-1 Members. Organisation

The individual sports are each managed by a National Sports Federation. Several sports may form a National Multisport Federation. A National Sports Federation comprises sports clubs which are members of NIF and the National Sports Federation. Representation to the National Sports Federation's general meeting shall be stated in the statutes of the National Sports Federation, always provided that the clubs shall be represented at the general assemblies.

§ 6-2 Duties and authority

The National Sports Federation is the highest sporting authority within the sport(s) it represents. For the purpose of these statutes sporting authority shall mean authority in matters concerning the individual sports in question with the following exceptions:

- a) matters of an common organisational character that affect several individual sports
- b) matters concerning children's and youth sports that affect several individual sports
- c) financial controll pursuant to § 4-4 i). This shall not prevent the National Sports Federations implementing control procedures on their own account.
- d) international representation pursuant to NIF's Statute § 4-4 j).

(2) The National Sports Federation shall build up its own activities, organisation, finances and employees in compliance with the demands and challenges made by members participating in the sports in question, Norwegian sports and international sports.

(3) Collaboration with sports organisations/ athletes outside NIF must be approved by and subject to the control of the National Sports Federation.

§ 6-3 Admission of National Sports Federations, new sports and change of name

Admission of National Sports Federations takes place at the NIF's General Meeting. NIF's executive board prepares provisions for admission which are passed by NIF's General Meeting in connection with the handling of the application for admission. Admission of

new sports and change of National Sports Federations' name must be approved in advance by NIF's executive board. NIF's executive board decides if the new activity is consistent with NIF's objective and fulfils NIF definition of sports. If the executive board denies admission, the National Sports Federation may propose a motion to the NIF General Meeting to admit the new sport.

§ 6-4 National Multisport Federations

(1) A National Multisport Federation is a federation that organizes several sports, where one or more sports are organized by different International Sports Federations.

(2) National Multisport Federations shall use model statutes for National Sports Federations. The statutes shall state that the National Multisport Federation is one legal entity, including one organizational unit affiliated with NIF. The National Multisport Federations highest authority is the National Multisport Federations general meeting and the executive board is the highest authority between the general meetings.

(3) The separate sports which are organized by the National Multisport Federation may be organized with departments/sections. Departments/sections are subject to the authority of the general meeting and the executive board.

§ 6-5 Withdrawal

(1) National Sports Federations that wish to withdraw from their membership in NIF, communicate this directly to the executive board of NIF, and is deemed withdrawn three months after NIF executive board has received the communication.

(2) In case of withdrawal or loss of membership, the assets of the National Sports Federation shall fall to NIF or a cause approved by the NIF's executive board, provided the assets are funded by public grants or lottery money.

CHAPTER 7: REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

§ 7-1 Establishment

(1) Regional Federations are established, merged and closed down by decision made by the National Sports Federation.

(2) A National Sports Federation may establish a Regional Federation if there are at least five clubs participating actively in the sports in question. The Regional Federation's borders shall be established by the National Sports Federation. The National Sports Federation may also establish competition areas for the Regional Federation. The organisation of company sports is described in chapter 9.

(3) With a Region is meant merged Regional Federations that have a geographical area larger than a province.

§ 7-2 Duties

The object of the Regional Federation is to work for the development of sports within the region, and to promote the cooperation between the clubs. The Regional Federation shall assist its Federation in all questions relating to the sports within the region.

§ 7-3 Statutes

The National Sports Federations draft their own model statutes for their Regional Federations based on the model statutes for Regional Federations prepared by NIF's executive board. The Regional Federation's statutes shall be approved by NIF's executive board on the recommendation of the National Sports Federation, cf. § 2-2, second paragraph.

CHAPTER 8: SPORTS COUNCILS

§ 8-1 Establishment

(1) All municipalities with more than three sports clubs shall have Sports Councils for the sports clubs being members of the NIF. The Regional Confederation is responsible for establishing Sports Councils in the municipalities.

(2) By way of exemption given by NIF's executive board a joint Sports Council for two or more municipalities may be established.

§ 8-2 Duties

(1) The Sports Council shall work for best possible conditions for the sports within the municipality. The Sports Council shall be an arena for cooperation between the clubs, the clubs and the municipality and between the clubs and the Regional Confederation.

(2) The Sports Council shall:

- strengthen the role of sports and conditions within the local community
- decide on priorities on behalf of the clubs
- record and visualise the scope of local sports and develop local political action programs
- be a meeting place and arena for development in the intersection between public and voluntary work

(3) The Sports Council shall be a sports policy organizational unit with tasks primarily on a local level.

(4) All issues of common interest for sports shall be sent to the municipality through the Sports Council.

§ 8-3 Members

(1) All sports clubs with membership in NIF within the relevant area are members of the Sports Council. A club may only be a member in one Sports Council.

(2) Company sports affiliation to the sports council is decided by the annual general meeting of the sports council.

CHAPTER 9: COMPANY SPORTS

§ 9-1 Organisation

Company sports is organised by the Norwegian Company Sports Federation, which is an organisation affiliated to NIF with status as a National Sports Federation. The statutes of the Norwegian Company Sports Federation shall be approved by NIF's executive board. The rules in § 2-2 apply.

(2) Where appropriate, the Norwegian Company Sports Federation may within a Regional Confederation set up Regional Company Sports Federations with status as Regional Federations. Within a Regional Company Sports Federation, the Norwegian Company Sports Federation may establish local sports bodies (Company Sports Councils).

§ 9-2 Members

(1) Company sports clubs in companies, firms, the public sector, professional and vocational groupings, trade unions and other trade associations and organisations may join the Norwegian Company Sports Federation if they engage in sports and outdoor pursuits in accordance with the guidelines and competition rules for company sports that are applicable from time to time.

(2) Applications for membership are to be sent to the Regional Company Sports Federation, which will send its recommendation to the Regional Confederation who decides the application.

(3) The Norwegian Company Sports Federation's members undertake to comply with NIF's Statutes and regulations and the federation shall adopt special model statutes

which stipulate that the club members must undertake to comply with NIF's Statutes and regulations and ensure that they are used.

CHAPTER 10: SPORTS CLUBS

§ 10-1 Application for membership

(1) An applications for membership in NIF shall be sent to the Regional Confederation, which will obtain the opinion of the Sports Council and the National Sports Federation or the body delegated such authority.

(2) To be admitted the sports club must:

- a) have as objective to engage in a sports that is approved by NIF's executive board or whoever the Board gives power of attorney.
- b) be self-owning, free-standing and consist of personal members only.
Competition co-operation or other forms of co-operation between sports clubs are not deemed to be sports clubs.
- c) commit to abide by NIF' statutes and decisions and the organisational units statues cf. § 2-2
- d) have statutes that conform with NIF's model statutes
- e) have a name that is in conformity with NIF's regulations on sports club's name adopted by the NIF executive board
- f) have settled any financial obligations to the NIF or other organisational units

(3) The Regional Confederation decides the admission of new sports clubs and acceptance of the name cf. second paragraph. Admission may be denied if there is a justifiable reason. The decision may be appealed by the sports club or the National Sports Federaton to NIF's executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board. The time limit for filing an appeal is three weeks from the decision was received. The appeal is sent to the Regional Confederation, who may reverse the decision. If the decision is upheld, it is sent to NIF within 14 days. Chapter 9 applies for admission of new company sports clubs. NIF's executive board may give regulations regarding the Regional Confederation's admission of sports clubs.

(4) Sports clubs must be a member of the National Sports Federation(s) covering the branches of sports engaged in by the club, unless the club engages exclusively in sports for exercise purposes which is not organised by any National Sports Federation in NIF.

§ 10-2 Withdrawal. A sports clubs loss of membership

(1) Sports clubs who wish to withdraw from NIF communicates this to the Regional Confederation concerned, and is deemed withdrawn from NIF three months after the notification of withdrawal is received by the Regional Confederation. A Notification that the sports club wishes to withdraw from NIF shall be sent the Regional Confederation concerned 14 days before the clubs general meeting decides on the matter.

(2) In case of withdrawal or loss of membership the clubs assets fall to NIF or a cause approved by NIF or the body delegated such authority if the assets are funded by public grants or lottery money.

(3) If a club substantially breaches its duties as a member, including fails to comply with the time limit for reporting organisational data to NIF set by the executive board of NIF, the Regional Confederation may deprive the club of their membership. Before such a decision is made, the club must be notified and given the possibility to state its opinion. The decision may be appealed to NIF's executive board. The time limit for filing a complaint is three weeks from the decision was received. The appeal is sent to the Regional Confederation, who may reverse the decision. If the decision is upheld, the Regional Confederation shall dispatch the appeal to NIF within 14 days. The decision of the Regional Confederation does not come into force before the deadline to appeal has expired, or when the appeal has been finally decided.

(4) Sports clubs who lose their membership may on application be readmitted on payment of the readmission fee as fixed from time to time by NIF's executive board. The Regional Confederation may impose a maximum one-year waiting period before clubs that have been deprived of their membership are readmitted.

§ 10-3 Representation rights

(1) Newly admitted sports clubs are entitled to representation in other organisational units when they have been a member of NIF for six months and have fulfilled the mandatory obligations. The club will then be entitled to representation in accordance with the number of members that can be documented after six months' activity.

(2) The sports club may participate in competitions according to the rules given by the National Sports Federations the club is a member of.

§ 10-4 Membership in sports clubs

(1) To be admitted as a member of a sports club, the individual must:

- a) accept to comply with the sports clubs and higher ranking organisational unit's rules and decisions.
- b) have settled any financial obligations to the sports club and other organisational units

(2) Membership in a sports club is valid from the day the membership fees are paid.

(3) The board of a sports club may in special situations deny a person membership. Before the decision is taken, the person shall be informed of the reason and be given 14 days to state their opinion. The decision shall be in writing, be reasoned and include information about the right to appeal. The decision may be appealed to the Regional Confederation within three weeks after it was received. The appeal is sent to the board, who may reverse the decision. If the decision is upheld, the board shall dispatch the appeal to the Regional Confederation within 14 days.

(4) NIF's executive board or the body given such authority by the executive board, may when special circumstances exist, move the treatment of an appeal to another Regional Confederation.

§ 10-5 Registration of members in sports clubs

All sports clubs have a duty to keep an electronic membership registry in the national sports membership registry according to regulations given by the NIF executive board.

§ 10-6 Withdrawal – loss/deprivation of membership in sports clubs

(1) Notice of withdrawal shall be in writing and has effect when it is received.

(2) The sports club may deprive a person of his/her membership if he/she after having been reminded, neglects to pay the determined membership fees. A member who owes dues for two years loses his/her membership automatically, and shall be removed from the membership registry.

(3) The board may in special situations deprive a person of his/her membership in a sports club for a period of up to one year. Before the decision is taken, the person shall be informed of the reason and be given 14 days to state their opinion. The decision shall be in writing, be reasoned and include information about the right to appeal.

(4) The person concerned may demand that the decision to deprive him/her of his/her membership is treated by an ordinary/extraordinary general meeting of the club, and the person in question has the right to attend the meeting. The demand must be raised within one week after the decision has been received, and the general meeting must be carried out within one month.

(5) The decision to deprive a member of his/her membership may be appealed to the Regional Confederation within three weeks after it was received. The appeal is sent to the board, which may reverse the decision if the decision is made by the board. If the decision is upheld, the board shall dispatch the appeal to the Regional Confederation within 14 days. The decision of the board does not come into force before the dead line to appeal has expired, or when the appeal has been decided. § 10-1 applies correspondingly.

§ 10-7 Sports club alliance

(1) A sports club alliance may be established when there are specific reasons related to the organising of the sports in the club. The alliance shall consist of a sports alliance club and one or more sports clubs. The alliance may not consist of more than one club within each individual sport.

(2) The sports alliance club and the sports clubs must have as objective to engage in sports organized within the NIF.

(3) Sports clubs in the alliance may not engage in more than one sport.

(4) Sports clubs in a sports alliance have a duty to use the same name and logo as the sports alliance club, in addition to indication of sports. The sports clubs are in this relation bound by the sports alliance club's statutes and decisions. Members in the sports clubs have a duty to also be members of the sports alliance club.

(5) The establishment of a sports club alliance, including the establishment of new sports clubs within the alliance, is subject to approval by NIF's executive board.

(6) Dissolution of the sports club alliance with the subsequent merger of the sports alliance club and the sports club(s) to an ordinary sports club, requires a decision with a 2/3 majority at the general meetings in the affected clubs. A merger between the sports alliance club and one or more sports clubs in the alliance without a dissolution of the sports alliance club requires a decision with a 2/3 majority at the general meetings in the affected clubs. Sports clubs in the alliance may not withdraw from the sports club alliance.

(7) NIF's executive board may in special cases grant an exemption from the rule in the first section. Before a decision is taken the executive board shall obtain the view of the National Sports Federation. The executive board may give regulations to this rule, and may delegate its authority after this rule.

CHAPTER 11: ORDINARY DISCIPLINARY MEASURES, SANCTIONS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH MATCH AND COMPETITION RULES AND PENAL PROVISIONS

§ 11-1 Ordinary disciplinary measures

(1) Organisational units may impose on those who are included in § 11-3 (1) ordinary disciplinary measures for breach of NIF rules, decisions or ordinary good behaviour. The following ordinary disciplinary measures may be used, without them being deemed penal measures pursuant to this chapter:

- a) reprimand
- b) sending off
- c) disqualification
- d) a fine of maximum NOK 5.000 for individuals and NOK 25.000 for organisational units, provided the possibility for a fine is stated in written rules that have been made known.

(2) Ordinary disciplinary measures must not be imposed without sound proceedings being followed, considering the nature and seriousness of the offence, the degree of guilt and the severity of the sanction.

§ 11-2 Sanctions given in accordance with match and competition rules

(1) A national sports federation may give their own match and competition rules that give authority to sanction breach of the rules. The following sanctions may be used, without them being deemed penal measures pursuant to this chapter:

- a) A reprimand
- b) A fine of maximum NOK 50.000 for individuals and NOK 500.000 for organisational units
- c) Loss of placing/results/points
- d) Disqualification cf. § 11-7 e) of maximum three months from participation in a fixed period or a fixed number of matches/competitions. A period of disqualification may be given so that it fully or partly is served during the scheduled competition season.

(2) If a more serious sanction than those mentioned in the first paragraph are asserted, the case shall be prosecuted before an adjudication body, cf. § 11-11.

(3) The executive board may in specific instances approve that other sanctions are included in match and competition rules.

(4) Sanctions given according to ordinary match and competition rules must not be imposed without the rules being made known and sound proceedings being followed, considering the nature and seriousness of the offence, the degree of guilt and the severity of the sanction.

§ 11-3 The scope and extent of the penal provisions.

(1) The penal provisions apply to:

- a) Organizational units and members of sports clubs,
- b) an athletes who participate in a sports event, training or other sporting activity organized by an organizational unit within NIF,
- c) Athletes who represent organizational units in competitions or organized training,
- d) Coach, leader, official, medical personnel or other person who in connection with sports activity assists an athlete or an organizational unit, or in another way participates in the sporting activity,
- e) Athlete or person who has committed him-/herself toward an organizational unit to obey the penal provisions.

(2) An organisational unit is obligated to inform about the penal provisions and may stipulate as a condition for participation in the organisational units activity that an athlete or other person signs an agreement on observance of the penal provisions.

(3) The penal provisions apply to rule violations committed in Norway and abroad.

(4) The penal provisions do not apply for persons under 15 years of age.

(5) Organisational units in the NIF may not adopt their own penal provisions. In special cases the executive board may approve that National Sports Federations supplement the penal provisions for use within the relevant national sports federation. When interpreting the penal provisions, NIF's provisions shall have precedence.

§ 11-4 Acts/omissions subject to penal measures

(1) Penal measures pursuant to these provisions may be imposed if an individual or an organisational unit:

- a) violates NIF's or NIF's organisational units' rules or decisions,
- b) exerts unlawful violence, commits sexual abuse or sexual harassment or otherwise behaves dishonestly or improperly,
- c) violates the special rules regarding manipulation of competitions in § 11-20-3,

- d) commits financial irregularities, pays, effects payment of, receives or enters into agreements to receive consideration in violation of the NIF's regulations,
- e) gives untrue or misleading information or explanations,
- f) organises or participates in competitions or organised training with disqualified or expelled clubs or members of clubs affiliated to NIF,
- g) fails to respect imposed sanctions or suspensions given according to the penal provisions in chapter 11 or the anti-doping provisions in chapter 12.,
- h) uses alcohol/ intoxicating substances on the grounds/ facility or in the changing rooms for players, managers or teams, or serves alcohol at events organised by NIF or lower ranking organisational units in which persons under 18 years are participating, or
- i) in any other way clearly behaves in a manner liable to be detrimental to the sports work or the reputation of sports.

(2) In the case of violence on the sports grounds and other serious cases of hooliganism and disorder in connection with sports events, clubs and other organisational units which are responsible for or participating in the event may be subject to penal measures regardless of whether the situation is covered by the rules above and without the necessity of proving guilt.

§ 11-5 Guilt. Ignorance

(1) In order to be penalised, intent or negligence must be present, except in those cases described in § 11-4 second paragraph.

(2) Guilt on the part of someone acting on behalf of the organisational unit is a prerequisite for taking penal measures against the organisational unit.

(3) Ignorance of the penal provisions in this chapter after they have entered into force does not constitute grounds for waiving penal measures or mitigating circumstances.

§ 11-6 Attempt. Complicity

(1) Attempt is deemed equal to a committed violation.

(2) Complicity to a violation is an offence unless the contrary is stated in the rules.

§ 11-7 Penal measures

(1) The penal measures that may be imposed are:

- a) reprimands,
- b) fines,
- c) seizure of gain achieved by unlawful acts,
- d) loss of the right to be an elected or appointed officer,
- e) loss of right to participate in competitions and organised training (disqualification). In special occasions the disqualification may be limited to participation in competitions. As a main rule disqualification relates to participation in national and international competitions, however, the adjudication committee may limit the disqualification to international competitions.
- f) loss of the right to membership and pertaining rights (expulsion),
- g) loss of right to organise home matches or, where relevant, other event-related reactions,
- h) loss of prizes, championship, points, results when the penal action may have influenced the result achieved.
- i) loss of distinctions.

(2) Penal measures pursuant to d) to g) may be imposed for a limited period of time or for life. Imposed sanctions comprise all organisational units in the NIF. The adjudication body may limit the sanction to apply only for one or more specific sports or organizational units.

(3) Suspended penalties with a probation time may be imposed.

§ 11-8 Waiver of penal proceedings

(1) Even if the violation of the penal provisions is deemed proven, the organisational unit with competence to bring charges may nonetheless waive penal proceedings in the event of special circumstances that lead the organisational unit, after an overall evaluation, to find that there are prevailing reasons for not taking action related to the rule violation. The organisational unit may make this decision contingent on whatever conditions it deems appropriate. A copy of the decision is to be sent NIF.

(2) If the person who has been granted a waiver considers that he or she is not guilty, the person in question may bring the case before the NIF's adjudication committee within a month of notification of the waiver of penal proceedings.

(3) A decision to waive penal proceedings may be reversed by the executive board. The deadline to reverse such a decision is 14 days after the executive board has been notified of the waiver.

§ 11-9 Provisional suspension

(1) If there are grounds for assuming that an athlete or person will be convicted pursuant to § 11-7 (1) d, e or f, and specific reasons apply, the adjudication body hearing the case may decide that the person in question shall be provisionally suspended. A provisional suspension may apply for up to two months at a time. The total suspension period must not exceed the time it is assumed that the person in question will lose his or her rights pursuant to a final judgement.

(2) During the suspension period, the person in question loses rights as decided by the adjudicative body within the framework specified in § 11-7. The suspension period shall be deducted from any penalty that may be imposed.

(3) The person suspended shall be notified of the decision immediately and informed of his or her right to appeal the suspension decision to a higher-ranking adjudication body.

§ 11-10 Limitation period

(1) The statute of limitations period is five years. The limitation period commences on the date the rule violation ended. The limitation period is interrupted when a case is reported to the NIF's adjudication committee.

(2) When official penal proceedings have been initiated, the case is nonetheless not deemed to be barred by lapse of time until two years have passed following the decision concluding the case.

§ 11-11 The adjudication bodies

(1) All penal cases are treated by NIF's adjudication committee and NIF's appeal committee.

(2) National Sports Federations may elect their own adjudication committee and appeal committee if it is a demand from the International sports federation. In addition, National Sports Federations, who have a reasonable amount of cases and qualification, or if specific reasons exist, may apply NIF to have their own adjudication bodies.

(3) A National Sports Federation with their own adjudication bodies file charges for violation of the penal provisions to their own adjudication committee. Other charges are filed to the NIF's adjudication committee. A National sports federations' adjudication committee may decide to transfer a case to NIF's adjudication committee for decision.

§ 11-12 Procedure

(1) Both individuals and organisational units are entitled to report violations of § 11-4, but only the board of sports clubs, Regional Confederations, Regional Federations, National Federations and NIF has the authority to file charges with a demand that a case

is opened for violation of the penal provisions. National Sports Federations may establish a prosecution committee with the approval of NIF.

(2) The charges shall be filed in writing to the relevant adjudication committee as soon as possible. The adjudication committee shall first consider if the charges are sent to the right adjudication body. If the charges are sent to the wrong adjudication body, the charges shall be sent to the correct body, with a notice of this being sent to the organisational unit who filed the charges.

(3) The adjudication committee may wholly or partly dismiss charges if the adjudication committee unanimously finds it evident that there is no real need for a decision, the charges have no sensible purpose or appears to be manifestly unfounded. The decision to dismiss the charges may be appealed, cf. § 11-16.

(4) If the recipient is the correct adjudication body, the adjudication body shall send the charges as soon as possible and within 14 days to the person in question, who shall be given at least 21 days to give remarks to the charges. Simultaneously, the person concerned shall be informed that the case may be determined based on the written charges if he or she does not answer within the stipulated term.

(5) Every case shall be decided as quickly as possible. The adjudication body shall ensure that the case is not unduly delayed and is entitled to set deadlines, exclude evidence and carry out other preparatory proceedings. Every case shall be thoroughly considered before a decision is made. A party is entitled to demand an oral hearing unless the adjudication committee unanimously agrees that this is unnecessary. If oral statements are taken from parties or witnesses, the parties shall be notified and be entitled to be present, with an advisor if necessary. The decision shall be based exclusively on the evidence submitted in the case and of which both parties have been informed. Any reasonable doubt shall benefit the person concerned.

(6) No person in an adjudication body shall participate in the preparation of, or the decision of, the case if he or she is an interested party, has submitted a complaint or participated in the proceedings at a lower level or previously has made known his or her opinion on the case, or if there are other significant reasons likely to undermine confidence in his or her impartiality.

(7) Decisions shall be reasoned. An account shall be given of which matters are deemed to have been proven and which penal provisions have been applied.

(8) Notification of the decision and the reasons, shall be sent to the parties. He or she shall at the same time be informed of the deadline for appealing the decision and the relevant addressee for where to send the appeal.

(9) The adjudication committee shall be set with three members during the handling of every case, where either the chairperson or deputy chairperson shall be present. If the adjudication committee has decided on a provisional suspension, the committee shall for the further handling of the case if possible be set with other members than the ones sitting in the committee when deciding the provisional suspension.

(10) The appeal committee shall be set with three members during the handling of every case, where either the chairperson or the deputy chairperson shall be present. If the appeal committee has decided on a provisional suspension, the committee shall for the further handling of the case if possible be set with other members than the ones who decided the provisional suspension.

§ 11-13 Higher-ranking organisational units' authority

If a higher-ranking organisational unit receives knowledge of a punishable offence in a subordinated organisational unit, it may order the subordinate organisational unit to

consider the case to evaluate whether there has been committed a punishable offence as mentioned in § 11-4.

§ 11-14 Appointment of defence lawyer and covering of expenses

(1) The main rule is that the parties shall cover their own costs related to the case. If the defendant is acquitted in whole or in part, the adjudication body may award costs. Similarly, the defendant may under special circumstances be ordered to pay the costs of the case.

(2) The adjudication body may in special cases appoint and cover the costs of a defence lawyer, interpreter and expert witnesses.

(3) The costs related to the case and for the appointed defence lawyer will be refunded insofar as they are deemed reasonable and necessary. Lawyers' fees shall be calculated according to the same rules as those applying to court-appointed defence lawyers in municipal courts. The adjudication body approves the fees' amount. The adjudication body's stipulation of the fees may be separately appealed to the appeals committee by the parties and NIF within 14 days after a party or NIF has been informed about the decision. Where the appeals committee has determined the costs related to the appeal case, NIF shall be given the opportunity to comment on the costs before the final decision is made.

(4) Necessary expenses for witnesses will only be refunded if the witnesses have been summoned by the adjudication body. Expense for expert witnesses will only be refunded if the expert witnesses have been appointed by the adjudication body and the costs are deemed reasonable.

(5) When a party is present at oral proceedings at the request of the adjudication body, the body may decide to refund his or her travelling and subsistence expenses in accordance with the rates for public sector employees. Loss of earnings will not be compensated.

§ 11-15 Commencement of penalties

(1) The judgement shall become effective when the case has been finally decided. Any provisional suspension shall be deducted from the penalty, cf. § 11-9,(2).

(2) Only time during which the athlete is a member of NIF counts in terms of the suspension/ disqualification period. In the event of resignation of membership, the suspension/disqualification period ceases to run, and restarts when/if the person in question rejoins.

§ 11- 16 Appeal

(1) The parties may appeal a decision to NIF's appeal committee. Decisions made by National Sports Federations adjudication committees are appealed to the National Sports Federations appeal committee, or to NIF's appeal committee if the National Sports Federation does not have an appeal committee.

(2) The appeal must be submitted in writing no later than 14 days after the person was informed of the decision. The claim is to be submitted to the adjudication body that made the decision, who will forward the appeal together with the case file to the relevant appeal committee.

(3) Any appeal submitted after the deadline for appeal shall be dismissed unless the relevant appeals committee finds that the failure to meet the deadline should not be blamed on the appellant, or it is nevertheless found reasonable to consider the appeal.

(4) The appeal committee may wholly or partly dismiss an appeal if the appeal committee unanimously finds it evident that the appeal will not succeed. This does not

apply for appeal over decisions where it pursuant to § 11-7 (1) d), e) or f) is given a sanction of more than one year.

(5) The appeal shall be dealt with as soon as possible. The provisions in § 11-12 will apply correspondingly.

(6) The appeals committee may:

- a) dismiss the case on grounds of formal error,
- b) quash the decision of the subordinate body, send the case back for a new hearing and provide guidelines for this,
- c) uphold the appealed decision,
- d) pass a new judgement.

§ 11-17 Publication.

(1) A penal case is not public before it has been decided to file charges. The organisational unit that has filed charges may decide that the decision to file charges is made public after notice of the rule violation has been given to the person in question.

(2) Proceedings in the adjudicative bodies are public unless the adjudicative bodies independently, or they at the request of one of the parties, find that proceedings shall be held behind closed doors.

(3) The whole decision in cases dealt with pursuant to NIF's penal provisions is public. However, the adjudication body may, under special circumstances, decide that only the judgement shall be public.

§ 11-18 Reopening of case

(1) For the benefit of a person on whom a penalty has been imposed, a case that has otherwise been finally decided by NIF's adjudicative bodies, may be reopened if information becomes available that it is assumed would have led to a different result. To the prejudice of a person found not guilty, a case that has otherwise been finally decided may only be reopened if the person confesses or other new information or evidence makes it highly probable that the person in question is guilty of a penal offence.

(2) A petition for the reopening of a case shall be sent to the body that last decided the case. If the petition for reopening is rejected, the rejection may be appealed, except for rejections decided by NIF's appeal committee.

(3) If the petition for reopening is granted, the reopening body decides how the case is to be dealt with and may make a decision in the case itself.

(4) The provisions in § 11-12 shall apply insofar as appropriate.

§ 11-19 Pardons

On application, and where special circumstances are in favour of so doing, NIF's executive board may grant a pardon.

§ 11-20 Special Rules Regarding Manipulation of Competitions

§ 1-20-1. Scope etc.

(1) The provisions of chapter 11 shall apply insofar as appropriate. In case of conflict and interpretation the special rules in § 11-20 shall have precedence.

(2) NIF and its organisational units shall recognize legally binding decisions given in accordance with the "Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions" (the Code).

(3) The executive board of NIF may adopt regulations pursuant to the Code.

§ 11-20-2. Definitions

Benefit: the direct or indirect receipt or provision of money or the equivalent such as, but not limited to, bribes, gains, gifts and other advantages including, without limitation, winnings and/or potential winnings as a result of a wager; the foregoing shall not include official prize money, appearance fees or payments to be made under sponsorship or other contracts.

Competition: any sports competition, tournament, match or event, organised in accordance with the rules of an organisational unit in NIF or another sports organisation that NIF or NIF's organisational units are affiliated to.

Inside Information: information relating to any competition that a person possesses by virtue of his or her position in relation to a sport or competition, excluding any information already published or common knowledge, easily accessible to interested members of the public.

Participant: Persons and organisational units as defined in § 11-3.

Sports betting, bet or betting: any wager of a stake of monetary value in the expectation of a prize of monetary value, subject to a future and uncertain occurrence related to a sports competition.

§ 11-20-3. Acts/omissions subject to penal measure

(1) The following acts and omissions may be penalized according to this chapter:

- a) Participation in Sports Betting, Bet or Betting related to a Competition where the person in question is a Participant.
- b) Improper alteration of the result or the course of a sports competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the sports competition with a view to obtaining an undue benefit for oneself or for others in a way that is in violation with NIFs rules and values.
- c) Providing, requesting, receiving, seeking, or accepting a benefit related to the manipulation of a competition.
- d) Using Inside Information for the purposes of Betting, any form of manipulation of sports competitions or any other purposes in violation with NIF's rules or values, for the benefit of oneself or others.
- e) Disclosure of Inside Information where the Participant knew or should have known that such disclosure might lead to the information being used for the purposes of Betting, manipulation of competitions or any other objective in violation with NIFs rules.
- f) Giving and/or receiving a Benefit for the provision of Inside Information regardless of whether any Inside Information is actually provided.
- g) Failure to report to the organisational unit concerned or a higher ranking organisational unit, at the first available opportunity, full details of any approaches or invitations received by the Participant to engage in conduct or incidents that could amount to a violation of § 11-20.
- h) Failure to report to the organisational unit concerned or a higher ranking organisational unit, at the first available opportunity, full details of any incident, fact or matter that has constituted or may constitute a violation of these rules. This includes

information that comes to the attention, or should have come to the attention, of the person in question regarding approaches or invitations that have been received by other persons to engage in conduct that could amount to a violation of these rules.

i) Failure to cooperate with any investigation carried out by an organisational unit in relation to a possible breach of § 11-20, including, without limitation, failing to provide accurately, completely and without undue delay any information and/or documentation and/or access or assistance requested by any organisational unit conducting such investigation.

j) Obstructing or delaying any investigation that may be carried out by an organisational unit in relation to a possible violation of § 11-20, including without limitation concealing, tampering with or destroying any documentation or other information that may be relevant to the investigation.

(2) For the determination of whether a violation has been committed, the following are not relevant:

- a. Whether or not the Participant is participating in the Competition concerned.
- b. Whether or not the outcome of the Competition on which the Bet was made or intended to be made.
- c. Whether or not any Benefit or other consideration was actually given or received.
- d. The nature or outcome of the Bet.
- e. Whether or not the Participant's effort or performance in the Competition concerned were (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omission in question.
- f. Whether or not the result of the Competition concerned was (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omission in question;
- g. Whether or not the manipulation included a violation of a technical rule of the respective Sports Organisation;
- h. Whether or not the competition was attended by a representative of NIF, an International Federation or a National Federation.

§ 11-20-4. Provisional Suspension

If a person on a balance of probability is suspected of violating § 11-20-3 and the reputation of sports may be hurt, the adjudication body may decide to provisionally suspend the person in question. A provisional suspension may be decided for up to two months at a time. Furthermore, § 11-9 (2) and (3) applies.

CHAPTER 12: ANTI-DOPING PROVISIONS

§ 12-1. Scope

(1) The anti-doping provisions apply to:

- a) Individual members and organisational units.
- b) an athlete who participates in a sports event organized by an organisational unit within the NIF. A sports event includes competition and organized training.
- c) an athlete who represents an organisational unit in competitions or training.
- d) a coach, leader, official, medical personnel or other person who assists an athlete or an organizational unit in connection with a sports activity.
- e) an athlete or other person who has committed him-/herself towards an organisational unit to obey the doping provisions.

(2) An organisational unit is obligated to inform about the doping provisions and may stipulate as a condition for participation in the organisational units activity that an athlete or other person signs an agreement on observance of the doping provisions.

(3) The doping provisions apply to rule violations committed in Norway and abroad.

(4) A person who resigns from a sports club within the NIF is obligated to be subject to doping control for one year after resignation.

(5) These doping provisions regulate every aspect concerning anti-doping work and are in conformity with the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) and the International Standards issued by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). For all aspects not directly regulated by these doping provisions, the World Anti-Doping Code and the International Standards shall apply automatically and be considered as part of these doping provisions. In case of conflict between the World Anti-Doping Code/the International Standards and these doping provisions, the World Anti-Doping Code/the International Standards shall have precedence.

(6) The NIF will recognise final decisions made by international sports organisations, national anti-doping organisations and the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) which are in compliance with the WADC.

(7) Organisational units within the NIF may not adopt their own doping provisions. If international federations delegate authority to national federations with respect to doping cases, such cases shall be handled pursuant to the NIF's doping provisions.

(8) The executive board may adopt regulations to chapter 12.

(9) The executive board may adopt specific rules concerning doping of horses and dogs. If such rules are not adopted, the rules on doping of horses and dogs shall be the rules adopted by the relevant national or international federation. If specific rules are not adopted by the executive board, an athlete or a person may be sanctioned pursuant to § 11-3 et seq. for the violation of rules adopted by the international or national federation.

§ 12-2. Control and prosecuting authority in doping cases

(1) The control and prosecuting authority in doping cases is assigned to the Foundation Anti-Doping Norway (Anti-Doping Norway).

(2) With control authority is meant that persons mentioned in § 12-1 are obligated to accept doping control as determined by Anti-Doping Norway.

(3) With prosecuting authority is meant that Anti-Doping Norway has the authority to make prosecutory decisions pursuant to the doping provisions, including the right to investigate possible rule violations and to act as a party in doping cases. The prosecuting authority also includes cases involving doping of horses and dogs.

(4) Anti-Doping Norway may adopt procedures for the anti-doping work in accordance with WADA's international standards.

§ 12-3. Rule violations

(1) The following constitute rule violations:

- a) presence of a prohibited substance, its metabolites or indicators in an athlete's sample.
- b) use of a prohibited substance or method.
- c) evading, refusing or failing to submit to sample collection.
- d) three whereabouts failures within a twelve-month period, cf. the NIF regulations.
- e) to tamper with any part of doping control, or to give false or inaccurate information, or otherwise impede a doping control.
- f) possession of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method (such as importing, acquiring or being in possession of a prohibited substance or method for personal use).
- g) trafficking (including traffic, produce, import, export, store, distribute, send or transfer a prohibited substance or a prohibited method to a third party).
- h) to administer to any athlete in-competition any prohibited substance or prohibited method, or administer or attempt to administer to any athlete

out-of-competition any prohibited substance or prohibited method that is prohibited out-of-competition.

- i) to associate professionally or sports related with any athlete support personnel who is serving a period of ineligibility or to associate professionally or sports related with any athlete support personnel who is found to have violated criminal, disciplinary, professional or civil laws/regulations that would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules, in accordance with WADC art. 2.10.
- j) to assist, encourage, aid, abet, conspire, cover up or any other type of intentional complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation, attempted anti-doping rule violation or attempted violation of imposed ineligibility, cf. § 12-8 (10) by another person.

(2) Attempted violation of § 12-3 (1) b, e), g) and h) is deemed equal to a committed violation.

(3) The prohibited list comprises prohibited substances and methods. The prohibited list specifies certain substances (hereinafter referred to as specified substances). The prohibited list enters into force upon WADA's decision. The prohibited list applies and is enforced until a new list enters into force.

§ 12-4. Doping control

(1) Anti-Doping Norway may carry out doping controls without notice in and out of competition.

(2) Doping controls may also be undertaken by other organisations when so is stated in an agreement with Anti-Doping Norway, or in international rules.

(3) An athlete on the registered testing pool who retires and then wishes to return to active participation in competitions must be available for doping control for six months prior to the competition. WADA may grant an exemption to the six month period, cf. WADC art. 5.7.1. An athlete who participates before the six months provision expires automatically loses his/her results in such competitions.

(4) An athlete serving a period of ineligibility has a duty to accept doping controls during the ineligibility period.

§ 12-5. Guilt requirements

(1) The athlete has a duty to ensure that no prohibited substance enters the athlete's body and that no prohibited method is used. An athlete is without any demonstration of guilt responsible for any prohibited substance found to be present in the athlete's doping sample, or use of a prohibited substance or method, cf. § 12-3 (1) a) and b).

(2) Ignorance of the doping provisions is not a reason for acquittal or a reduced sentence.

§ 12-6. Proof

(1) Anti-Doping Norway has the burden of establishing that a rule violation has occurred. The standard of proof to be applied shall be whether Anti-Doping Norway has established an anti-doping rule violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation which is made. This standard of proof in all cases is greater than a mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

(2) If the doping rules require an athlete or a person to prove a special fact or circumstance, the standard of proof shall be by a balance of probability.

(3) Facts related to rule violations may be established by any reliable means.

(4) Deviation from procedures adopted by Anti-Doping Norway in accordance with WADA's International standards § 12-2 (4), which have not caused an adverse analytical finding or other rule violation shall not invalidate such evidence or results. WADA-accredited laboratories are presumed to have conducted analysis and custody of doping samples in accordance with WADA's international standard for Laboratories. If a preponderance of evidence indicates a deviation from the International Standard for Laboratories or other International Standards that could reasonably have caused an adverse analytical finding, Anti-Doping Norway must prove that the deviation did not cause the positive test or the rule violation. In such cases, Anti-Doping Norway must fulfil the burden of proof as mentioned in the first paragraph.

§ 12-7. Automatic disqualification of prizes, championships and results

A rule violation in connection with a positive test automatically leads to the disqualification of prizes, championships and results obtained by the athlete in the competition concerned.

§ 12-8. Sanctions

(1) An anti-doping rule violation discovered during an event may lead to disqualification of prizes, championships and results from all the competitions in that event. If the athlete establishes that he or she bears no fault in connection with the rule violation, the athlete's results in the other competitions in that event shall be retained, unless the rule violation may have affected the other competition results.

(2) Unless fairness requires otherwise, the athlete forfeits prizes, championships and results obtained in the period after the doping rule violation occurred until a provisional suspension or period of ineligibility enters into force.

(3) Ineligibility involves loss of right to participate in competitions and organised training, and the loss of the right to be an elected or appointed officer.

(4) Violation of § 12-3 (1) a), b) and f) shall be sanctioned with a four year ineligibility where:

- a) the rule violation does not involve a specified substance and the athlete or person can not establish that the rule violation was not intentional or committed by gross negligence cf WADC art. 10.2,
- b) the rule violation involves a specified substance and Anti-Doping Norway can establish that the rule violation was intentional or committed by gross negligence cf WADC art. 10.2.

If a) and b) do not apply, the period of ineligibility shall be two years.

(5) Violation of § 12-3 (1) c) and e) shall be sanctioned with a four year ineligibility. If the athlete when failing to submit to sample collection can establish that the rule violation was not intentional or committed with gross negligence, the period of ineligibility shall be two years, cf WADC art. 10.3.1.

(6) Violation of § 12-3 (1) d) shall be sanctioned with a two year ineligibility, with the possibility of a reduction down to one year depending on the degree of fault, cf WADC 10.3.2.

(7) Violation of § 12-3 (1) g) and h) shall be sanctioned with a four year ineligibility with the possibility of imposing up to a lifetime ineligibility depending on the seriousness of the matter. Violations of § 12-3 (1) g) and h) involving minors shall be considered a particularly serious offense which shall result in a lifetime ineligibility if committed by support personnel and not involving a specified substance, cf. WADC art. 10.3.3.

(8) Violation of § 12-3 (1) i) shall be sanctioned with a two year ineligibility with the possibility of a reduction down to one year depending on the degree of fault and the circumstances of the matter, cf WADC art. 10.3.5.

(9) Violation of § 12-3 (1) j) shall be sanctioned with two to four years ineligibility, depending on the seriousness of the matter, cf. WADC art. 10.3.4

(10) In case of violation of an imposed ineligibility, a previously imposed ineligibility shall start over from the time of the violation of the imposed ineligibility as decided by Anti-Doping Norway. A new ineligibility may be reduced depending on the athlete's degree of fault and the circumstances of the matter cf. WADC art. 10.12.3. Anti-Doping Norway's decision may be appealed under § 12-23.

(11) The executive board may impose the following sanctions on organisational units violating the doping rules:

- a) reprimands
- b) fines not exceeding the limits stated in § 11-1
- c) reduction of economic support

§ 12-9. Elimination of the period of ineligibility where there is no fault or negligence

If the athlete or person proves that a violation is caused without fault or negligence, ineligibility imposed shall be eliminated. The violation does not count as a first time violation in cases where this may be of relevance.

§ 12-10. Reduction of ineligibility in case of no significant fault or negligence

(1) If the violation of § 12-2 (1) a) b and f) involves a specified substance and the athlete or other person can prove that the rule violation was caused with no significant fault or negligence, the sanction shall be minimum a warning and maximum two years ineligibility. The degree of fault shall be decisive for the determination of the ineligibility period.

(2) If the violation of § 12-2 (1) a) b and f) involves a contaminated product containing prohibited substances and the athlete or other person can prove that the rule violation was caused with no significant fault or negligence, and the prohibited substance is not disclosed on the product or by a reasonable internet search, the sanction shall be minimum a warning and maximum two years ineligibility. In addition, the athlete or person must prove that the rule violation was caused with no significant fault or negligence. The degree of fault shall be decisive for the determination of the ineligibility period.

(3) If the athlete can prove that the rule violation was caused by no significant fault or negligence in other cases than those covered by the first and second paragraph, then, subject to further reduction or elimination as provided in §§ 12-11 to 12-13, the ineligibility may be reduced to no less than one half of the period of ineligibility otherwise applicable. If the otherwise applicable period of ineligibility is a lifetime ban, the reduced ineligibility period may be no less than eight years. The degree of fault shall be decisive for the determination of the ineligibility period.

§ 12-11. Reduction of ineligibility on account of prompt admission prior to notice of a doping control or a rule violation

Admission of a rule violation prior to notice of a doping control, or prior to a notice of a violation of § 12-3 (1) b) to j) is given according to § 12-18 (2), where the admission at that time constitutes the only evidence for the violation, may lead to a reduction of the ineligibility up to one half.

§ 12-12. Reduction of ineligibility on account of prompt admission after a notice of a rule violation

An athlete who has committed a rule violation which otherwise would be sanctioned with four years ineligibility pursuant to § 12-8 (4) and (5), may have the ineligibility reduced down to a minimum of two years with the consent of WADA and Anti-Doping Norway if the admission is submitted immediately after notice of a rule violation is given. The seriousness of the matter and degree of fault shall be decisive for the determination of the ineligibility period.

§ 12-13. Substantial assistance in discovering or establishing rule violations

If an athlete or a person substantially assists Anti-Doping Norway, the police or a professional disciplinary body, that results in the disclosure of a violation of the doping rules, general legislation or provisions committed by another person, Anti-Doping Norway may suspend up to three-quarters of an imposed ineligibility cf. WADC 10.6.1.1. to 10.6.1.3. If the relevant ineligibility for the violation is ineligibility for life the non-suspended part of the ineligibility may not be less than eight years. After a final judgment, an imposed ineligibility may only be suspended with the consent of WADA and the relevant international federation.

§ 12-14. Sentencing when multiple grounds for reduction of sanction apply

A sanction shall be assessed pursuant to §§ 12-8 to 12-10, before the sanction is made suspended or further reduced pursuant to §§ 12-11 to 12-13. If an athlete or a person is entitled to a reduction of ineligibility, or a suspended sanction pursuant to §§ 12-11 to 12-13, the ineligibility may not be reduced or made suspended by more than three-quarters of the ineligibility that otherwise would have been imposed.

§ 12-15. Multiple rule violations

(1) For the second rule violation the ineligibility shall be the greater of:

- a) six months,
- b) one-half of the imposed sanction for the first rule violation, without taking into account any reduction under § 12-11 to 12-13, or
- c) twice the sanction that would have been imposed if it were a first rule violation, without taking into account any reduction under § 12-11 to 12.13.

Sanctions calculated under a – c above may be reduced pursuant to § 12-11 to 12.13.

(2) For the third violation an ineligibility for life shall always be imposed unless §§ 12-9 or 12-10 apply, or there is a violation of § 12-3 (1) d). In such cases an ineligibility of minimum 8 years and up to lifetime shall be imposed.

(3) It is considered as multiple rule violations if it is demonstrated that the later rule violation was committed by an athlete or a person after he/she was notified about the previous rule violation, or after it may be demonstrated that there was made a reasonable attempt to notify him/her about the previous violation. If it may be determined that both rule violations were committed prior to the notification was given or attempted given, it will be considered as one rule violation, and the most severe ineligibility period shall be imposed.

(4) If facts related to a rule violation that took place before the athlete or person was notified of the previous violation are disclosed after a final judgment has been made, the case shall be brought for the adjudication committee for issuance of an additional sanction where the most severe ineligibility period shall be imposed. In such cases the athlete shall lose prizes, championships and results cf § 12-8 (2).

(5) In order for (1) to (4) to apply it is a precondition that the rule violations took place in the same 10 year period.

§ 12-16. Provisional suspension

(1) When an adverse analytical finding for a prohibited substance or a prohibited method, other than a specified substance is received, a provisional suspension shall be imposed after the procedure under § 12-20 is completed. Such suspension is decided by Anti-Doping Norway. A provisional suspension may apply for up to two months at a time. The total suspension period must not exceed the time during which it is assumed that the person in question will lose his or her rights pursuant to a final judgement. Anti-Doping Norway's decision may be appealed under § 12-23. The suspension may be eliminated if the person involved demonstrates to the adjudication committee that the violation is likely to have involved a contaminated product. The adjudication committee's decision not to eliminate the suspension may not be appealed further. Sub-section 3 to 6 shall apply.

(2) If there are reasons for assuming that an athlete or person will be convicted pursuant to these rules, the adjudication authority hearing the case may in other cases than covered by the first sub-section, decide that the person in question shall be provisionally suspended. A provisional suspension may apply for up to two months at a time. The total suspension period must not exceed the time during which it is assumed that the person in question will lose his or her rights pursuant to a final judgement.

(3) Provisional suspension implies that the athlete or person is excluded pursuant to § 12-8 (3). A respected period of provisional suspension shall be deducted from any penalty that may be imposed.

(4) The person who is provisionally suspended shall be notified of the decision immediately and informed of his or her right to appeal the decision.

(5) The person concerned may for suspension other than suspension imposed according to sub-section 1, request an oral hearing concerning the question of provisional suspension either before or directly after the decision is made.

(6) An athlete or person may accept a provisional suspension in writing without the question being brought before the adjudication committee or Anti-Doping Norway. The person concerned shall be informed about voluntarily provisional suspension when the notice of a rule violation is given.

§ 12-17. Commencement of ineligibility period

(1) The ineligibility becomes effective from the day ineligibility is imposed.

(2) If there has been a significant delay in the procedure, which is not attributable to the athlete or person, the adjudication authority may determine an earlier commencement of the ineligibility period. The ineligibility may commence as early at the sample collection date in relation to a positive test, or at the time of another anti-doping rule violation. The athlete shall lose prizes, championships and result from the time the ineligibility takes effect.

(3) If an athlete or a person admits to a rule violation directly after having been informed of the rule violation pursuant to § 12-20 (2), the adjudication authority may decide that the period of ineligibility shall commence as early at the sample collection date in relation to a positive test, or at the time of another anti-doping rule violation. Nevertheless, the athlete or person must serve at least one half of the imposed ineligibility. This section does not apply when the ineligibility is already reduced pursuant to § 12-12.

§ 12-18. Status during ineligibility

(1) An ineligible athlete loses the right to participate in competitions and organised training, and the right to be an elected or appointed officer cf. § 12-8 (3).

(2) An athlete or person who has been sentenced to a longer period of ineligibility than four years, may after four years and for the remaining period of ineligibility, participate in sports on a local level within other sports than the one the athlete/person participated in

when the rule violation was committed. This does not include competitions which may qualify for national or international championships.

(3) An athlete who wishes to re-enter sports after the ineligibility period must during a provisional suspension period and during the ineligibility be available for doping control and upon request submit required athlete whereabouts information.

(4) The NIF and its organisational units shall fully or partly withdraw financial support to a person who is ineligible due to violation of the rules stated in § 12-3. This rule does not apply if §§ 12-9 or 12-10 applies.

(5) An ineligible athlete may participate in organized training the last two months of the imposed ineligibility, or the last quarter of the imposed ineligibility if such period is shorter.

§ 12-19 Statute of limitations

The statute of limitations is 10 years. The limitation period commences on the date the rule violation occurred. The limitation period is interrupted when the person has been notified of the anti-doping rule violation as provided in § 12-20 (2), or notification has been reasonably attempted.

§ 12-20 Procedure prior to a charge is filed

(1) The procedure in doping cases shall be proper and in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code and the applicable International Standards adopted by WADA.

(2) The athlete or person shall be informed of a rule violation as soon as possible after Anti-Doping Norway has undertaken the required investigation. The athlete/person shall be informed about his/her rights.

(3) Anti-Doping Norway has according to § 12-2 the authority to file charges with a demand that a case is opened for violation of the doping provisions.

(4) The charges shall be filed in writing to the NIF's adjudication committee as soon as possible after the required investigation has been completed.

§ 12-21 Simplified procedure in cases where a rule violation has been admitted

(1) Anti-doping Norway may give an athlete or person who has admitted a rule violation the possibility to choose a simplified procedure through acceptance of a sanction without a hearing. Simplified procedure may only be used when asking for an ineligibility of four years or less.

(2) The person concerned shall receive all information in the case before a simplified procedure is offered. When offering a simplified procedure the person concerned shall receive a draft reasoned decision, and be given 14 days to accept the sanction. The person may within 14 days after the sanction has been accepted withdraw his or her acceptance, and demand a hearing.

(3) An accepted sanction has the same effect as an ordinary sanction, and may not be appealed by the person concerned or Anti-Doping Norway. Other parties may appeal the decision according to § 12-23 et seq.

§ 12-22. Procedure after a charge is filed

(1) The adjudication committee shall send the charges as soon as possible and within 14 days to the person concerned. The person concerned shall be given at least 21 days to give remarks to the charges. The person concerned shall, by the time the charges are

sent to him/her, be informed that the case may be determined on grounds of the written charges if he or she does not give remarks within the stipulated term.

(2) Every case shall be decided as quickly as possible. The adjudication body shall ensure that the case is not unduly delayed and may set deadlines, exclude evidence and carry out other preparatory proceedings. Every case shall be thoroughly considered before a decision is made. Parties are entitled to demand an oral hearing unless the adjudication committee agrees unanimously that this is unnecessary. If oral statements are taken from parties or witnesses, the parties shall be notified and be entitled to be present with an advisor if necessary. The decision shall be based exclusively on the evidence submitted in the case and of which both parties have been informed. If the athlete or person charged does not speak Norwegian, an interpreter shall be provided.

(3) No person in the adjudication body may participate in the preparation of, or deciding the case if he or she is an interested party, has submitted a complaint or participated in the proceedings at a lower level, previously has publicly made known his or her opinion on the case, or if there are other reasons likely to undermine confidence in his or her impartiality.

(4) The decision shall be reasoned. An account shall be given of which matters are deemed to have been proven and which penal provisions have been applied.

(5) Notification of the decision, with reasons, shall be sent to the prosecuting authority and the person concerned, as well as to any anti-doping organisation with a right to appeal. He or she shall at the same time be informed of the deadline for appealing the decision and the relevant address for where to send the appeal.

(6) The adjudication committee shall be set with three members during the handling of every case, so that either the chairperson or deputy chairperson shall be present. If the adjudication committee has decided on a provisional suspension, the committee shall for the further handling of the case if possible be set with other members than the ones who decided the provisional suspension.

(7) The appeal committee shall be set with three members during the handling of every case, in a way that either the chairperson or deputy chairperson shall be present. If the appeal committee has decided on a provisional suspension, the committee shall for the further handling of the case if possible be set with other members than the ones who decided the provisional suspension.

§ 12-23 Decisions subject to appeal

The following decisions may be appealed:

- a) decisions made by the NIF's adjudication committee
- b) decisions made by Anti-Doping Norway under §§ 12-8 (10), 12-13, 12-16 and 12-21
- c) other decisions mentioned in WADC art. 13.2.

§ 12-24. Legitimate appellants

(1) Legitimate appellants are;

- a) athlete or person concerned,
- b) Anti-Doping Norway
- c) WADA,
- d) the relevant international federation,
- e) the national anti-doping organisation in the country where the athlete or other person concerned is domiciled or in the countries where the athlete or other person concerned is a national or licence holder,

f) The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), as applicable, when the decision may have implications for the Olympic or Paralympic Games.

(2) A decision imposing a provisional suspension may only be appealed by an athlete or person concerned.

§ 12-25. Appeal procedure

(1) Appeals on decisions made by Anti-Doping Norway under §§ 12-8 (10), 12-13, 12-16, and 12-21 are treated by the adjudication committee. Sub-section 2 to 11 shall apply as applicable for the adjudication committee's treatment of such appeals.

(2) Appeals on decisions made by the NIF's adjudication committee are determined as follows:

- a) decisions concerning international level athletes as defined by the international federations or decisions related to an international event, may be appealed directly to CAS without being treated by the NIF's appeals committee,
- b) WADA may appeal all decisions directly to CAS without treatment in NIF's appeal committee,
- c) other appeals are handled by the NIF's appeals committee.

(3) WADA, IOC, IPC or the relevant international federation may appeal decisions made by the NIF's appeals committee to CAS.

(4) The appeal to the NIF's appeal committee must be submitted in writing no later than 14 days after the party was informed of the decision. The appeal is to be submitted to the NIF's adjudication committee and sent by the adjudication committee together with the documents of the case to the NIF's appeals committee

(5) An appeal submitted after the deadline for appeal shall be dismissed unless the NIF's appeals committee finds that the failure to meet the deadline should not be blamed on the appellant, or it is nevertheless found reasonable to consider the appeal.

(6) If there is a significant delay when deciding on whether or not an athlete or person has committed a violation, WADA may submit the case to CAS.

(7) The appeal shall be dealt with as soon as possible. The provisions in § 12-22 apply correspondingly.

(8) The NIF's appeals committee may:

- a) dismiss the case on grounds of formal error,
- b) quash the decision of the subordinate body, send the case back for a new hearing and provide guidelines for this,
- c) uphold the appealed decision,
- d) pass a new judgment.

(9) The appealed decision shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the appellate body decides otherwise.

(10) The time to file an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one days from the date of receipt of the decision by the appealing party. The above notwithstanding, the following shall apply in connection with appeals filed by a party entitled to appeal but which was not a party to the proceedings that led to the decision being appealed:

- (a) Within fifteen days from notice of the decision, such party/ies shall have the right to request a copy of the case file from the body that issued the decision.
- (b) If such a request is made within the fifteen-day period, then the party making such request shall have twenty-one days from receipt of the file to file an appeal to CAS.

(11) The above notwithstanding, WADA's time of appeal expires at the latest time of either 21 days after the last day of the ordinary time of appeal or 21 days after WADA's receipt of the decision and the complete file relating to the decision.

§ 12–26. Publication. Confidentiality

(1) A doping case is not public until it has been decided to file charges. Anti-Doping Norway may decide that the decision to file charges is made public, after notice has been provided to the athlete or person and to the applicable anti-doping organization, cf WADC art. 14.3.

(2) Proceedings in the adjudicative bodies are public unless the adjudicative body decides otherwise, or they at the request of one of the parties find that proceedings shall be held behind closed doors.

(3) The reasoned decision is public. However, the adjudication body dealing with the case may, under special circumstances, decide that only the judgment shall be public.

(4) Anti-Doping Rule violations are published according to WADC art. 14.3 cf. 14.6.

§ 12–27. Appointment of defense lawyer and covering of expenses

(1) The parties shall as a main rule cover their own costs. If the person concerned is acquitted in whole or in part, the adjudication body may award costs. Similarly, the person concerned may under special circumstances be ordered to pay the costs of the case.

(2) The adjudication body may in special cases appoint and cover the costs for a defence lawyer and expert witnesses.

(3) Costs related to the appointed defence lawyer will be covered insofar as they are deemed reasonable and necessary. Lawyers' fees shall be calculated according to the same rules as those applying to court-appointed defence lawyers in municipal courts. The adjudication body approves the fees. The adjudication committee's stipulation of the fees may be separately appealed to the appeals committee by the parties or the NIF within 14 days after having been informed of the decision. When the NIF's appeals committee has determined the costs related to an appeal case, the NIF shall be given the opportunity to comment on the costs before the final decision is made.

(4) Necessary expenses for witnesses will only be covered if the witnesses have been summoned by the adjudication body. Expense for expert witnesses will only be refunded if the expert witnesses have been appointed by the adjudication body and the costs are deemed reasonable.

(5) When a party is present at oral proceedings at the request of the adjudication body, the adjudication body may decide to cover his or her travelling and subsistence expenses in accordance with the rates for public sector employees. Loss of earnings will not be compensated.

§ 12–28. Reopening of a case

(1) For the benefit of a person on whom a sanctions has been imposed, a case that has otherwise been finally decided by the NIF's adjudicative bodies, may be reopened if information becomes available that it is assumed would have led to a different result. To the prejudice of a person found not guilty, a case that has otherwise been finally decided may be reopened if, on the grounds of the person's own admission or other new information or evidence, it is highly probable that the person in question is guilty of a rule violation.

(2) A petition for the reopening of a case shall be sent to the body that last decided the case. If the petition for reopening is rejected, the rejection may be overruled, except for rejections dealt with by the NIF's appeals committee.

(3) If the petition for reopening is granted, the reopening body decides how the case is to be dealt with and may decide the case.

(4) The provisions in § 12-22 shall apply insofar as they are appropriate.

§ 12-29. Pardon

On application and where special circumstances are in favour of so doing, the executive board may grant a pardon for ineligibility related to the right to hold elected or appointed honorary posts.

CHAPTER 13: AGREEMENTS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN NIF'S ORGANISATIONAL UNITS AND COMMERCIAL PARTIES

§ 13-1 Objective

The objective of the provisions of this chapter is to regulate the conditions for cooperation between sports and business (commercial parties) and at the same time safeguard the sports movement's characteristics and ideal values.

13-2 The independent position of the Sports movement

(1) When entering into agreements and establishing cooperation with commercial parties, the NIF and its organisational units shall maintain their independent position, including its position as a self-owned and independent legal entity.

(2) Organization units shall retain a controlling authority over all matters relating to membership and the sporting activity.

§ 13-3. Requirements for agreements entered into by the sports movement and cooperation with commercial parties

(1) Agreements and cooperation between sports and commercial parties shall be in accordance with the rules of sports and the sports movement's ethical values.

(2) Advertising and marketing associated with sports shall not be contrary to NIF's objective or the sports movement's ethical values. The name of commercial parties or the name of products must not be used in the name of official Norwegian championships.

(3) Agreements and cooperation between the sports movement and commercial parties must be in writing. Only organisational units may be a party to such agreements / cooperation unless otherwise stated in the NIF's Law § 14-4 (2).

(4) A reference to the sports movement's rules shall be included in all contracts and cooperation, and it shall be stated that in case of conflict agreements shall be construed in accordance with the sports movements rules. Organisational units shall inform the contracting parties / partner aware of the sports movement's rules.

(5) National Sports Federations may give its own rules for entering into agreements and the establishment of cooperation between their affiliated organisational units and commercial parties. Such rules shall be in accordance with the NIF's rules and the rules of the relevant international federation.

(6) Rules given by National Sports Federations shall be submitted to the NIF for information purposes.

§ 13-4. Management of a sports club's activity

(1) A sports club can allow others to manage all or part of a clubs activities pursuant to this provision and the other provisions of Chapter 13

(2) At the conclusion of agreements and the establishment of cooperation in which a sports club let others manage all or part of a club's activities, the sports club shall:

- maintain its position as a self-owned and independent sports club,
- not directly or indirectly transfer the rights or decision-making authority over the club's sporting activities to the contracting party,
- keep all the income to the sports club that derives from the clubs' membership of NIF
- have the right to appoint at least one representative to the board of directors of the contracting party,
- ensure that the club is a party, including the employer or principal, in all agreements relating to the clubs sporting activities,
- ensure that the agreement / cooperation is time limited with balanced termination conditions, and
- at all times ensure that the agreement / cooperation is carried out in accordance with the provisions of National Sports Federations, cf. § 13-3.

(3) Agreements / cooperation as mentioned above shall be approved in advance of execution by the club's general meeting. The sports club must also obtain approval from the National Sports Federation before the agreement / partnership is established.

Chapter 14: The sports movement's rules regarding commercial marketing agreements and rights

§ 14-1 Objective

The objective of the rules in this chapter is to regulate the sports movement's internal distribution of rights regarding event related and market related issues, while observing the sports movement's structure and organisation as well as concern for solidarity within the sports movement.

§ 14-2. Rights to, and cooperation regarding sports events

(1) The organisational unit that organises a sports event has the ownership to this and associated activities, as far as it is not in conflict with the rights of a higher ranking organisational unit.

(2) National Sports Federations have ownership of their own events and to events that are a part of a competition / event system regulated by the National Sports Federation rules.

(3) The ownership of a sports event includes the right to set conditions for participation, the right to claim compensation from the public and the right to exploit the financial opportunities that the event gives rise to, including media rights.

(4) An organisational unit that cooperates with any other legal entity regarding a sports event, shall ensure that the event is subject to and conducted in accordance with the sports movements rules. The organisational unit shall ensure that it receives a fair share of the revenue the event generates. The cooperation shall be regulated in writing, and higher ranking organisational units shall have a right to access to all agreements and documents related to the event and the cooperation.

(5) NIF's Statutes § 13-4 does not apply to such cooperation as referred to in (4).

§ 14-3 Media Rights

(1) The media rights include the right to record, transmit or convey sound, image, text, and the like from a sports event via television, radio, internet or otherwise.

(2) National Sports Federations have the media rights relating to the events the National Sports Federation has ownership to, cf. § 14-2 (2). Agreements regarding media rights shall be entered into by the executive board of the National Sports Federation.

(3) The organisational units that participate in events owned by National Sports Federations that provide media revenue are entitled to a reasonable compensation for their participation. This evaluation shall, inter alia, consider the extent of involvement and consideration for solidarity between the National Sports Federation's members.

§ 14-4 Commercial marketing agreements

(1) The right to enter into commercial marketing agreements belongs to the organisational units. A commercial marketing agreement is any contract that gives an entity the right to exploit an organisational unit and / or its affiliated athletes in its marketing or other activities.

(2) An organisational unit may allow an athlete to enter into individual commercial marketing agreements within the limits set by the National Sports Federation. This applies to athletes who are members of a sports club and athletes who participate on national teams or has other official tasks. The relevant organisational unit shall approve such agreements and ensure that it receives a fair share of the revenue the athlete's individual commercial marketing agreements generate.

(3) An athlete can only establish employment related to their athletic activities with an organisational unit.

(4) Within the limitations set in NIF's rules and the National Sports Federations' rules, the athlete has ownership of his or her name, picture and signature.

§ 14-5. The athletes' cooperation and reservation rights

(1) An organisational unit may to a reasonable extent, demand that their associated athletes shall assist in the implementation of commercial marketing agreements between the organisational unit and commercial parties.

(2) When deciding what is reasonable under the preceding paragraph, the evaluation shall inter alia include emphasis on:

- Extent of participation, including regard for the athlete's personal integrity and privacy
- The remuneration or other benefits the athlete has had or receives through the organisational unit
- A consideration of solidarity for the National Sports Federations organisation of elite and recreational sports

(3) An athlete may reserve him or her self from being used in marketing if such cooperation would be contrary to the athlete's ethical or moral conviction.

(4) All agreements involving the payment of remuneration to athletes shall contain a provision that the sponsorship of an athlete who is covered by the agreement will lapse if the athlete is found guilty of a violation of anti-doping rules which are in conformity with the World Anti-Doping Code.

§ 14-6. Rules o competition ban

(1) NIF's executive board and the executive board of National Sports Federations, may refuse organisational units and members of organisational units affiliated to NIF the right to perform or assist in competing activities through participation, membership or collaboration with other legal entities. Such refusal must have due cause.

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This is an unofficial office translation. The Norwegian version is the prevailing text.