

EGLSF Bylaws (last changed at AGA 2024)

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ORGANIZATION

Article 1. Name & Location

- 1.1 These Bylaws are made pursuant to article 16 of the Statutes of the European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation (hereafter referred to as EGLSF).
- 1.2 According to the EGLSF documents, the term 'Europe' includes all clubs originating from countries whose national sports teams participate in European competitions.

Article 2. Language

- 2.1 The official language of board meetings and other meetings is English, but another language may be used if all members present agree to that other language.
- 2.2 The official language in writing may be different from English if the writer knows that the receiver has adequate knowledge of the language used.
- 2.3 Apart from the above, the official written language between board members and persons who represent the Association is always English.

Article 3 Objectives and Means

- 3.1 The means to achieve the objectives of the EGLSF are:
 - 3.1.1 To be a co-ordinator of any kind in accordance with the Statutes.
 - 3.1.2 To seek political support in accordance with the Statutes.
 - 3.1.3 To promote sport by licensing EuroGames.
 - 3.1.4 To co-ordinate and promote tournaments of any kind of sport.

Article 4. The EuroGames

- 4.1 The EuroGames is a multisport tournament in as many sports as possible, as mentioned in article 6.2.8 of the Statutes.
 - 4.1.1 The EuroGames is an athletic, competitive, inclusive participatory and non-discriminatory event. Participation is open in principle to anybody who abides by the mission statement of the EGLSF.
 - 4.1.2 Because of the importance of the EuroGames for the European sports movement for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, and non-binary persons, the EGLSF Board and the membership commit themselves, to the best of their abilities, to work assiduously to assure the continuity of the EuroGames.
- 4.2 Celebration of the EuroGames:
 - 4.2.1 In principle the EuroGames will be celebrated every year.
 - 4.2.2 The General Assembly, may decide not to hold the EuroGames in a particular year, on a case-by-case basis and with a minimum advance notice of four years.
- 4.3 Bidding procedure:
 - 4.3.1 Guidelines for the bidding for the EuroGames are set by the board.
 - 4.3.2 The EuroGames can have a non-limited or limited format. The requirements for a non-limited or limited format are laid down in the bidding guidelines.
 - 4.3.3 The General Assembly decides on the alternation between non-limited or limited formats upon proposal from the board for a period of 4 years.
- 4.4 The General Assembly selects by ballot, one of the proposed bids to organise the EuroGames proposed by a team, based on one or several EGLSF member clubs.
 - 4.4.1 The selection shall be made 3 years in advance of the year that the EuroGames will be organised.
 - 4.4.2 If there are no bids for a non-limited format EuroGames, the General Assembly can decide to open the bid for a limited format EuroGames.
 - 4.4.3 The selection for a limited EuroGames may be altered to 2 years in advance.
 - 4.4.4 The board shall be accountable to the General Assembly on the bidding procedure.
- 4.5. Contract:
 - 4.5.1 The board shall draft and sign a contract with the organisers of the EuroGames.

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- 4.5.2 The contract must contain a timeline towards the EuroGames with reference to points for countability to the board and the General Assembly on the progress of the EuroGames.
- 4.5.3 The contract will be signed at the latest, the day prior to next AGA after selection has been made.
- 4.5.4 The board shall be accountable to the General Assembly in relation to the contract.
- 4.5.5 The board shall report to the General Assembly on any amendment made to the contract.
- 4.6 The EGLSF, in cooperation with the EuroGames organisers, will grant Advocacy Awards to two individuals of differing genders whose action has been of particular importance to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, and non-binary Sports movement.

MEMBERS

Article 5. Rights and Obligations

- 5.1 In order to become a member, a membership form with all required information must be submitted to the board.
- 5.2 Members shall submit changes to their profile (status, membership numbers or contact details) to the Board via the membership form by December 1st at the latest
- 5.2.1 The membership fee for ordinary members (article 6) is defined by the number of affiliated members as at December 1st of the year prior to the Association year.
- 5.3 A delegate is a representative of a member organisation.
- 5.3.1 Members with voting rights (ordinary and associated members) may appoint a number of delegates that is not greater than the number of votes they are entitled to (article 8).
- 5.3.2 Members with voting rights may also appoint additional delegates without voting rights.
- 5.4 Additional delegates may be required to pay a participation fee in order to attend any General Assembly.
- 5.5 An honorary member can be a delegate of a member.

Obligations

Article 6. Membership fee

- 6.1 The membership fee is payable in EURO.
- 6.2.1 The number of affiliated members is the number of the member's officially registered members as at December 1st of the previous year.
- 6.2.2 In the case of federations and umbrella Associations, the number of officially registered members of their member clubs is considered as their number of affiliated members.
- 6.3 The membership fee for existing members is due before 1 February of the Association year.
- 6.3.1 In the case of newly approved membership applications during the Association year, the membership fee has to be paid within 30 days of the invoice date.
- 6.4 The amount of the membership fee is set each year by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Treasurer or the whole Board. This shall preferably be discussed during the approval of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
- 6.5 The membership fee for ordinary members is:
 - 6.5.1 1 - 24 members € 3 per member, with a minimum of € 35
 - 6.5.2 25 - 49 members € 75
 - 6.5.3 50 - 74 members € 100
 - 6.5.4 75 - 99 members € 130

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- 6.5.5 100 - 149 members € 160
- 6.5.6 150 - 199 members € 190
- 6.5.7 200 or more members € 1 per affiliated member with a maximum of € 650.
- 6.6 The membership fee for Associate members is for:
 - 6.6.1 natural persons € 35.
 - 6.6.2 European legal entities € 80.
 - 6.6.3 non-European legal entities € 80.
- 6.7 For Outreach, a policy for a reduction on the membership fee can be decided by the General Assembly
- 6.8 Exceptions to these provisions are permitted and shall take account of specific circumstances and on be decided on a case-by-case basis by the General Assembly.

Article 7. Voting rights

- 7.1 An Ordinary Member is entitled to a certain number of votes.
 - 7.1.1 The number of votes depends on the number of officially registered members (affiliated members) as at 1st December of the previous year.
 - 7.1.2 In the case of federations and umbrella Associations, the number of officially registered members of their member clubs shall be considered as their number of affiliated members.
- 7.2 The number of votes is given by the following table:
 - 7.2.1 1-24 affiliated members 1 vote
 - 7.2.2 25-99 affiliated members 2 votes
 - 7.2.3 100-299 affiliated members 3 votes
 - 7.2.4 300-649 and more affiliated members 4 votes
 - 7.2.5 650 and more affiliated members 5 votes.
- 7.3 The delegate(s) of a member can cast all the votes this member has.
- 7.4 Federation or Umbrella Associations
 - 7.4.1 Ordinary members that are federations or umbrella Associations and whose affiliated member clubs are represented at the General Assembly with their own delegates, must declare this to the board before the beginning of the General Assembly.
 - 7.4.2 The number of affiliated members represented by the affiliated club will be deducted from the number of affiliated members represented by the federation/umbrella Association.
- 7.5 An associated member who is a European legal entity has 1 vote.
- 7.6 An associated member who is a natural person or an honorary member may only vote if they are also a delegate of a member.
- 7.7 Representation of votes:
 - 7.7.1 A member, who is authorised by other members in writing, can cast their vote through its delegates up to five votes of the authorising member(s).
 - 7.7.2 The maximum number of votes a delegate can cast is five.
 - 7.7.3 The maximum number of votes (own votes and proxies combined) a member may cast is 10.
 - 7.7.4 A represented vote may not be transferred to another member during the General Assembly without approval of the vote owner.
- 7.8 Voting rights only apply if a member has paid its membership fee, or made an agreement with the treasurer to pay later, by the deadline in article 6.3 of the Bylaws.

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GENERAL MEETING

Article 8. General Assembly

- 8.1 The Annual General Assembly shall be held on the first weekend of March for preference.
- 8.2 Each General Assembly shall elect two Co-chairs of differing gender-identities, either at the beginning of the current assembly, or at the previous assembly.
- 8.3 In the event of it not being possible to elect co-chairs, the General Secretary will chair the assembly and another board member will assist.
- 8.4 Any member who intends to bid to host the following General Assembly shall:
 - 8.4.1 submit their bid to the board at the latest 31 days before the General Assembly;
 - 8.4.2 If there are no bids by the date that the AGA papers are published, the board can invite a member club to submit their bid before the General Assembly or members can come forward to the board at the latest before the start of the General Assembly;
 - 8.4.3 make a short presentation in accordance with the bidding manual.
- 8.5 The host of the following General Assembly will be elected by a majority of cast votes.
- 8.6 The minutes of the General Assembly shall contain at least the full text on resolutions taken by the membership with the full voting on these resolutions.
- 8.7 The draft minutes of the General Assembly shall be distributed to the membership within 3 months of the General Assembly taking place .
- 8.8 Aside from the quorum referred to in the Statutes required for the passing of resolutions amending the statutes themselves, the quorum shall be a quarter of the number of possible votes plus one.
- 8.9 If the General Assembly is not quorate, then all resolutions are deferred to an Extraordinary General Assembly, where the condition in paragraph 8.8 of this article is lifted.
- 8.10 A new General Assembly will be held no earlier than 3 months but no later than 6 months whereupon the proposal(s) concerned will be on the agenda again.
- 8.11 The board may enact other procedures to conduct meetings. These procedures may not conflict with the law, the Statutes or the Bylaws. Such procedures will be presented to the delegates prior to the meeting.
- 8.12 The General Assembly may be held in different way if a face to face meeting is not possible by reason of the application of any law, rule or ordinance of either the local or national government of the host, or a major part of the membership.
 - 8.12.1 The General Assembly will follow the procedures in such a meeting as set out in this article. If this is not possible or cannot be achieved, the General Assembly may be deferred until circumstances allow it to adhere to the regulations as set out in this article.

Article 9. Agenda

- 9.1 In addition to article 12 of the statutes, the agenda of the General Assembly may also include:
 - 9.1.1 The election of the host of the EuroGames.
 - 9.1.2 Reports on new membership- or membership applications which have been refused.
 - 9.1.3 The election of the host of next year's General Assembly, or another year in the future.
- 9.2 Motions brought forward to the membership by either the board, committees, or the members.
 - 9.2.1 All Motions, besides the changes of Bylaws and statutes, shall be presented at least one week before the General Assembly via e-mail to the members.
 - 9.2.2 The Legal Advisory Committee shall have the opportunity to include findings on all motions.

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- 9.2.3 Motions during the General Assembly may only be based on topics on the agenda of the General Assembly.

Article 10. Voting-procedure

- 10.1 Voting in elections for board members shall be in writing.
- 10.1.1 Voting in elections for positions other than board members shall be in writing only if either (a) at least one co-chair so decides or (b) a candidate for the particular position so requests.
- 10.2 Unless all delegates with voting-rights approve, voting by acclamation is not allowed.
- 10.3 Resolutions on business matters are taken on the basis of majority of votes.
- 10.4 Abstentions are to be counted as voting against the proposal.
- 10.5 A blank vote is not a valid vote.
- 10.6 When voting about persons, the person is elected who obtains a majority of votes. If a majority is not attained, a second ballot is held between the two candidates with the highest number of votes.

Article 11. Electronic voting.

- 11.1 The board is authorized to conduct an electronic vote according to the Statutes of the EGLSF.
- 11.2 The board shall send out the motion to all members to the official known e-mail address of the members, giving a description of the problem which the membership are asked to vote on.
- 11.2.1 Each member is responsible for keeping the board up to date with its correct email and contact details of the contract person of the EGLSF.
- 11.3 The voting rights are equal to the voting rights in the Statutes and the Bylaws.
- 11.4 The electronic voting is decided by ordinary majority of all votes cast.
- 11.5 The quorum for the electronic voting is a 25% of the number of votes plus 1.
- 11.6 Voting on persons is only possible if secrecy of the voting is guaranteed.
- 11.7 Procedure
- 11.7.1 The member have 21 calendar days to vote on the motion after the date the board has official opened the voting.
- 11.7.2 The voting will only open once the discussion about the topic is closed.
- 11.8 Changing Statutes or the Bylaws may not be conducted by electronic vote.

BOARD

Article 12. Election

- 12.1 The General Assembly determines the number of board members.
- 12.2 The composition of the board shall be a reflection of the membership of the Association as regards country of origin, residence, gender identity, sexual preference and sports background. Members are strongly urged to elect a diverse board.
- 12.3 The election of board members by the General Assembly shall be coordinated in such a way that each year, the continuity of board work is assured.
- 12.4 The members of the board are elected for a period of three years (article 14.3 Statutes)
- 12.4.1 Board members may be elected, at their own proposal and by decision at the General Assembly, for a different period of less than three years.
- 12.4.2 Board members are eligible for immediate re-election with a maximum of three terms, regardless of their function within the board.
- 12.4.3. If a board member changes position within its term an additional term can be added as long as the maximum duration of the membership of the board is not longer than 9 years.

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- 12.5 Conditions for candidate board membership:
- 12.5.1 Candidates shall demonstrate their suitability for appointment to the board, via a short résumé no more than 2 A4 pages in length.
- 12.5.2 Candidates shall have been members of an ordinary or associated member club for at least one year and preferably have participated in a previous General Assembly.
- 12.5.3 Candidates for the board shall announce their candidacy and submit their résumé no later than 14:00 on the day prior to elections
- 12.6 In the event that the entire board is no longer able or willing to perform its duties, these duties will be taken over by the Council of Appeal
- 12.6.1 The Council of Appeal must convene an Extraordinary General Assembly as soon as possible.
- 12.6.2 At this Extraordinary General Assembly a new board shall be elected.
- 12.6.3 The Council of Appeal will only deal with matters presently before the Board.

Article 13. Representation of the Board

- 13.1 The treasurer can represent the Association in financial matters up to an amount of EUR 5,000.
- 13.2 The board can authorise in name of the General Assembly another person than the treasurer to represent the Association in financial matters.
- 13.2.1. In such an event article 13.1 shall apply, in addition.

Article 14. Board reports

- 14.1 The board will communicate the conclusions from every board meetings to the membership via its normal means of disseminating information.

Article 15. Resolutions within the EGLSF Board

- 15.1 The board can make resolutions if at least half of its membership participate in the vote.
- 15.2 In making The board resolutions shall in principle be taken unanimously.
- 15.3 If unanimity cannot be reached, resolutions can be taken by a simple majority of the board.
- 15.4 In case of an equal draw the vote will be repeated with the Co-Presidents and the Treasurer each getting an additional vote.

REPRESENTATION

Article 16. EGLSF Representation within other undertakings and participation at events

- 16.1 The EGLSF may resolve to appoint a board member to represent it by participating in the activities (either as a member or in a governance role) of another undertaking by attending appropriate events. Such a resolution shall take into account the nature of the undertaking or event.
- 16.2 The board may designate a non-board member to undertake such a role, taking account of the circumstances, the nature of the body or event and the qualifications of the designated person.
- 16.3 The board shall report to the General Assembly in relation to the matters set out in this article.
- 16.4 The General Assembly may exercise identical rights to those granted to the board by this article.
- 16.4.1 This board member or designated individual shall make regular reports to the board about regarding the matters in respect of which they are representing it.
- 16.4.2 This individual shall report to the General Assembly about this representation on an annual basis.

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COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL ADVISORS

Art 17. Creation of a Committee

- 17.1 The General Assembly may resolve to create or dissolve a committee.
- 17.2 The motion calling for the creation of a committee requires the formulation of its mission and the nomination of at least three persons who agree to be part of the committee.
- 17.3 The members of a committee may elect a speaker of their committee.
- 17.4 has All committee's shall, as a minimum to present at least a yearly report of their activities to the General Assembly. This report shall be made available to the membership by the time they receive the invitation to the General Assembly.
- 17.5 The board shall appoint one of its members to liaise with each committee.
- 17.6 The committee will present a budget proposal to the General Assembly via the board.

Art 18. Individual advisors

- 18.1 The board may seek advice and help in relation to performing its functions and discharging its duties from individual persons, taking account of the circumstances, the nature of the body or event and the qualifications of the designated persons
- 18.2 The board will inform the membership as to the identity of persons that are asked to assist the board the board.
- 18.3 The board will inform the membership if there are any costs related to this advisor.

Art 19. Cash Control Committee

- 19.1 In addition to article 12.5 of the Statutes, the Cash Control Committee is eligible for immediate re-election with a maximum term limit of two terms.

Art 20. Legal Advisory Committee

- 20.1 The Legal Advisory Committee exists to supervise the lawful & proper application of rules and regulations of the organization
- 20.2 It is a condition of the Committee's constitution that it shall (collectively or individually as circumstances dictate) possess sufficient knowledge of Dutch law to enable it to properly advise the Board and membership
- 20.3 At least one individual member of Committee shall possess a degree of specialist knowledge as to the application of general legal procedural rules.
- 20.4 A member of Committee shall have an objective mind towards motions and issues.

Art 21. Council of Appeal

- 21.1 The General Assembly may establish a Council of Appeal according article 19 to the Statutes.
- 21.2 The Council of Appeal shall consist at least of 5 members
- 21.3 The composition of the Council of Appeal shall seek to reflect the membership of the Association as regards country, club, gender identity or sexual preference.
- 21.4 The members of the Council of Appeal shall possess a diverse range of competencies and must have knowledge of the workings of, and affiliate to, the Association.
- 21.5 The Council of Appeal may govern its own procedure and shall produce a document codifying such rules as it may devise.
- 21.6 The Council of Appeal shall present a report of their activities to the General Assembly no less than once a year. This report shall be made available to the membership no later than the time they receive their invitation to the General Assembly.
- 21.7 The General Assembly will set a budget and allocate funds for the Council of Appeal based on a proposal which shall be prepared by the board.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Article 22. Changing Bylaws

- 22.1 The board, the membership and elected committees can propose to change the Bylaws.
- 22.2 Such a proposal shall be presented in writing before January 1st of the Association year.
- 22.3 Any such proposal shall be presented to a Legal Advisory Committee, if available, in order to give them an opportunity to advise the board in relation to the proposal before the convocation of the General Assembly and will be sent to the membership thereafter. (article 12.2 Statutes)
- 22.4 Amendments on proposals to change the Bylaws are allowed only when the amendments are in line with the proposed changes.
- 22.5 Resolutions on changes to the Bylaws are made by a majority of cast votes, at the General Assembly.

DISSOLUTION

Article 23. Credit Balance

- 23.1 In case of dissolution, the General Assembly shall, in its absolute discretion, determine what should be done with any remaining funds after all liabilities have been discharged. In doing so, it will take due account of the vision and goals of the EGLSF and allocate the potential amount to organizations promoting sport, fighting discrimination and contributing to solidarity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and non-binary persons.