

# **ECSC**

## **European Council for Sport Climbing**

### **ECSC STATUTES**

#### **I. BASIS**

##### **Article 1**

The ECSC is responsible for the administration, development and furtherance of sport climbing in Europe. The ECSC operates in concert with and as the approved continental body of the International Federation for Sport Climbing (IFSC) (Art. 31 IFSC Statutes).

#### **II. HEADQUARTERS**

##### **Article 2**

The location of the headquarters and offices of the ECSC will be decided by the ECSC Executive Board.

#### **III. PURPOSE AND TASKS**

##### **Article 3**

The ECSC is a non-governmental international sports association with a non-profit-making purpose. The ECSC is organized to direct, regulate, promote, develop, and further the cause of sport climbing in Europe and to represent the interests of European climbing within the international community. Its mission is to foster links, networks, and friendly relations both among its members, their climbers and their officials, and between those entities and individuals and their international counterparts.

##### **Article 4**

All activities of the ECSC are independent of any political or governmental influence. The ECSC does not allow any discrimination for political, racial or religious reasons. The ECSC promotes and supports with all means gender equality in its activities. The responsibilities of the ECSC are:

- a. to establish and maintain rules and standards for continental competition climbing in Europe and for participation in such competition;
- b. to organise Continental Climbing Championships, as well as other events which are approved by the ECSC Executive Board, and to decide which climbing competitions are officially recognized;
- c. to work together with the IFSC on matters of international competition climbing, education and the participation in international events by ECSC member climbers, judges and route setters;
- d. to serve as a conduit of information from the IFSC to their member federations in Europe and ECSC member organizations and vice versa;
- e. to authorize and oversee continental competitions in Europe;
- f. to promote good sporting practices and to combat doping and all other unhealthy processes concerning the sport of climbing specifically;
- g. to generally promote the sport as a healthy and educational activity;
- h. to endorse and implement anti-doping rules under the World Anti-Doping Code;
- i. to promote the spirit of the Olympic Movement, respect the Olympic Charter, and to support program status in the Olympic Games;

#### **IV. MEMBERS**

##### **Article 5**

Membership in the ECSC is open to all member associations in good standing with the IFSC and located in Europe.

##### **Obligation of Members**

##### **Article 6**

All members of the ECSC have to comply with the ECSC Statutes as approved by the ECSC Plenary Assembly and Regulations set by the ECSC Executive Board.

All members should be member of their respective National Olympic Committees or else actively seeking such membership.

##### **Article 7**

All members agree to respect the mutual autonomy and rights of other member organizations.

##### **Article 8**

All members agree to pay such membership fees as may be fixed by the ECSC Plenary Assembly.

## **Article 9**

A member organization may be suspended from membership, and thus participation in ECSC approved competition and events for any of the following reasons:

Non-payment of ECSC fees for 12 months;  
Failure to abide by ECSC regulations or statutes;

A member organization may be expelled from membership for the following reasons:

Non-payment of ECSC fees for 24 months;  
Failure to abide by ECSC regulations and statutes;

Cessation of activity as an active organizer of competition climbing within their member nation.

## **V. BODIES**

The ECSC functions through the Plenary Assembly, and the Executive Board, each with separately defined powers and duties.

### **Plenary Assembly**

## **Article 10**

The Plenary Assembly is the highest body of the ECSC and has ultimate authority for all activities of the ECSC. All the member countries of ECSC shall be represented in the Plenary Assembly of ECSC. The Plenary Assembly convenes every year. The organisation of the Plenary Assembly will be entrusted alternately to one of its members. The date and venue for the assembly will be agreed at the Plenary Assembly meeting two years prior. The calling notice must be sent to all members at least 2 months prior to the date set for the Assembly.

## **Powers of the Plenary Assembly**

### **Article 11**

The Plenary Assembly has the following duties and powers:

- a. to elect the Executive Board;
- b. to fix admission, membership and other fees;
- c. to approve plans for activities;
- d. to adopt and amend these Statutes, such decisions needing a quorum and majority as described in Art. 18;
- e. to adopt and amend all regulations; the Plenary Assembly can, however, authorize other bodies to independently establish technical rules where this seems appropriate;
- f. to decide the suspension or expulsion of members which do not comply with the obligations as stated in these Statutes;
- g. to approve the Minutes of meetings of Plenary Assembly;
- h. to receive, discuss and approve the report of the Executive Board;
- i. to elect the auditors;
- j. to review and approve the annual accounts after having heard the report of the auditors and to give discharge to the Treasurer and to the other members of the Executive Board;
- k. to approve the budget;
- l. to approve the ECSC logo, and other items of image and identity, upon the recommendation of the Executive Board;
- m. to decide all matters which no other body is competent to decide or which other bodies refer to the Plenary Assembly for final decision.

## **Voting Rights**

### **Article 12**

Each Member of the ECSC, which has the voting right in IFSC, has one vote.

### **Article 13**

At any Plenary Assembly, each Member shall be represented by one delegate who may be assisted by up to two advisors. A Member which has not paid its dues in full prior to the Plenary Assembly is not entitled to vote. Any member may be represented by the delegate of another Member being duly entitled to vote by means of a written proxy. One delegate may not represent more than two other Members at the same time.

## **Quorum**

### **Article 14**

Changes and amendments of these Statutes may only be considered if at least half of the Members of ECSC are present or represented. To be adopted, such items must receive the approval of two thirds of the votes cast.

For all other decisions of the Plenary Assembly there is no quorum. Decisions are taken with the majority of votes cast.

## **Taking of Decisions**

### **Article 15**

Voting at the Plenary Assembly is conducted by show of hands. Elections will always be decided by secret written ballot.

## **Agenda and the Right to Introduce Proposals**

### **Article 16**

Items for inclusion in the Agenda of any Plenary Assembly may be presented by:

- a. the Executive Board;
- b. any Member.

Items presented by ECSC Members are to be sent to the ECSC Executive Board at least six weeks before the Plenary Assembly. Aspirant Members are entitled to speak, but not to present motions to the Plenary Assembly, in accordance to the relevant regulations.

### **Article 17**

The full Agenda of a Plenary Assembly shall be sent to all Members of ECSC at least 4 weeks before the Plenary Assembly. Upon affirmative vote of no less than two thirds of the Members being present and having voting rights, the Plenary Assembly itself may add items to the Agenda of any meeting. The full Agenda of a Plenary Assembly shall be sent to the members of the Executive Board of IFSC.

## **Extraordinary Plenary Assembly**

### **Article 18**

The Executive Board may at any time call an extraordinary Plenary Assembly. At the written request of the majority of the Members entitled to vote, the Executive Board shall convene an extraordinary Plenary Assembly within 3 months of receipt of such request. The request must be substantiated and accompanied by a proposal for the Agenda.

## **Executive Board**

### **Article 19**

The Executive Board of ECSC consists of the following officers:

- President
- Vice-President - Sport
- Vice President - Finance
- Vice President – Communication, Media
- General Secretary (eventually combined with VP Finance)
- Athletes' representative

as well as of 5 Regional representatives (North, East, South, South-East, Central; see Appendix); all officers from Member associations entitled to vote who have organized one or more IFSC/ECSC approved competitions in the two calendar years prior to the date of election. Members of Executive Board must come from different countries (except Athletes).

### **Article 20**

Candidates standing for election to any post in the Executive Board shall be presented by the Member association of the country where he/she holds citizenship. The members of the Executive Board are elected by the Plenary Assembly for a term of four years. Executive Board members are re-eligible at will.

### **Article 21**

The Executive Board is responsible for implementing all the policy directives and decisions made by the Plenary Assembly. This includes in particular:

- a. to prepare the agenda of the Plenary Assembly meetings;
- b. to prepare the annual accounts (consisting of the profit and loss statement and the balance sheet);
- c. to prepare the ECSC budget;
- d. to make recommendations to the Plenary Assembly about:

- the long-term strategies of the ECSC;
  - regulations and rules to be decided by the Plenary Assembly;
  - the candidates to be appointed as members of Disciplinary and Appeals Commissions;
  - the admission, suspension and expulsion of Member associations
- e. to set up the calendar of ECSC approved competitions and to coordinate schedules after IFSC has approved the international calendar;
  - f. to decide the terms and conditions of contracts between the ECSC and organisers of ECSC approved competitions;
  - g. to recommend any proposed changes to the ECSC Statutes;
  - h. to appoint the ECSC representative in IFSC Board
  - i. to appoint and remove persons (employees) entrusted with the management of ECSC's day-to-day operations;
  - j. to make recommendations on the terms and conditions of contracts to be concluded with third parties outside ECSC;
  - k. to decide on membership issues between Plenary Assembly meetings;
  - l. to decide the official means of information of the ECSC.

## **Article 22**

The Executive Board will meet at least twice every year, upon the President's call. The organisation of its meetings shall be entrusted alternately to one of the member associations being represented in the Executive Board. The Executive Board will meet also upon the request of the majority of its members.

## **Article 23**

The Agenda for the Executive Board meetings is prepared by the Executive Board. However, any member of the Executive Board is entitled to present proposals for the agenda. Such proposals must be submitted, with relevant documentation, at least one month before the date set for any Executive Board meeting. The full agenda shall be sent by the Executive Board to the Executive Board members at least two weeks prior to the meeting date.

## **Article 24**

Every member of the Executive Board has one vote. All decisions of the Executive Board are taken by majority of the members present, and no voting rights may be exercised by proxy. The quorum of the Executive Board consists of a majority of its members.

## Office

### Article 25

The Office is responsible for carrying out all those routine duties and specific tasks that have to be fulfilled between meetings of the Executive Board. The president and the Vice-Presidents with specific tasks are taking care of the following issues/duties by the office:

- a. to undertake administrative duties and tasks;
- b. to control ECSC finances;
- c. to initiate and undertake negotiations with third parties;
- d. to appoint advisory commissions as necessary;
- e. to develop and approve programs;
- f. to appoint an ECSC delegate for ECSC events as necessary;
- g. to supervise ECSC approved competitions;
- h. to decide the composition of the jury president and of the chief routesetter at ECSC approved competitions;
- i. to make recommendations to the IFSC regarding rules, standards and other issues of concern;
- j. to adopt and maintain regulations and to establish technical rules as appropriate;
- k. to establish and maintain a schedule of competition events and training for officials in Europe.

All statements and contracts which bind the ECSC must be signed by the President and one other member of the Executive Board. In case of absence, the President may be replaced by another member of the Executive Board. The Executive Board is responsible for the functioning of the administrative office of the ECSC.

All employees are hired by the Executive Board and employed in accordance with the annual budget.

### Article 26

Decisions are taken by a simple majority, the President having the casting vote in the event of a tie. The Executive Board may take decisions by correspondence and/or by any other means of communication. To be valid, decisions taken in this way have to be approved by a minimum of three officers.

## VI. COMMISSIONS

### Article 27

The Executive Board may authorize and appoint any other technical or advisory commissions it deems necessary to carry out the duties of the ECSC.

Any of the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Board may be transferred to those commissions at the sole discretion of the Executive Board, which shall remain responsible for their decisions and actions. In particular, the Executive Board must authorize an Anti-doping, Disciplinary Commissions, an Athletes' Commission, and an Appeals Commission. The mandate of any appointed commission shall be reviewed and reauthorized annually by the ECSC Executive Board. Members in commissions should come from different federations and not exceed the number of 6 per commission.

## **VII. FINANCES**

### **Article 28**

The ECSC is responsible for financing its own activities. It is free to obtain income for that financing from membership fees or any other source it may deem appropriate.

### **Article 29**

The activities of all bodies of the ECSC are conducted without compensation to the individuals who serve thereon. The expenses of the Executive Board shall be borne by the ECSC according to guidelines established by the Executive Board and approved by the Plenary Assembly.

The Executive Board of the ECSC is empowered to authorize, within the parameters of an approved budget, reimbursement of expenses to individuals acting on its behalf. It is further empowered to pay fees and expenses to individuals or organizations providing professional advice or service to the organisation.

### **Article 30**

The fiscal year of the ECSC will run from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December. The currency for annual accounting purposes is the Euro.

## **VIII. CORPORATE IDENTITY**

### **Article 31**

The ECSC may choose to organize and adopt whatever legal structure or corporate form as is approved by the ECSC Plenary Assembly.

### **Article 32**

The official language of the ECSC is English.

## **XI. DISPUTES**

### **Article 33**

Disputes arising under these ECSC Statutes or otherwise, will be dealt with under the procedure and rules set out in a regulation made by the Plenary Assembly.

The final determination of a dispute can be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS Lausanne).

The procedure before the Court of Arbitration for Sport will be final and there will be no further appeal from it.