

EGLSF STATUTES

Content:

Article 1: Name and Location
Article 2: Language
Article 3: Duration
Article 4: Business year
Article 5: Definitions
Article 6: Objectives
Article 7-11: Members
Article 12-13: General Meeting
Article 14: Board
Article 15: Representation
Article 16: Bylaws
Article 17-18: Changing the articles
Article 19: Referendum
Article 20: Council of Appeal
Article 21: Other Business

Preamble

The European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF) is a European-wide organisation for the pursuit of:

- open and active participation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex Queer and those with non-binary identities in the sporting world;
- the protection of their sporting rights: rights of access, equal participation, equitable share in sport governance and representation;
- the fight against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC);
- the strengthening and empowering of the sporting communities in its widest sense and in its diversity including Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (LGBTIQ);
- the promotion and development of sporting opportunities and the wellbeing of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and non-binary communities.

NAME AND LOCATION

Article 1. Name and location

- 1.1 The association is called the European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF).
- 1.2 The headquarters is in The Hague (The Netherlands).

LANGUAGE

Article 2. Language

- 2.1. The official language of the association in correspondence, General Assemblies and meetings is, in principle, English.
- 2.2. The official statutes and bylaws of the EGLSF as an incorporated body in The Netherlands shall be a notarised copy of a certified translation of their English equivalents as adopted at the previous General Assembly or Extraordinary General Assembly.
- 2.3. The English translation of the statutes is the decisive version of the statutes for internal affairs of the EGLSF.

DURATION

Article 3. Duration

- 3.1. The association was founded in The Hague on the ninth of September nineteen hundred eighty-nine (09-09-1989) and established for an indefinite period.

BUSINESS YEAR

Article 4. Association year

- 4.1. The association year starts on the first (1st) of January and ends on the thirty-first (31st) of December.

DEFINITIONS

Article 5. Used Words

- 5.1. Association: European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF).
- 5.2. Board: The board of the association.
- 5.3. Delegate: A representative of a member of the association, who looks after the rights of the member and cast its votes.
- 5.4. General Assembly: The sum of all members' delegates and individual members. It is the highest decision making body of the association: this may be an Annual General Assembly (AGA) or an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA).
- 5.5. Committee. The General Assembly or the board can install committees. The rights and obligations of a committee will be described in the bylaws.

OBJECTIVE

Article 6. Objectives

- 6.1. The objectives of the association are:
 - 6.1.1. To fight for a respectable place for people who suffer structural discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics, in the field of sport, as a human right. - In particular, the groups of people include lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender, intersex, queer people and those with other non-binary identities;
 - 6.1.2. To oppose discrimination in sports;
 - 6.1.3. To promote inclusion and mutual understanding in sports among all sport organizations in Europe.

MEANS

- 6.2. The association tries to reach these objectives by the following means:
 - 6.2.1. Looking after the interests of its members;
 - 6.2.2. Exchanging information between its members;
 - 6.2.3. Encouraging the creation of new sports groups on a non-discriminatory basis;
 - 6.2.4. Promoting its objectives by means of publicity, consultancy and research;
 - 6.2.5. Monitoring the violation of human rights;
 - 6.2.6. Supporting the visibility of people who suffer structural discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics, in the field of sport, as a human right. In particular, the groups of people that include lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender, intersex, queer people and those with other non-binary identities;
 - 6.2.7. Supporting sports tournaments organised by its members;
 - 6.2.8. Supporting the realisation of a European multisport event (named EuroGames), which shall be organised yearly; the General Assembly may decide to not grant a licence for EuroGames in certain years;
 - 6.2.9. All other legal means that benefit its objectives.

MEMBERS

Article 7. Constituency

- 7.1. The association consists of
1. Ordinary members;
 2. Associate members;
 3. Honorary members.
- 7.1.1. Ordinary membership is open to: registered and non-registered clubs and groups with natural persons as affiliated members as well as federations and umbrella associations of only European registered and non-registered clubs, which are active in the field of sport and which accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the association.
- 7.1.2. Associate members are:
- natural persons of at least sixteen (16) years of age;
 - international (worldwide or European) single-sport federations and other legal entities; who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of the association.
- 7.1.3. Honorary members are natural persons who have rendered outstanding services to the Association because of their extraordinary contribution to fighting discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics in the sports community at large. In particular, the groups of people include lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender, intersex, queer people and those with other non-binary identities.

Article 8. Membership

- 8.1. One can become:
- 8.1.1. An ordinary member by submission of a written application to the board which has to be accepted by the board.
 - 8.1.2. An associate member by submission of a written application to the board which has to be accepted by the board.
 - 8.1.3. An honorary member upon nomination by a delegate or by the board by appointment of the General Assembly with a majority of two third of the cast votes
- 8.2. Rejection of a written application by the board.
- 8.2.1. In case of refusal of membership, the board report to the General Assembly, giving the reasons for denial of the applicant.
 - 8.2.2. The General Assembly may still grant membership to the applicant.

Article 9. Ending of membership

- 9.1. Membership of the association ends by:
- 9.1.1. Death, if the member is a natural person.
 - 9.1.2. Bankruptcy or dissolution of the legal body of the member.
 - 9.1.3. Written withdrawal of membership by a member to the board.
 - 9.1.4. Exclusion from membership by a written notice of the board.
- 9.2. Withdrawal by a member
- 9.2.1. A member can withdraw one month prior to the start of the association year.
- 9.3. Exclusion by the Association
- Exclusion from membership by the board occurs when the member acts contrary to Association's rules or decisions, or contrary to the statutes, or when the member harms the Association in an unreasonable way.
- 9.3.1. The board shall inform the member in due course of this decision in writing.
 - 9.3.2. The excluded member shall have the right to appeal this decision and address the council of appeal or the General Assembly (when there is no council of appeal).

Article 10. Obligations of Members

- 10.1. There is an obligation to pay an annual membership fee for:
 - 10.1.1. Ordinary members.
 - 10.1.2. Associated members.
- 10.2. There is no obligation to pay an annual membership fee for honorary members.
- 10.3. There is no principle right to recover the membership fee when the membership has ended.
- 10.4. The amount of the membership fee for all members is set in the bylaws.

Article 11. Rights of Members

- 11.1. All members are entitled to attend the General Assembly.
 - 11.1.1. All members are entitled to express their opinions at the General Assembly and other meetings.
- 11.2. Appointment of delegates
 - 11.2.1. Each member who is not a natural person has the right to appoint a delegate.
 - 11.2.2. The number of delegates that each ordinary member can appoint is at least one or otherwise the number specified in the bylaws of the association. The bylaws must contain an objective criterion for the number of delegates each ordinary member can appoint
 - 11.2.3. The number of delegates an associate member can appoint is one if the associate member is a legal entity.
 - 11.2.4. Associate members who are natural persons and honorary members can not appoint a delegate to appear at the General Assembly on their behalf.
- 11.3. Voting rights
 - 11.3.1. An ordinary member has at least one vote or the number of votes specified in the bylaws. The bylaws must contain an objective criterion for the number of votes each ordinary member has.
 - 11.3.2. An associate member has no vote if it is a natural person or a non- European institution and one vote if it is a European legal entity.
 - 11.3.3. An honorary member has no vote.
 - 11.3.4. Representation of members and casting of votes is possible as specified in the bylaws. The bylaws must contain objective criteria for representation of members and casting of voting rights.

GENERAL MEETING

Article 12. General Meeting

- 12.1. The Annual General Assembly must be held within 3 months after the end of the business year.
- 12.2. Convocation
 - 12.2.1. Notice about any General Assembly shall be given in writing by the Board to all members no later than one month prior to the scheduled date of the Assembly.
 - 12.2.2. This month notice period also applies to an Extraordinary General Assembly.
- 12.3. The agenda for an Annual General Assembly covers at least:
 - 12.3.1. The board's Annual report.
 - 12.3.2. The Financial Report presented by the Treasurer or by his/her designee.
 - 12.3.3. The budget for the forthcoming year.
 - 12.3.4. The appointment of a cash-controllers committee.
 - 12.3.5. The determining of the annual membership fee.
 - 12.3.6. Election of board members.
 - 12.3.7. Plans for the coming year.

- 12.4. Chair and minutes
- 12.4.1. At the beginning of any General Assembly, a meeting chair shall be elected by the General Assembly.
- 12.4.2. Also at the beginning of the General Assembly, the meetings Secretary shall be elected.
- 12.5. The cash-controllers committee
- 12.5.1. The cash-controllers committee is elected by the General Assembly. It consists of at least two people.
- 12.5.2. The cash-controllers committee reports its findings to the General Assembly
- 12.5.3. The cash-controllers committee has the right to inspect any financial documents of the association it requests.
- 12.6. The General Meeting can discharge the board after approval of the Annual Report and the board's accounts for its management activities and expenditures.
- 12.7. Quorum
- 12.7.1. A minimum number of votes must be present at a General Assembly (annual and extraordinary) in order to conclude valid decisions. The details for the quorum are specified in the bylaws.

Article 13. Extraordinary General Meeting

- 13.1. The Board can convene an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time. Notice for a Special General Assembly shall be given following the same guidelines as for an Annual General Assembly.
- 13.2. Furthermore, the board is obliged to convene an Extraordinary General Assembly if requested by at least 10 percent of the entitled to vote members in the association.
- 13.2.1. In this case the meeting must be held within three months after the board received the request. If the board does not comply with the request within - three months, the requestors are entitled to convene the General Meeting themselves, following the usual procedure of the board.

BOARD

Article 14. Board

- 14.1. The Association Board shall consist at least of four (4) officers:
 - Female Co-President
 - Male Co-President
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 and may include up to four (4) additional Board members called "Board Members at large".
- 14.1.1. The General Assembly determines the number of board members.
- 14.1.2. The co-presidents, General Secretary and treasurer are elected by function.
- 14.2. The delegates elect the members of the board.
- 14.3. The members of the board are elected for a period of three years.
- 14.3.1. The members of the board are eligible for immediate re-election for a maximum number of times as specified in the bylaws.
- 14.4. The board is responsible for the management of the association.
- 14.4.1. Two board members will represent the association in legal and other matters.
- 14.4.2. The treasurer can represent the association in all financial matters up to the sum specified in the bylaws.

- 14.5. Rights and obligations of the board.
- 14.5.1. The board is entitled to decide to enter into agreements to obtain, dispose of or encumber immovables.
- 14.5.2. The board is not entitled to enter into agreements in which the association commits itself to guarantee for or to share other parties debts, in which the association supports third parties, or in which the association vouches for the debt of a third party.

REPRESENTATION

Article 15. Representation

- 15.1. The General Assembly or the board may grant persons the right to represent the association.

BY-LAWS

Article 16. By-laws

- 16.1. The General Assembly determines the Bylaws of the association, which may not include regulations that contradict the Law or these Statutes.
- 16.2. The Bylaws regulate everything these Statutes enforce to be regulated in the Bylaws, and everything of which regulation in or with the Bylaws is desired.
- 16.3. Proposals about changes to the Bylaws are announced one month in advance of the General Assembly together with the invitation to this meeting.
- 16.4. Decisions regarding changes of or amendments to the Bylaws are made by a majority of cast votes in a General Assembly.
- 16.5. After the invitation is mailed proposals to change or amend the bylaws are only allowed according to the rules set in the bylaws.

CHANGING THE ARTICLES AND THE DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 17. Changing of the articles

- 17.1. The decision to change the Statutes or to dissolve the association can only be taken by the General Assembly if there is a quorum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the total numbers of votes of the association and with a majority of at least two thirds of the cast votes.
- 17.2. If the quorum mentioned in paragraph 1 is not present, a new General Assembly can be convened to be held within six months after the first General Assembly. For this meeting no quorum is necessary. The decisions must be reached by a majority of two thirds of cast votes.
- 17.3. Proposals to change the statutes are announced one month in advance of the General Assembly together with the invitation to this meeting.
- 17.4. After the invitation is mailed proposals to change or amend the statutes are only allowed according to the rules set in the bylaws.

Article 18. Surplus

- 18.1. A possible financial surplus of the dissolved association is spent according to the decisions of the General Assembly, taking into account the objective of the association as much as possible.

ELECTRONIC VOTING

Article 19. Electronic voting

- 19.1. The board may ask for an electronic voting by the members in case there is a topic that requires an immediate decision and cannot wait for a General Assembly. The rules for the electronic voting will be set out in the bylaws.

COUNCIL OF APPEAL

Article 20. Council of Appeal

- 20.1. The General Assembly may set up a Council of Appeal.
- 20.2. Against the decisions of the board the members can appeal at the Council of Appeal.
- 20.3. The Council of Appeal will inform the General Assembly of their decisions.
- 20.4. The criteria for the Council of Appeal will be set in the bylaws.

OTHER BUSINESS

Article 21. Other business

- 21.1. In all situations that are not covered by the Statutes, the Bylaws and the Law the board is entitled to decide.
- 21.2. Members are entitled to appeal against the decisions, mentioned in paragraph 1, at the council of appeal or the General Assembly (when there is no council of appeal).