



# Statutes

In effect from 1st March 2016

The Executive Committee

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# Chapter 1 – Name, constitution and headquarters

## 1 The POSA

### 1.1 Name and constitution

The Pole Sports and Arts World Federation (POSA) consist of those national federations quiche are affiliated / associated and recognised by it as the federation which control Pole Sports in their respective countries. Onlyone federation is recognised in each country.

### 1.2 Headquarters

The headquarters of the POSA and the management of its finances are in Switzerland. It is an Association established and organised in accordance with the Swiss civil code. A majority of three-quarters of the members present at General Assembly is necessary to make any changes.

Registered office: Avenue Adrien-Jeandin, 14 CH-1226 Thônex

Operational headquarters: via P. Bernasconi 3- 6883 Novazzano (CH)

# Chapter 2 - Objects

## 2 Article –Objects of the POSA

### 2.1 Objects

The objects of the POSA are as follows

- To govern Pole sports and Pole arts internationally,
- to co-ordinate efforts for safe and healthy physical and moral development in the Pole sports and arts and the practice of all sports activities relating to it
- to organise the official events of the POSA and supervise the national competitions
- to assist in the constitution and formation of federation in countries where Pole sports and arts are not been developed
- to further the ideals of Olympics and the recognition of the Pole sports and arts by the Olympic committee
- to work on the international recognition of poles sports and arts by the international non-Olympic committees and associations
- to fight against any form of doping, violence and sports injustice
- To establish and to enforce standards of security, practises and the ethical code of Poles sports and arts establish by the executive committee.
- Organize and standardize the training and control the quality
- To organize and overview the continuing professional education

### 2.2 Human rights and discrimination

The POSA does not permit any political, religious or racial discrimination or any violation of human rights amongst its members. In relations amongst themselves, and within their own activities, federations and their members must conform to the requirements of fair-play, non-discrimination and the Ethic Code worked out by the Executive Committee.

## Chapter 3 – POSA organisation

### 3 Article – Governance authorities of POSA

#### 3.1 Governance authorities

The governance and management of POSA belongs to the following

##### *The Executive Committee (EC):*

The President

The 2 Vice-President

The General Secretary

The Head of Technical committee of pole sport

The head of technical committee of pole art

The Treasurer

The Head of Ethic

The Head of marketing and Events committee

The four Presidents of the Continental Unions

The President of the Athletes' Commission

##### *The Director Committee (DC):*

The Executive Committee

The Representative Assembly

##### *The commissions*

The technical pole sports committee

The technical pole arts committee

The ethical and disciplinary committee

The athlete's representative

## Chapter 4 – POSA Functions

### 4 Article - Functions and duties

#### 4.1 The President

##### 4.1.1 Highest single authority

The President is elected by the Representative Assembly and represents the highest single authority of the POSA.

##### 4.1.2 Status and duties

The President presides over meetings of the Representative Assembly, the Executive Committee and the Director Committee. He represents the POSA on all formal occasions and takes precedence over all other members. He takes all measures necessary to ensure the good conduct and progress of the affairs of the POSA and protect the image of the POSA subject to the subsequent approval of his actions by the Executive Committee, the Representative Assembly and the Director Committee.

Apart from the cases expressly foreseen in the Statutes, the President appoints the commissions, the special groups or any other person useful to the management of the POSA.

#### 4.1.3 President represent legally the POSA

The President represents the POSA legally in all circumstances. Whenever possible, he obtains the advice of the Executive Committee and he may engage the assistance of professionals.

## 4.2 The Vice-Presidents

### 4.2.1 Statues and duties

The Vice-Presidents assist the President and can be charged with special duties.

Their order of precedence is according to the number of votes received in their elections. The Vice-Presidents act for the President, in the event of his serious illness or in a case of urgency, in order of their precedence.

## 4.3 The General Secretary

### 4.3.1 Status and duties

He / She is elected by the Representative Assembly. He is required to prepare and to be present during meetings of the Representative Assembly, the Executive Committee to report, to advise and to be consulted whenever necessary.

The Executive Committee appoints the Secretary General and is responsible for prescribing the terms, conditions and requirements of the appointment.

## 4.4 Treasurer

### 4.4.1 Status and duties

Treasurer is responsible for the preparation and presentation at appropriate times, of the financial reports, the budgets and the quadrennial financial plan. The financial year and the accounting system operate from the January 1st, to the December 31st. Once approved, he is responsible for implementing the plans and monitoring the budgets. The Treasurer is responsible for the financial administration of accounts in accordance with the financial rules approved by the Executive Committee and by the Assembly.

## 4.5 Head of Ethical committee

Head of Ethics Committee, is appointed by the General Assembly. He / she has the task of appointing the Ethics Committee and to create a Code of Ethics.

The Code of Ethics is a behavioural guide for all members about the law in general and the internal rules in particular. It can be considered the "constitution" of POSA, document that defines the ethical responsibility - to each participant in the social life and activities of the Federation. The Code of Ethics is neither a statute nor a regulation but rather a guide to prevent irresponsible or illegal behavior on the part of those who work in the name and on behalf of POSA.

## 4.6 Head of technical Pole sport committee

Head of Technical Pole Sport Committee, is appointed, at the direct request of the President, by the General Assembly.

He / She has the task of organizing the Technical Committee, to draw up and update the Code of Points, to control the training of Judges.

He / she must cooperate with the Head of Technical Pole Art Committee, to constantly update the Code of Points and the Pole Arts Rules and to consult each other, about the regulations can be inserted.

#### 4.7 Head of technical Pole Arts committee

Head of Technical Pole Art Committee, is appointed, at the direct request of the President, by the General Assembly.

He / She has the task of organizing the Pole Art Technical Committee, to draw up and update the Pole Arts Rules.

He / she must cooperate with the Head of Technical Pole Sport Committee, to constantly update the Code of Points and the Pole Arts Rules and to consult each other, about the regulations can be inserted.

#### 4.8 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has the responsibility, under the general direction and authority of the Council, for the administration and financial management.

##### 4.8.1 COMPOSITION

The Executive Committee is composed of the following 14 members:

The President

The 2 Vice-Presidents

The General Secretary

The Head of Technical committee of pole sport

The Head of technical committee of pole art

The Treasurer

The Head of Ethic

The Head of marketing and Events committee

The four Presidents of the Continental Unions

The President of the Athletes' Commission

##### 4.8.2 Quorum

The Executive Committee cannot make valid decisions unless the majority of the members are present. Decisions are made by a simple majority of the members present. The President has a deciding vote in the case of a tie.

##### 4.8.3 Functions

The Executive Committee has the following responsibilities:

- to appoint, upon proposal of the President, the General Secretary;
- to supervise and control the work of the Secretariat
- to ratify the proposals of the commissions and the urgent decisions of the Presidential Commission
- to receive regular reports on the financial position of the POSA
- to propose to the Council competition fees to be paid by the federations organising events
- to report matters to the Council
- to endorse and approve negotiations and contracts on behalf of FIG
- to make recommendations to the Council about World Championships (Pole Sport and Pole Arts);
- to assign and make arrangements for other events
- to adopt the Code of Points
- to develop and approve Rules and Guidelines



- to make recommendations to the Congress for honorary awards of the POSA
- to prepare the agenda and to arrange for the Congress
- to prepare the agenda and arrange for Council meetings
- to make necessary decisions in cases where there are no existing rules and to report this at the next meeting of the Council
- to ensure that the decisions of the Congress and any Extraordinary Congress are implemented
- to take any necessary action to deal with matters of an urgent nature

#### 4.9 Ethical committee

The Ethics Committee is appointed by the Head of the Ethics Committee. It must consist of a minimum of 3, maximum of 5 persons.

The Ethics Committee is an independent body made up of sports persons, which has the responsibility of ensuring the protection of the rights, safety and wellbeing of the athletes and to provide public assurance of ethics of sports events organized under the aegis of POSA.

The Ethics Committee also has the responsibility to observe the behaviour of the Judges, the athletes, the organization of competitions, etc. The Ethics Committee has the power to intervene if it considers that the behaviour of the staff presented at a competition (Judges, organizers, coaches, etc.), is not appropriate to their authorities.

#### 4.10 Technical Pole Sports committee & Technical Pole Arts Committee

Two elected Technical Committees are responsible to administer and manage the two disciplines of POSA. (Pole Arts & Pole Sport).

The Technical Committees, carry out the following functions:

- to deal with all technical questions concerning the administration, management and development of their respective disciplines
- to draft, after consultation with the Executive Committee, the General Rules & Regulations, and all Regulations, relative to their respective activities, which must be presented to the EC and approved by the Council.
- to develop their respective Codes of Points and Rules which then have to be adopted by the Executive Committee.
- to make decisions about the formation, appointment, suspension and removal of judges during the competitions. The competences of the POSA disciplinary authorities with regard to suspension and removal of judges remain however reserved.
- to control the activities of judges in accordance with the Technical Regulations, the Code of Points and Judges Guidelines.
- to ensure, under the control of the Executive Committee, that the Technical Regulations and the proper technical organisation are observed at the Poles competitions of the Worlds Championships as well as of the Continentals Championships, at the nationals POSA competitions, and at any other POSA events. This responsibility extends to pre-event preparation.
- to make decisions on any technical matters of urgency subject to reporting this for approval to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### 4.11 The athletes' commission

The athletes' Commission (named to be similar with the nomenclature of the IOC) consists of two members. Each is a representative of a different competitive discipline and elected from among their fellow athletes. They are appointed by the General Assembly, their position will remain in office for

four years, at the expiration of the four years, the election of new representatives, will have to be made directly from the athletes. The election procedure is identical to that of the election of the POSA President. Each federation will have one vote.

Eligibility criteria:

- minimum age 18 in the year of the election:
- previous participation at official POSA competitions (Pole Sport World Championships, World Pole Art Championship or Continental Championship);
- retirement from official POSA competitions may be a maximum of two years before the year of the election and re-election once only;
- Athletes are eligible only if they have never been sanctioned by POSA and / or their Federation:
- A candidate may not be presented by a Federation if there is already an elected member from the same Federation in the Technical Committee concerned.

The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Commission shall be elected among and by the two members during the first meeting of the “intermediary” year.

The Commission, which meets once a year, represents the athletes’ opinions on matters considered, or being considered, by the Council.

#### 4.12 The complaints committee (Appeal Tribunal)

The Complaints Committee, which is elected by GA, consists of five members.

The Secretary General, with the approval of the POSA President, shall appoint a panel of three members of the Complaints Committee to adjudicate each single case referred to the Appeal Tribunal (“the Panel”).

The panel forms itself and appoints one member to be the President

The Appeal Tribunal:

- hears and decides the appeals lodged by any federation, athlete, judge or another person directly affected by the decision of sanction taken against it/him by the presidential Commission, the Congress or the Council;
- hears and decides the appeals lodged related to sanctions taken within the framework of a competition, this only in so far as the POSA Regulations expressly envisage such a possibility of appeal or that, in the absence of internal appeal possibility within the POSA, a direct appeal way to the CAS be open.

The Panel shall proceed in accordance with the POSA Rules. The Panel shall also proceed in accordance with Swiss law and the international recognised principles and laws. The Panel is allowed to rule in equity.

##### 4.12.1 The court of arbitration for sport

Any decision made by the complaints committee may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports-related Arbitration. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one days after the receipt of the decision of the complaints committee.

#### 4.13 The Representative Assembly (RA)

##### 4.13.1 Nature

This is the general meeting of the delegates of the member federations. It is the highest regulating and supreme, authority of the POSA.

#### 4.13.2 Composition

The RA is composed of the presidents of the national federation affiliated, or the authorised delegates.

#### 4.13.3 Quorum

Except where the RA is dealing with the proposed dissolution of the POSA, a valid resolution cannot be passed unless the representatives of 40% of the federation with voting rights are present.

#### 4.13.4 Functions

The functions of the Representative Assembly are:

- To approve the annual reports
  - President
  - Technical managers
  - General Secretary
  - Ethical manager
  - Commissions
- To approve the committees reports
- To dealing with the following financial matters :
  - The approval of the financial plan
  - The ratification of the elected Auditors' report and the professional Auditors' report for the preceding year
- Consideration of admissions and expulsions of federations
- Carrying out the following elections:
  - The members of Executive Committee
  - The members of Commissions
- The appointment of the professional Auditors
- The allocations of the next General Assembly
- Consideration of the propositions submitted by the affiliated federations, the Executive Committee and the Commissions
- Approval and review of the Code of Ethics
- The granting of Honorary Awards

#### 4.13.5 Dates and venues

The General Assembly (GA) is held every 4years. As a general rule, the date and venue are decided at the preceding GA. Federations interested in organising the GA are required to make official submissions before the assembly.

#### 4.13.6 Executive committee acts in emergency

If circumstances make it impossible for the Representative Assembly to be held at the date or at the place formerly decided upon, the Executive Committee is authorized to take such decisions as are necessary for the choice of an alternative venue and/or date.

#### 4.13.7 Notice of Assembly

The General Secretary is responsible for summoning the Representative Assembly, stating the place, date and time of the meeting, to the federations. The summons will be sent by electronic, fax or post dependent upon the facilities available to each federation. This will take place at least eight months prior to the commencement of the General Assembly.

#### 4.13.8 Appointment of delegates and notification to the General Secretary

Each federation is entitled to participate with one representative, the president of the federation. If it is not possible, the President must elect a delegate for the General Assembly and inform the General Secretary.

Only those delegates duly accredited, have the right to enter the room during the Assembly. Delegates must belong to the federations they represent (except an eventual interpreter).

At least one month prior to the Assembly, the federations must send to the General Secretary the name of their representative who is authorised to vote on their behalf.

#### 4.13.9 Sessions are private

Meetings of the General Assembly are held in “closed session” and, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, they are open only to the Authorities of the POSA, delegates, honorary member’s interpreters and essential personnel.

#### 4.13.10 Organisers follow instructions of EC

The organisers of a General Assembly must comply with the instructions of the Executive Committee.

#### 4.13.11 Documents to be sent

The following documents must be sent to the federations, Executive Committee, Director Committee and Commissions:

- Report of President
- Reports of Executive Committee members
- Reports of Director Committee members
- Reports of commissions
- Report of Auditors
- The financial statement
- The agenda of the Assembly
- The propositions of the POSA Authorities and National Federations
- Any other relevant documentation

### 4.14 Agenda

#### 4.14.1 Compilation of Agenda

The agenda must be prepared by the Director Committee. It must be approved by an absolute majority of the delegate presents.

#### 4.14.2 Item on Agenda

The agenda of General Assembly must include the following items:

1. Formal opening
2. Confirmation of delegation
3. Formation of voting office
4. Approval of agenda
5. Approval of Minutes of previous GA
6. Presentation of Reports
7. Financial Matters
8. Admissions, Resignations, Suspensions and Expulsions of federations
9. Elections
10. Appointment of Financial Auditors
11. Propositions of the POSA Authorities and national federations
12. Honorary Awards
13. Allocation of next GA
14. Allocations of next Competitions
15. Miscellaneous information

#### 4.14.3 Presiding

The president presides over the meeting of the GA. In his absence one of the Vice-President, appointed by the Executive Committee, shall preside. In the event of this provision not being operable, one of the members of the Executive Committee, elected by that Committee, shall preside.

The president may authorise one of the Vice Presidents to preside at any particular time of any meeting.

## Chapter 4 – Elections / Votes to the Representative Assembly

### 4.15 Elections / numbers of mandates

All the members of the EC, DC and Commissions are elected by the GA.

#### 4.15.1 Election of President

The election of President takes place first. If the President in office is a candidate, he will vacate the chair during the election and it will be assumed by one of the Vice -Presidents, who is not a candidate for the Presidency and who is appointed by the Executive Committee.

1. If one of the candidates received an absolute majority during the first round, he is named President.
2. If there isn't any absolute majority, in case of 3 candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is deleted and the one, who has the highest number of votes in the second ballot, will be elected President.
3. If there is more than 3 candidates and no one received an absolute majority, the names of candidates placed 4<sup>th</sup> and below shall be deleted and the procedure is next the same as the previous point.

#### 4.15.2 Election of two Vice-Presidents

The President resumes the chair and presides over the election.

Where the number of candidates exceeds the number of positions, the following procedures shall apply:

1. Where there are 5 candidates, and the count of votes on the first ballot has not produced 2 candidates with absolute majorities (and, therefore, would have been elected) the name of the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes - together with those of any candidates receiving absolute majorities (in this case elected) - shall be deleted and a further vote shall be taken from which the vacant offices shall be filled by those candidates receiving the highest number of votes. i.e. at the simple majority.
2. Where there are more than 5 nominations, and the count of votes has not produced 2 candidates with absolute majorities, the names of the candidates ranked below 5<sup>th</sup> place - together with the names of any candidates receiving absolute majorities (in this case elected) - shall be deleted and a further vote shall be taken. "After the first round, the election procedure mentioned under 1) shall apply" (Simple majority at the 2<sup>nd</sup> round)
3. The order of precedence of the Vice-Presidents shall be determined by the order in which they are elected and the number of votes they receive (e.g. the first one elected shall assume the office of First Vice-President and where two or three are elected on the same ballot, those with the highest number of votes take precedence.)

In case of a tie, see Tie-breaking rule under Annex 2 "Voting rules".

#### 4.15.3 Election of Members of Executive Committee

The election of the members of the Executive Committee who will serve on the Council (together with the President, the Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary, the four Continentals Presidents) shall take place following the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents and the number of the nominations shall be reduced by candidates elected to those offices.

The election shall take the following form:

The members of the Executive Committee are elected at the absolute majority in round 1 and at the simple majority in round 2. In case of a tie, see Tie breaking-rule under Annex 2 "Voting Rules".

#### 4.15.4 Election of Head of Technical Committees

The elections of the two Head of the Technical Committees are held following the election of the Executive Committee Members.

In case of a tie, see Tie breaking-rule under Annex 2 "Voting Rules".

#### 4.15.5 Election of Head of Ethical

Head of Ethics Committee, is appointed by the General Assembly. He / she has the task of appointing the Ethics Committee and to create a Code of Ethics.

#### 4.15.6 ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

A further 15 members of the Council are elected by Continent on the basis of a continental quota. The number of persons elected per continent shall be based upon the ratio determined by the number of affiliated federations in each continent and the total number of federations affiliated to the POSA at the time nominations were called. Irrespective of this provision, each continent shall be entitled to have at least one elected member on the Council. The 15 members of the Council are elected in round 1 by simple majority.

#### 4.15.7 REMAINDER OF COUNCIL

The remaining members of the Council are the Presidents of the Continental Unions and the President of the Athletes' Commission.

#### 4.15.8 ELECTIONS OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The elections of the members of each Technical Committee are held following the election of the Members of the Council. This election is held according to the same procedure as that mentioned under Reg. 4.15.1

The candidates elected with the highest number of votes, and the second highest number of votes, are appointed First and Second Vice-President respectively. In the event of a tie, seniority of POSA service shall be the determining factor. Each Committee elects its Secretary from among its members.

#### 4.15.9 Candidatures

Candidates must be nominated by their own Federation (of which they are citizen) at least 6 months before the GA.

The same Federation cannot present more than one (1) candidature for the functions of Technical Committee President. Any person who has been sanctioned during the four year- period, cycle cannot be a candidate for a function. At the end of the following cycle, this restriction is no longer applied, except when the sanction is in place for a longer period.

#### 4.15.10 Notification of candidatures

Information about candidates for office shall be published or otherwise communicated to federations together with the propositions

#### 4.15.11 Candidates for President and Vice-President

Each candidate for the POSA Presidency must present, with his/her candidature a quadrennial plan of the activities he/she intends to realise during the 4 subsequent years. In order to preserve continuity and to ensure experienced leadership, candidates for the office of President must have been members of the Executive Committee for at least four years, candidates for the office of Vice-President must have been members of the Council or of the Executive Committee for at least four years. In exceptional circumstances, the Congress may, by a vote of the absolute majority of the delegates present, decide upon an alternative procedure.

#### 4.15.12 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES REPRESENTATION, RESTRICTION

Except in the case of the Head of the Committees, the Presidents of the Continental Unions and the President of the Athletes' Commission, the Council or any Committee may not include more than one elected member from a federation. In addition, a member may not exercise two functions at the same time at the same event except in a particular case approved by the Council or the Executive Committee.

Elected POSA Council or POSA Committee members must not accept any position or function which can be in contradiction with his / her function as an elected member or presents conflicts of interests with the POSA. Members of the POSA Disciplinary Commission and the POSA Appeal Tribunal (Complaints Committee) may not be designated by the Executive Committee to deal with judging cases of competitions where he/she was an active judge or participant.

#### 4.15.13 Engagements and information from federations / absence

An undertaking by the nominating federation must accompany each nomination, stating that if the candidate is elected, the federation will be responsible for the full costs of travel and lodging involved in attendance at meetings (including the expenses of any interpreters) should by the POSA unable to offer any direct assistance in this regard nor find any other means of assistance.

An assurance must also be given that the nominee, if elected, will be provided with administrative support if required and every facility to enable him to attend meetings. Federations have to distribute curriculum vitae to promote their candidates.

A member who has been duly notified of a meeting has to apologize for being absent citing reasons.

A member who has been duly notified three times in a row or four times and fails to attend, can be replaced for the remainder of the cycle if the case is submitted to the EC.

#### 4.15.14 PROPOSITIONS

##### 4.15.15 Submission and notification of propositions and candidatures

All propositions, together with applications for the organisation of POSA Congresses, must be sent to the Secretary General by electronic document (confirmed by letter), fax or mail, 5 months before the commencement of the Congress. Propositions may only be submitted by the affiliated federations, the Council and the Executive Committee.

The date of the postage stamp at the local post office of the POSA Secretariat shall serve to prove adherence to the required deadline where propositions are sent by mail.

Propositions must be published in the POSA Bulletin, or communicated to federations.

##### 4.15.16 CLASSIFICATION OF PROPOSITIONS

The Executive Committee and/or the Agenda Committee may, in agreement with the federations concerned, formulate into a single proposition those proposals relating to the same subject and having the same objective. The delegates will be advised about any modifications.

#### 4.15.17 PROPOSITIONS MUST BE PUT TO VOTE

All propositions contained in the agenda must be put to the vote except that any proposition, from a federation which is not present, will be withdrawn unless the Council or the Executive Committee shall adopt it as its own and, subject to acceptance by a simple majority of the delegates present, submits it for consideration.

#### 4.16 Voting

The following rules for voting at the GA. These rules also apply at meeting (where it is possible) of the EC, the DC and commissions

##### 4.16.1 Right to vote

Only the accredited representatives of affiliated federations may vote at the GA. Members of POSA Authorities may represent their federations only in exceptional cases and with the agreement of the EC.

During the elections at the GA, each affiliated federations has one (1) vote.

The President may exercise a deciding vote in the event of tie. Should the President refrain from voting in case of a tie, the proposition in question is not adopted.

##### 4.16.2 Elections by secret ballot and validity of votes

All elections are by secret ballot. An absolute majority (1/2 of the votes plus at least 1) applies to round one, for the election of the President and the three Vice-presidents, members of the Executive Committee, the election of the Technical Presidents (Head of the Committees) and the members of the Technical Committees. Simple majority applies to second round (on the first round).

The 15 members of the Council and the members of the Appeal Tribunal (Complaints Committee), are elected by simple majority. Any voting ballot containing more votes than the required number shall be declared invalid. Blank ballots, or any containing a signature or other identifying mark, shall be declared invalid.

The elections can be done by electronic vote.

##### 4.16.3 Voting by show of hands

Voting shall, except in the case of elections (secret ballot), be conducted with an electronic device, by the show of hands using the official voting cards, unless any delegate requests an electronic vote. Whenever it is self-evident during a vote by the show of hands that a majority exists, the President may announce the result immediately. However, the delegates of three federations may demand verification and vote count.

##### 4.16.3.1 Majorities required for specific purposes

Dissolution of the POSA	4/5 of affiliated federations
Transfer of the POSA from Switzerland	¾ majority
Admission of new federations or re-admissions	2/3 majority
Expulsion	2/3 majority
Modification in subscriptions and fees	2/3 majority
Revision of Statues	2/3 majority
Elections	
In first round	absolute majority



In the second round	simple majority
Additional items in the agenda	2/3 majority

#### 4.16.4 Voting office

The Voting Office at a Congress will be composed of four to eight delegates elected by the Congress plus a member of the Executive Committee who will act as the Chair.

### 4.17 Extraordinary Representative Assembly

Convening of Extraordinary Representative Assembly

By virtue of a decision of the EC, or upon a request of at least ¼ of the federations

## Chapter 5 - Membership

### 5 Definition of membership

Affiliated federations are entitled to vote at the Representative Assembly, submit proposals, make nominations for office in the POSA, to participate in the official events.

#### 5.1 Authority for admittance

The Executive Committee shall be admitted as members only by the Representative Assembly and require a 2/3 majority vote.

#### 5.2 Provisional acceptance

The Executive committee may grant provisional affiliated membership that shall be presented to the RA for ratification.

#### 5.3 Method of application

Each National Pole Organisation wishing to affiliate or associate with POSA, must apply in writing to the Secretary General. It must undertake, in writing, to respect POSA Rules.

##### 5.3.1 Requirements of applications

In response to a request for admittance, made to the Secretary General, the Federation will receive from the Secretariat the necessary official application form and questionnaire. These documents, duly completed, must be returned to the Secretary General together with the following:

- a) two copies of the Statutes of the applicant Federation, one of which must be in French or English, together with an undertaking to keep the POSA informed of any changes which might be made subsequent to affiliation to the POSA.
- b) a detailed report on the structure of the organisation and its activities in the field of Pole Sport
- c) a Certificate, signed by the National Olympic Committee, authorising the application to be submitted (only if the National Federation is already recognized by the National Olympic Committee)

##### 5.3.2 Granting of applications

If satisfied that all the requirements for membership of POSA have been met, the Council may grant provisional membership to the applicant federation and report it to the next Executive Committee Meeting.

#### 5.4 Suspension

Any Federation defaulting with the payment of its fees and financial obligations shall be automatically suspended within 30 days after the 1st reminder sent by the Secretary General. In case of a suspension, Art. 5.4.1 hereunder shall immediately enter into force.

Should the payment be received at the Office after the aforementioned 30-day period, the suspension shall be lifted (as per Art. 5.4.2) except for the right to vote and the right to submit proposals and/or bids for the next Congress. The Federation concerned shall be reinstated in its rights after the Congress provided that it meets all the requirements about its financial obligations, fees, etc. An affiliated federation, failing to pay its annual fee, may apply to change its status of an „ affiliated “ federation to an „ associated “ federation.

#### 5.4.1 Consequences of suspension

The consequences of suspension are:

- no voting right at the Congress,
- no right to make proposals or nominations for office
- no participation in, or right to organise any official events of the POSA and events of the continental or regional groups
- no participation in events or activities with other affiliated member federations

#### 5.4.2 Reinstatement

In the case of suspension for reasons of financial default, the federation may reinstate its position by payment of any amount/s outstanding, plus a fine of 10 %. It will be required to provide reasons for the delay in payment. As soon as the Federation concerned has settled the financial situation, the Secretary General is entitled to cancel the suspension. The EC will be informed (see reserve under Art 5.4).

### 5.5 Expulsion

The expulsion of a federation, for any of the reasons set out in Article 5.5.1 may be determined by the Congress upon a proposal from the Council or from any affiliated federation.

A federation excluded from POSA, is not entitled to participate in any activity within the POSA or within the Continental Unions.

#### 5.5.1 Reasons for expulsion

- a) serious breach of the Statutes or Regulations of POSA
- b) serious prejudicial action against the POSA or any other affiliated member federation
- c) complete disinterest in the activities of the POSA
- d) rude or insolent words, gestures and/or acts towards the authorities of the POSA or towards any other affiliated member federation
- e) failure to fulfil its financial obligations (other than non-payment of its annual fee) to the POSA or to any other member federation
- f) failure to fulfil its contractual obligations to the POSA (e.g. in the organisation of events)
- g) involvement in illegal activity
- h) failure to comply with anti-doping policies and measures
- i) unjustifiable failure to honour its agreements with other federations (e.g. failure to fulfil competition arrangements)

#### 5.5.2 Re-admission

Re-admission can only be effected in accordance with the provisions of Articles 5.4 and 5.4.2

## 5.6 Financial provision

If a federation has been expelled for financial reasons, it must comply with the provisions of Article 5.4.2 before re-admission can be considered. Two years after the exclusion for financial reasons, the debt shall be written off.

From thereon, the excluded Federation might be re-admitted as an “Associated Member” only. This Federation might recover the status of “Affiliated Member” after a 2-year probation period only. Should the Federation concerned settle its debt, it might be re-admitted as “Affiliated Member”.

# Chapter 6 – Financials

## 6 Article – Financial provisions

### 6.1 Financial year

The financial year and the accounting system operate from the January 1st, to the December 31st.

### 6.2 Budget preparations

The Treasurer is responsible for the preparation and presentation at appropriate times, of the financial reports, the budgets and the quadrennial financial plan. Once approved, he is responsible for implementing the plans and monitoring the budgets.

In the absence of the Treasurer, the General Secretary will be responsible for preparing and presenting the financial report and any other financial duties.

### 6.3 Administration of accounts and audit

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial administration of accounts in accordance with the financial rules approved by the Executive Committee and by the Council.

The accounts which have been approved by the Executive Committee.

### 6.4 Official positions are voluntary

All elected positions within the POSA are unpaid and so are determined as voluntary.

### 6.5 Reimbursement of expenses

The members of the Council, and the various Committees are entitled to reimbursement of costs of travel and accommodation incurred in carrying out designated functions (outside the official meetings) in the interests of the POSA, these need authorisations by the President or his designate.

### 6.6 Annual fees - Payments

Federation are obliged to pay annual fees. Subject to changes in the economic situation, the fees – which are payable in Swiss Franc or Euros – are established for 4 years by the Executive Committee.

Invoices for the membership shall be sent January the 10<sup>th</sup> in each year and must be pay before March the 31<sup>th</sup> in that year. Fees are due in their entirety for federations admitted before June 30<sup>th</sup> in any year and for those which have resigned. If admission has occurred after June 30<sup>th</sup>, one-half of the annual fees is payable for the remaining half of that year.

### 6.7 Selling gadgets/merchandising

POSA can set up merchandising and gadget in order to sell them only to finance advertising, refund of mission costs, remaining in its no profit status.

# Chapter 7- Relation between federations, organisations and POSA

## 7 Article – Principles of relations

### 7.1 Exclusive control

Each member federation is recognised by all other members, as being exclusive authority over Pole Sports and Arts in their respective country

### 7.2 Relationships between affiliated federations

The POSA assists to foster and maintain friendly relations between federations within the article about human rights. A Federation shall not intervene or interfere in the affairs of another Federation.

### 7.3 Autonomy of Federations

Federations retain their entire autonomy and independence of action within the limits imposed by the Statutes.

### 7.4 Relation with non-affiliated or associated federations or organisations

The POSA developed friendly and open minded relationship with all other organisations that work to promote the Pole Sports and Arts or Competitive Sports.

### 7.5 Relation with international organisations

The POSA work to acting in the International organisations fostering Non-Olympic Sports and working on the Olympic recognition. The Federation work on satisfy the conditions to reached on their recognition and became a member.

# Chapter 8 - Official events of the POSA

## 8 Article – Competitions

### 8.1 OFFICIAL EVENTS LIST

The official POSA events are follows:

- a) The Pole Sport World Championship
- b) Pole Art World Championship- Grand Final
- c) Multi-Continental Events (e.g. the Four Continents Championships)
- g) Any other events of a competitive, instructional or display nature organised by the Executive Committee on behalf of the POSA.

### 8.2 Pole Sports World Championship and World Pole Art Championship

#### 8.2.1 Place of competition

The place of these competition is determined during the Representative Assembly for the next year.

#### 8.2.2 Organization

The Federation which organize events and competitions under the POSA governance must follow the rules and process established by the POSA. The organisation of events is entrusted, at an appropriate time, to federations which fully guarantee that the Statutes and Regulations of POSA will be observed together with the terms of the contract which they are obliged to enter into with the POSA. The preparation and conduct of the competitive programme is under the control of the POSA.

### 8.2.3 Responsibilities

The organisation is entrusted to the national federation greeting the competition. It guarantee that the Statutes and Regulations of the POSA will be observed. The preparation and conduct of the competitive programme is under the control of the POSA.

### 8.2.4 EXPENSES TO ORGANISERS

The expenses relating to the official events of POSA, are charged to the federations in accordance with the technical and financial requirements regulating the events and with the terms of the contract with the POSA.

### 8.2.5 EXPENSES OF DELEGATIONS

The expenses of participation of a federation's delegation (transport, hotel and meal costs) are attributed to the said federation.

## Chapter 9 - Honorary awards and distinctions

### 9 Article - Other Events

The POSA aiming to carry out promotion of Pole Sports and Arts or to enhance the income and/or prestige of the federation, may organize events of an international character. When necessary, regulations for these will be drawn up by the Rules and Regulations Committee and the Technical Committee concerned for approval by the Executive Committee.

#### 9.1 Founder members

The three founder members accede automatically the mention of "Honorary member of POSA"

Davide Lacanigna

Silvia Bignoni

Cesare Bianchi

#### 9.2 Honorary President

Felix Cane in the founding of the POSA

#### 9.3 Rules concerning Awards

The Director Committee will set out Rules for granting awards. These will be distributed to the federations.

#### 9.4 List of Awards

The Representative Assembly, acting upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and/or Director Committee, may make any of the following awards to any person who has rendered outstanding meritorious service to the POSA:

- a. Honorary President
- b. Honorary Vice-President
- c. Honorary member
- d. POSA Order

The POSA may also confer awards of distinction upon any person who, in any circumstances, has rendered particularly outstanding service to the cause of the Pole Sports and Arts internationally. These awards shall be granted by the Director Committee.

# Chapter 10 Miscellaneous clauses and disciplinary actions

## 10 Article - Official languages

### 10.1 Official language of the Representative Assembly

At the RA the official language is English. Delegates may speak in their mother tongue and have recourse to an interpreter. The cost of any translations must be borne by the federations requiring the translation.

### 10.2 Official language of the documents

English is the official language for all the documents of the POSA.

## 11 Article – Documentation and copyright

### 11.1 Copyright

Any reproduction or distribution of documents, instructional material or other material belonging to the POSA is prohibited without the authority of the POSA. Any contravention can be penalised requiring fines to be paid.

### 11.2 Official documents

All official documents and official information are valid only if they are distributed by the General Secretary. Federations are obliged to respect this and are responsible for its enforcement within their own federations.

### 11.3 Uses of the logos and name of the POSA

Members can use the logo and name of the POSA on their documents to announce their affiliation. If they want to use it on other kind of documentation, they must inform the General Secretary for approval.

### 11.4 Signatures on official Documents

Contracts, agreements and all other documents requiring the stamp of authority of the POSA must be signed by the President, the Vice-presidents and the Secretary General.

## 12 Article – Disciplinary actions

### 12.1 Disciplinary measures which can be imposed amongst others on a federation or an individual

The measures are decided by the Complaint Committee on accordance to the Disciplinary Code and relayed it to the Executive Committee.

- a. A warning
- b. A blame
- c. A suspension of the federation at the person concerned for one or more official events and other international events
- d. An exclusion of any participation in the POSA events and activities for one given or unspecified duration
- e. A demotion of functions
- f. A financial fine
- g. A cancellation of certification, diplomas of awarded
- h. A cancellation of results of competition
- i. The obligation to restore the financial benefits and prizes received
- j. The disciplinary measures resulting from the anti-doping regulations

k. Or any sanction which could be proposed by the Complaint Committee

## 12.2 Appeal to the Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS)

Complaints to the CAS can be addressed only when the internal POSA appeal procedures were exhausted.

An appeal to the CAS does not have a suspension effect, except if this Authority order it. The provisions of the sports' code or arbitration of the CAS apply to this authority

# Chapter 13 Clauses to statutes

## 13.1 Supremacy of statutes

The Statutes of the POSA are the final and paramount authority and nothing contained in any document shall operate as to circumvent or lessen the force and purport of these Articles. Similarly, nothing in the Codes of Points adopted by the Executive Committee shall operate so as to supersede or challenge the authority of the Statutes or the Technical Regulations.

## 13.2 Unforeseen circumstances not mention by the statutes

Cases not foreseen in the present Statutes are resolved by the Executive Committee and/or the Director Committee subject by ratification by the next Representative Assembly.

## 12.3 Dissolution

After liquidation of all the obligations, the remaining POSA asset will be remitted to a tax-free institution in Switzerland for public utility. The remitted asset will obligatorily have to be assigned to a goal similar as the one of the POSA, in particular, to support the practice pole sports and arts as sport.

## 13.4 Entry in force of decisions taken by the RA

The decisions taken at the time of a Representative Assembly come into effect the ... unless the RA decides otherwise.

All the POSA members are expected to comply with the rules established by the POSA and the present statutes.

Signed by the three Founder members, the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2016 at Lugano, Switzerland

Davide Lacagnina



President

Silvia Bignoni



Vice-President

Cesare Bianchi



Head of Ethics