

# **World Tenniquoits Federation STATUTES**

## **Abbreviations**

WTF World Tenniquoits Federation  
TF Tenniquoits Federation(s)  
GM General Meeting(s)  
EC Executive Committee  
TC Technical Committee  
ITR International Tenniquoits Rules

## **Preliminary**

The term “National Tenniquoits Federation”, used within these statutes, identifies a national organisation for Tenniquoits in a specific country. A National Tenniquoits Federation may be an independent sport organisation or a division of a superior organisation.

The term “Regional Tenniquoits Federation”, used within these statutes, identifies a regional organisation for Tenniquoits in a specific cross national area. A Regional Tenniquoits Federation may be an independent sport organisation or a division of a superior organisation.

The term “Tenniquoits Federation” (TF) is used in these statutes as a generic term for the terms “National Tenniquoits Federation” and “Regional Tenniquoits Federation”.

The secretariat of the World Tenniquoits Federation (WTF) shall mean the address of the Secretary General, which is to be published to the relevant persons of all affiliated members.

Time limits, used in this statutes, like:”.....month before...”, shall mean the period immediately ending before that date.

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## **Part I Fundamental provisions of the WTF**

### **Art. 1 Name and location**

1.1 The name of the international association for Tenniquoits worldwide is “World Tenniquoits Federation” (WTF).

1.2 The WTF is a legally recognized union with location in Germany.

### **Art. 2 Foundation, authority and purpose**

2.1 The WTF incorporated on 18 th April 2004 in Vanderbijlpark (South Africa) through the founding National Tenniquoits Federations of South Africa, India and Germany is the highest worldwide authority in the sports of Tenniquoits for international relationships and competitions.

2.2. The WTF is obliged to the development of Tenniquoits worldwide. The purpose of the WTF is to promote and control the sport Tenniquoits and the organisation of international competitions between the affiliated Tenniquoits Federations (TF).

2.3. The members of the WTF are the founding National Tenniquoits Federations of South Africa, India, Germany and future joining TF of other countries or regions. The members of the WTF are accepted as the sole representatives of Tenniquoits in their respective country or region.

### **Art. 3 Rights and obligations**

All affiliated TF have equal rights and must respect the statutes of the WTF. All members accept the rules and regulations and the decisions of the organs of the WTF as binding for international matters.

### **Art. 4 Language**

The official language of the WTF is English.

## **Part II Objectives of the WTF**

### **Art. 5 Contents of the objectives of the WTF**

5.1 The encouragement of Tenniquoits all over the world with the aim to support the formation of new TF for this sport in countries, where Tenniquoits is not known until now.

5.2 The regulation and control of Tenniquoits worldwide concerning international relationships and competitions between affiliated TF.

5.3 The organisation and supervising of international Tenniquoits events and championships.

5.4 The development of the technical progress of the sport Tenniquoits.

5.5 The representation of Tenniquoits towards public authorities and media organisations.

5.6 The promotion of friendly relationships between the affiliated members, their official representatives, their coaches and managers, their referees and players.

5.7 The coordination of international Tenniquoits events between affiliated members.

5.8 The development, the advancement and issuing of the “International Tenniquoits Rules” (ITR) as a standard for international Tenniquoits events and championships.

5.9 The improvement, specification and admission of Tenniquoits equipment, especially Tenniquoits rings, for official international competitions of the WTF.

5.10 The regulation of international refereeing.

5.11 The regulation of transfers of players between affiliated TF.

## **Part III Membership of the WTF**

### **Art. 6 Membership of Tenniquoits Federations**

6.1 The founding National Tenniquoits Federations of South Africa, India and Germany are automatically affiliated to the WTF.

6.2 Any other TF is eligible for membership if the requirements of Article 7 are fulfilled. A TF which wants to join the WTF, has to apply for membership in a written application, signed by the official representatives.

6.3 Applications for memberships of the WTF must be received by the secreteriat of the WTF less than thirty days before the next General Meeting is held.

6.4 The applicant is accepted by decision of the General Meeting (GM): The majority of the votes cast are necessary to become a member of the WTF. In exceptional cases the decision to accept an applicant is possible in a voting in written form.

6.5 Regional Tenniquoits Federations are allowed to become a member of the WTF if they fulfill the requirements, mentioned in the articles of part III of the statutes. Regional Tenniquoits Federations only have the possibility to become a member of the WTF, if none of their affiliated countries has an own National Tenniquoits Federation.

6.6 If, in a country with a Regional Tenniquoits Federation, which is a member of the WTF, a National Tenniquoits Federation is founded, and it then applies for membership to the WTF, the membership of the Regional Tenniquoits Federation will cease after acception of the national membership.

### **Art. 7 Requirements for affiliation of Tenniquoits Federations**

7.1 The written application must be accompanied by the constitution of the applicant in English language, a list of names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers, email addresses of their official representatives and office bearers.

7.2 The applicant must evidence that it is the official and only body for Tenniquoits in the respective country or region, because only one TF per country or region is allowed to join the WTF as a member. An accepted evidence for this could be an affirmation from a superior sport organisation.

7.3 The application further must be accompanied by a commitment to comply with the rules and regulations of the WTF statutes, the decisions of the organs of the WTF and the acceptance of the official Tenniquoits Rules for international competitions.

7.4 The agreement to pay an annual sum of money, fixed by the General Meeting.

#### **Art. 8 Contributions**

8.1 The affiliated TF are obligated to pay an annual sum of money, which is fixed by the GM and payable within the first three month of every year of membership, in the year of joining and as the case may be, in the year of resigning.

8.2 The contribution is payable in US Dollars to the published account of the WTF.

#### **Art. 9 Rights of affiliated Tenniquoits Federations**

The rights of the affiliated TF are defined in the articles concerning the organs of the WTF.

#### **Art. 10 Membership of other organisations**

An organisation or body of private or public nature is eligible to become a member of the WTF if this organisation has a positive impact for the sport Tenniquoits and fulfills the articles 6.3, 6.4, 7.1, 7.4 and 8. This affiliated organisation has no right to vote and no voice concerning elections of the WTF, but is allowed to attend the GM.

#### **Art. 11 Honorary members**

The GM is entitled to appoint deserving persons or organisations as a honorary member. The appointment as a honorary member demands three-quarters of the votes cast at the GM. A honorary member is not allowed to vote and has no voice concerning elections of the WTF, but is allowed to attend the GM with a consulting function.

#### **Art. 12 Cessation of membership**

12.1 An affiliated TF, an affiliated organisation or a honorary member, which intends to retire from the WTF, must submit this intention in written form to the secretariat of the WTF, signed by its official representatives.

12.2 The resigning member is released from the rights and obligations of its membership in the moment, the decision of the WTF to resign the member becomes effective. In ordinary cases the voting for resigning a member is conducted at the GM and demands three-quarters of the votes cast. In exceptional cases the decision to resign a member is possible in a voting in written form by the authorized members of the GM.

12.3 The cessation of membership could be negated, if outstanding financial expenses toward the WTF are not adduced. The annual contribution for the current year is payable irrespective of the date, the cessation letter is received by the WTF.

## **Part IV Organs of the WTF: The General Meeting**

### **Art. 13 Characteristics of the General Meeting**

13.1 The GM, fixed by the Executive Committee (EC), is taking place every four years in combination and at the same location with the official World Championships of the WTF. The first regular GM will take place in the year 2006.

13.2 Urgent questions, which may occur in the space of time between regular GM (but not in the year of an ordinary GM) and belong to the authority of the GM, could be decided annual by using modern means of telecommunication like fax or email. Therefore it is necessary to maintain the following articles according to time limits, entitlements to vote and majorities.

13.3 The EC must notice the GM six month before to the relevant members and persons of WTF authorities with detailed specification of time and place.

13.4 The GM is composed by the following members and persons: One delegate per affiliated TF, members of the EC, affiliated organisations mentioned in article 10 and honorary members.

13.5 Each delegate of an affiliated TF and each member of the EC can cast one vote.

13.6 Proposals of affiliated TF, applications for membership or cessation from membership, must be submitted to the secretariat of the WTF two month before the GM is taking place. Proposals, applications and cessations are able to be submitted in a written form by using modern means of telecommunication. It is necessary to confirm this later by an official letter, signed by the official representatives of the member or the applicant.

13.7 The agenda of the GM must be submitted thirty days before the GM is taking place to all relevant persons and members mentioned in article 13.4.

13.8 The agenda of the GM must contain the following items:

- a) The minutes of the previous GM.
- b) The report of the EC.
- c) The details of application for membership to be decided at the GM.
- d) The details of cessation from membership to be approved at the GM.
- e) The details of all other proposals to be voted on at the GM.
- f) The fixing of the annual sum of money payable to the WTF.
- g) The report according to the financial situation of the WTF.
- h) The release of relevant representatives of the WTF.
- i) Elections.
- j) Appointment of honorary members.
- k) Miscellaneous.

13.9 The quorum of the GM is constituted if 33% or more of the members and persons, who are entitled to vote, from at least two member countries are present. In other cases, the GM is not authorized to take valid decisions or votings. Decisions relating to financial issues, the game rules and the statutes require a quorum of 50%.

13.10 The proceeding of the GM is managed by the President or the Vice-President of the WTF. If both of them are prevented to chair the GM another member of the EC is allowed to replace them.

#### **Art. 14 Extraordinary General Meeting**

14.1 In exceptional cases the EC is authorized to convocate an extraordinary GM at any time.

14.2 The EC must organize an extraordinary GM if a 2/3 majority of affiliated TF submit a written request for this to the secretariat of the WTF.

14.3 All regulations, constituted in the preceding articles are relevant for extraordinary GM with one difference: The time limits mentioned in article 13.3, 13.6 and 13.7 are shortened about the half.

#### **Art. 15 Elections**

15.1 All persons, proposed by an affiliated TF are eligible for the different charges of the WTF. For this a written candidature has to be submitted to the secretariat of the WTF three month before the GM is taking place by using modern means of telecommunication and a written confirmation.

15.2 An office bearer of the WTF, who is elected at the GM, administrates his post for a term of four years.

15.3 If an office bearer of the WTF wants to abdicate or does not stand for the next election, the secretariat of the WTF must be informed three month before the next GM.

15.4 As a matter of principle, retiring office bearer are reeligible for the next but one GM.

15.5 No office bearer of the WTF is authorized to occupy more than one charge.

15.6 There are three posts to occupy by election at the GM: The President and the Vice-President and the Secretary General of the WTF.

15.7 The terms of office for the posts of the WTF are not allowed to last longer than 8 years for the same person, exclusivly the time from 2004 till 2006.

#### **Art. 16 Votings concerning elections**

16.1 The President of the WTF is elected by secret ballot and relative majority voting.

16.2 The Vice-President is elected by secret ballot and relative majority voting.

16.3 In case that six or more than six TF are affiliated to the WTF, the GM is authorized to elect a second and a third Vice-President. It is a matter of principle that each office bearer of the WTF belongs to a different TF.



16.4 The elections of the President, the Vice-President and the General Secretary at the foundation of the WTF in 2004 shall be performed with mutual respect of the founding members in a common agreement. They are elected for a term of two years until the first ordinary GM in the year 2006.

#### **Art. 17 Votings concerning proposals and other questions**

17.1 All votings at the GM concerning proposals and other questions must be done in an open vote by showing hand signal.

17.2 All votings at the GM concerning proposals and other questions are decided with relative majority of the votes cast, except the modification of the statutes.

17.3 For the modification of the statutes it is necessary to reach a three-quarter majority of the votes cast.

17.4 Proposals or other questions with equal votes are rejected.

#### **Art. 18 Commencement of elections and decisions**

18.1 Elections and decisions of the GM come into force two month after the closing day of the GM.

18.2 Elections and decisions of the foundation meeting in 2004 come into force immediately.

#### **Art. 19 Official affirmation of elections and decisions**

All results of elections and other decisions must be recorded in the minutes of the GM. These minutes must be signed by the President and the Secretary General of the EC. The Secretary General has to take care for this and for the submitting of the minutes of the GM to all affiliated TF and official office bearer of the WTF and to the concerned authorities.

### **Part V Organs of the WTF: The Executive Committee**

#### **Art. 20 Composition of the Executive Committee**

The EC is composed of the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary General. In case that six or more TF are affiliated to the WTF, three additional members are accepted to join the EC. It is a matter of principle that each member of the EC belongs to a different TF.

#### **Art. 21 Powers and duties of the Executive Committee**

21.1 The EC is the executive organ of the WTF and responsible for the international development of the sport Tenniquoits.

21.2 The EC controls the compliance of the statutes, accomplishes the implementation of all decisions of the GM and is in general responsible for the administrative, financial and organisational affairs of the WTF.

21.3 The EC controls the compliance of all time limits mentioned in this statutes and is responsible for the timely notice of the GM and the agenda and the content of the agenda.

21.4 Unless no Technical Committee (TC) is instituted at the WTF, the EC controls the process for the development of the ITR and the compliance of these rules at international competitions. Furthermore the EC is responsible for the allotment of the official World Championships of the WTF and other international competitions of Tenniquoits.

21.5 The office bearers of the EC are the representatives of the WTF in all legal matters.

21.6 The EC is responsible for the minutes of the GM and the running of the secretariat of the WTF.

21.7 Unless no TC is instituted at the WTF, the EC has the function of an Arbitration-Board in cases of disputes between affiliated TF concerning sport matters.

21.8 The EC furthermore has the function to build an Arbitration-Board concerning breach of the statutes.

#### **Art. 22 Powers and duties of the President**

22.1 The President is the first representative of the WTF and responsible for the general reputation of the WTF.

22.2 The President is the chairman of the GM and has to present a report at the GM in written form.

22.3 The President is responsible for the compliance of all points of article 21.

#### **Art. 23 The Vice-President**

23.1 The Vice-President replaces the President in case of being prevented. In case of resignation of the president before the ending of his term of office or other circumstances, which hinder the President from administrate his post any longer, the Vice-President is automatically appointed President.

23.2 The Vice-President must support the President and is responsible for the compliance of all points of article 21.

23.3 All additional Vice-Presidents must support the President and are responsible for the compliance of all points of article 21. In the case more than one Vice-President is elected, the order of the ranking depends on the number of the votes during their election.

#### **Art. 24 The Secretary General**

24.1 The Secretary General is elected by the GM by an open election process.

24.2 The Secretary General is responsible for the smooth running of the secretariat of the WTF and the execution of all administrative tasks of the WTF. He signs the correspondence according to affiliated members and members of the EC.

24.3 The Secretary General must support the President and is responsible for the compliance of all points of article 21.

#### **Art. 25 Signatures**

25.1 The joint signatures of the President or Vice President and the Secretary General are valid for legal and financial matters and to place contracts in the name of the WTF.

25.2 The Secretary General, the President and the Vice-President have the power to draw on the banking accounts of the WTF.

#### **Art. 26 Honorary office**

All office bearers of the WTF are working unsalaried.

#### **Art. 27 Meeting of the Executive Committee**

27.1 The Meeting of the EC is taking place every four years in combination and at the same location with the official World Championships of the WTF. The first regular Meeting of the EC will take place in the year 2006. Every regular Meeting of the EC must be conducted before the GM is held.

27.2 Urgent questions, which occur in the space of time between regular Meetings of the EC (but not in the year of an ordinary Meeting of the EC) and belong to the authority of the EC could be decided annual by using modern means of telecommunication like fax and email, and a written confirmation.

27.3 The Secretary General must notice the Meeting of the EC six month before to the members of the EC with detailed specification of time and place.

27.4 The agenda of the Meeting of the EC must be submitted fortyfive days before the meeting is taking place to all members of the EC.

27.5 Candidatures for the Secretary General must be submitted to the secretariat of the WTF three month before the Meeting of the EC is taking place by using modern means of telecommunication and a written confirmation.

27.6 Proposals to modify rules of the ITR must be submitted to the secretariat of the WTF two month before the Meeting of the EC is taking place.

27.7 All decisions and approvals, taken at the Meeting of the EC are valid, if 50% of the members of the EC are present and are taken by open voting and simple majority.

27.8 Elections and decisions, taken at the Meeting of the EC come into force two month after the closing day of the meeting.

27.9 The Secretary General is responsible for the minutes of the Meeting of the EC. The minutes must be submitted at least two month after the closing day of the meeting to all members of the organs of the WTF.

#### **Art. 28 Disqualification of members of the Executive Committee**

A member of the EC must be suspended from the EC until the next ordinary GM and accordingly the Meeting of the EC, in the case of proven breach of rules of these statutes or in other cases of serious offenses towards the welfare of the WTF.

#### **Art. 29 Vacancy of members of the Executive Committee**

Vacancies of members of the EC must be reoccupied by a successor immediately, but at least in the following year. As the case may be, a GM and accordingly the Meeting of the EC must be conducted as mentioned in the articles 13.2, 14 and 27.2.

### **Part VI The institution of other organs and commissions**

#### **Art. 30 The Technical Committee**

In case that six or more than six TF are affiliated to the WTF, the EC is entitled to constitute a TC, which is directed by a member of the EC as the Chairman of the TC and with a limited membership of five members, including the Chairman of the TC.

#### **Art. 31 The Control-Board**

In case that six or more than six TF are affiliated to the WTF the GM is entitled to constitute a Control-Board, which is directed by a member of the GM as the Chairman and with a limited membership of three members, including the Chairman of the Control-Board.

#### **Art. 32 Other commissions**

The EC is entitled to install temporary commissions with a consulting function. The installation of these commissions comes into force immediately and is not bound to time limits, elections or memberships. All persons who are involved are working unsalaried.

### **Part VII The Arbitration-Board**

#### **Art. 33 Relevance and function of the Arbitration-Board**

The Arbitration-Board is no organ of the WTF in the sense of part IV, V, or VI of this statutes. The Arbitration-Board convenes for singular upcoming disputes between affiliated members of the WTF or problems concerning the compliance of the statutes and belongs to the assignment of the EC, resp. TC.

#### **Art. 34 The treatment of disputes concerning sport matters**

The EC is authorized to convene an Arbitration-Board. Each Party to the dispute select a legal person to handle the dispute together with the Vice-President of the EC. This will form the Arbitration-Board. The decision of the Arbitration-Board will be binding on both Parties.

### **Art. 35 The treatment of breach of the statutes**

35.1 The EC is authorized to convene an Arbitration-Board concerning breach of the statutes. This Arbitration-Board exists of three members of the EC.

35.2 Breach of the statutes, especially the misconduct concerning the objectives of the WTF may be sanctioned with the suspension from the WTF.

35.3 In case of breach of the statutes, the EC proposes a punishment, which must be approved by the next GM with a three-quarter majority of the votes cast.

## **Part VIII Official International Tenniquoits Rules**

### **Art. 36 Obligation to fix international rules**

The founding National Tenniquoits Federations and as the case may be, joining TF, are obligated to fix official international rules, called "International Tenniquoits Rules" (ITR), by the year 2006.

### **Art. 37 Process to find international rules**

37.1 The rules are fixed by the founding EC by using modern means of telecommunication according to all decisions, which must be taken to find international binding rules for the sport Tenniquoits.

37.2 The process to find the first binding set of international rules is not bound to time limits defined in article 27.6. The voting to decide rules is taken by email voting with relative majority of the votes cast.

### **Art. 38 Commencement**

38.1 The ITR come into force with the first World Championships of the WTF, which is conducted in the year 2006.

38.2 The ITR must be notified and submitted by the secretariat of the EC to all affiliated TF six month before the first World Championship of the WTF is taking place.

### **Art. 39 Provisorial arrangements for the meantime**

All international Tenniquoits competitions between players or teams of affiliated TF in the time from the foundation of the WTF to the commencement of the first official ITR in 2006, are allowed to take place on the basis of provisorial rules.

### **Art. 40 Impact for national sets of rules**

The ITR are valid for international competitions only and do not replace national sets of rules. The EC welcomes if affiliated TF adopt the ITR for their national competitions as well.

#### **Art. 41 Further development and modification**

The EC is assigned with the further development of the ITR after they have been fixed in 2006 for the first time. All modifications of the ITR are bound to the terms of part V of these statutes.

#### **Art. 42 Referee regulations and playing modes**

42.1 The founding National Tenniquoits Federations and as the case may be, joining TF, are obligated to fix official international referee regulations and playing modes for international competitions, especially the World Championships of the WTF until the year 2006.

42.2 The international referee regulations and playing modes are components of the ITR.

### **Part IX Official competitions of the WTF**

#### **Art. 43 World Championships of the WTF**

43.1 The World Championships are taking place every four years, beginning in the year 2006.

43.2 Detailed information according to location and date of the World Championships of the WTF must be submitted by the EC six month before the first day of this event is taking place.

43.3 The time span the World Championship is taking place in, must not outrange two weeks.

#### **Art. 44 Disciplines at the World Championships**

The World Championships of the WTF must be conducted in the disciplines women-singles, men-singles and a team championship.

#### **Art. 45 Alternating conducting**

The conduction of the World Championships of the WTF alternates between the participating affiliated TF.

#### **Art. 46 Participation at the World Championships**

All teams and qualified players of affiliated TF are allowed to participate at the World Championships of the WTF.

#### **Art. 47 Other international competitions**

International tournaments, international club-matches and international tests between players, clubs or teams of affiliated TF must be played within the regulations of the ITR, from the point of time, they are fixed in the year 2006.

#### **Art. 48 Scheduling of international competitions**

48.1 The scheduling of international competitions must be approved by the EC.

48.2. The placing of the World Championships of the WTF is task of the EC.

#### **Art. 49 Validity of regulations**

In each case the last published edition of the ITR is valid for all international competitions.

### **Part X Financial matters**

#### **Art. 50 Fiscal year**

The fiscal year is the calendar year.

#### **Art. 51 Revenues and Expenses**

51.1 Revenues mainly result from the annual contributions of the affiliated members.

51.2 Revenues from endorsement or from broadcasting agencies with regard to the World Championships of the WTF belong to the property of the WTF.

51.3 In the first line the revenues must be applied to the smooth running of the secretariat of the WTF.

51.4 All expenses, which lie generally in the liability of the EC, must be done with commercial caution to the welfare of the WTF.

#### **Art. 52 Responsibility and financial management**

52.1 The EC is responsible for the proper handling of revenues, expenses and the financial management in general.

52.2 The EC has to disclose the revenues, expenses and other important postings of the accounts of the WTF at every ordinary GM.

#### **Art. 53 Budget**

The EC has to present a budget for the coming four years lasting term of office.

#### **Art. 54 Approval of the accounting records**

The GM approves the accounting records of the preceding term of office and the budget for the coming term of office. The GM releases the EC in questions of financial matters.

## **Part XI Duration and dissolution of the WTF**

### **Art. 55 Duration**

The duration of the WTF is indetermined.

### **Art. 56 Dissolution**

56.1 The WTF may only be dissolved at an ordinary GM, with a quorum of 80% and a three-quarter majority of the votes cast in a secret ballot.

56.2 The assets of the dissolved WTF must be divided in equal parts between the affiliated TF.

## **Part XII Final provisions**

### **Art. 57 Undefined cases**

The EC is authorized to take suitable measures in absence of written regulations of these statutes.

### **Art. 58 Votings by email, fax or other written forms**

In case that decisions or elections of any authority of the WTF are intended to be taken by email, fax or in other written forms, it is a matter of principle, that they must be arranged with the required quorum and majorities of the comparable ordinary proceeding.

### **Art. 59 Founding persons**

These statutes has been elaborated and approved in mutual respect by the founding members South Africa, India and Germany, represented through the signing persons below:



Mrs. Jeanette de la Rey  
Commissioner for international affairs of the South African Tenniquoits Board

Mr.B.S Nagaraj  
Secretary General of the Tennikoit Federation of India

Mr. Reinhard Plog  
Commissioner for international relationships for Ringtennis of the German Gymnastic Federation

Mr. Evert Potgieter  
President of the South African Tenniquoits Board

Dr. Prakash Nandurkar  
Chairman National Tennikoit Academy of India

Mr. Michael Goth  
President of the Technical Committee for Ringtennis of the German Gymnastic Federation

Vanderbijlpark in South Africa, the 18 of April 2004.