

IWF POLICY concerning participation of Russian and Belarussian athletes to IWF competitions

Preamble

The IWF Executive Board has carefully reconsidered the issue of participation of Russian and Belarussian athletes in IWF competitions.

The IWF Executive Board underlines that the extraordinary situation arising out of the war in Ukraine places all the International Sport Governing bodies and, among them, the IWF before a profound and difficult dilemma.

The IWF is called to draw a delicate balance between, on the one hand, the need to show solidarity with Ukraine and respect for the countries supporting its sufferings and to secure the proper conduct of competitions in a safe and serene environment, but on the other hand also, the need to preserve as much as possible the opportunity for all individual athletes to practice sport irrespective of their nationalities.

From the beginning in this profound crisis which deeply affects the conduct of international sport, the IWF has been mindful to observe the recommendations issued by the International Olympic Committee.

This Policy is based on the ***Recommendations for International Federations and International Event Organisers and international sport event organisers on the participation with a Russian or Belarussian passport in internal competitions*** which are the recommendations lastly issued by the IOC on 28 March 2023. These recommendations reopen the possibility of athlete participation subject to certain strict requirements.

This Policy accordingly defines the terms and conditions under which individual Russian and Belarussian may be eligible to participate in IWF competitions.

1. Participation subject to specific exclusion criteria

From the issuance of this Policy and subject to its revocation or amendment in accordance with art. 9 below, Russian and Belarussian athletes (the "Athletes") may be eligible to be entered and to participate in IWF competitions as *individual athletes* provided that neither of the following exclusion criteria apply:

- Athletes who are or become contracted or are or become in any way connected to the Russian or Belarussian military or national security agencies and/or entities, whether public or private, providing services in support of the war in Ukraine, and/or are in any way personally engaged in the conduct, support or promotion of the war in Ukraine are not eligible to participate in IWF competitions.
- Athletes who have declared or at any time declare support to the war in any way, form or occasion or through any mean, including without limitation social media, are not eligible to participate in IWF competitions.

2. Athlete's Declaration and Undertaking

As a strict condition to be entered for and participate in any IWF competition, each Athlete shall execute a personal Athlete's Declaration and Undertaking (Exhibit 1) confirming that neither of the exclusion criteria set forth in art. 1 above applies in his or her respect at the time of the execution of the declaration nor at any time thereafter and for as long as this Policy remains in force.

The Athletes have the obligation to be truthful and complete in their declaration. Concealment of elements constituting exclusion criteria may lead to sanctions as provided for in art. 8 below.

Upon their issuance and irrespective of an entry for a specific competition, an executed copy of each Athlete's Declaration and Undertaking shall be provided to the IWF with a copy of the passport by their respective national federation which shall confirm and attest that it has been executed by the Athlete identified on the declaration. The national federation shall further confirm that the content of the Athlete's Declarations and Undertakings is truthful, complete and correct. Concealment of elements constitutive of the exclusion criteria by the national federation may lead to sanctions against the Athlete and the national federation.

3. Eligibility checks

Upon receipt of Athlete's Declarations and Undertakings or at any time thereafter, checks will be performed, respectively may be repeated from time to time, to

ensure that the content of the Athlete's Declarations and Undertakings is and remains truthful and correct.

The initial checks and related investigations will be entrusted to an independent investigation agency. The same applies to verifications to the extent they may become needed at a later stage.

The national federations and the Athletes shall fully and actively cooperate in the verification process. Adverse inferences may be drawn from lack of active cooperation.

If, upon receipt of the declarations or at any time thereafter, including but not limited to the occasion of an entry process, it becomes apparent that an exclusion criterion applies despite the confirmation set forth in the declarations, the Executive Board will declare the concerned Athlete ineligible for as long as this Policy remains in effect. The decision of the Executive Board becomes immediately enforceable. The Athlete may file an objection in front of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission within ten days (see art. 8 below). The objection does not stay the decision of the Executive Board.

If the IWF Executive Board considers that further consequences may be warranted beyond the ineligibility, it may refer the matter to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission within ten days. In that case, the objection (if any) and referral are to be consolidated in the same proceedings in front of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission.

4. Entry of Athletes by their respective national federations

Athletes eligible pursuant to this Policy shall be entered to IWF competitions by their respective national federation as provided for by the IWF Competition Rules, subject however to the following specific additional requirements which must be strictly observed.

The entry process shall be performed as a neutral administrative process. It has the sole purpose of allowing the entry and participation of the Athletes eligible pursuant to the Policy as individual athletes. Collectively, they do not form a delegation representing their respective national federation.

The national federation shall file a list of Athletes to be entered on a separate neutral headed document without reference to the country and/or any distinctive emblem, symbol, logo or flag.

The national federation shall annex to the list of Athletes a copy of corresponding duly executed Athlete's Declarations & Undertakings.

The national federation shall, with each application for entry, issue a statement that it files the entries in accordance with this Policy and that it specifically confirms that each of the entered Athletes was eligible pursuant to art. 1 above at the time he/she executed the Athlete's Declarations & Undertakings and continues to be eligible at the time of entry.

The national federation shall provide any additional information or clarification which may be reasonably requested in connection with any entry.

Entries which do not fully observe the above specific conditions shall be deemed as non-existent and shall be deemed as not being filed in due time unless they are duly completed or corrected within the entry deadline or within a short additional deadline granted at the discretion of the party managing the entries.

In the event the Executive Board considers that the national federation fails to properly cooperate to the entry process and notably fails to provide complete and truthful information, it may refer the matter to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission to adjudicate consequences against the concerned national federation.

For the avoidance of doubt, the national federations are and remain fully responsible in respect of their respective athletes, notably and without limitation as regards consequences under the IWF Constitution or the IWF Anti-Doping Rules of antidoping violations, whether committed out or in competition, including at competitions to which the Athletes participate pursuant to this Policy.

5. Athlete Support Personnel

Athlete Support Personnel to provide individual support to Athletes entered at a competition, in particular in technical and medical respects, may be entered for IWF competitions. Only Athlete Support Personnel reasonably needed may be entered and the number of entries maybe accordingly limited. Each Athlete Support Personnel entered for participation is, mutatis mutandis, subject to the eligibility conditions set forth in art. 1 of this Policy. Each Athlete Support Personnel shall in particular also execute a declaration in accordance with art. 2 of this Policy and is subject to checks pursuant to art. 3 of this Policy.

Athlete Support Personnel is to be entered in parallel to the Athletes they assist pursuant to the provisions of art. 4 of this Policy and observing the same conditions and requirements. Entries for Athlete Support Personnel must specify their support function(s) in connection with a or several athletes.

6. Requirements to be observed at or in connection with competitions

The Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel shall wear neutral uniform, clothing and attire.

They must be in one tone in solid grey colour (without designs nor patterns). They shall not bear any inscription (including any abbreviation) referring to Russia or Belarus, and /or any national emblems, symbols or logos, nor any markings or designs, which can be perceived as making reference to the Athletes' respective country or national federation, nor any inscription, sign or marking which may be understood as a reference to the war and support thereto.

The Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel shall abstain from any statement or behaviour (of any nature whether by word, song, signs or move) which may be interpreted as a support to the war or otherwise be in contradiction with the spirit of the content and spirit of this art. 6.

These requirements apply at the competition venue(s) but also in the wider environment of the competition, including any official area apart from the venue(s) or area used in connection with the competitions, without limitation, the hotels and travel to and from the competition venue(s) and to from the competition city, or on any occasion (for example official invitations, press conferences etc.) held in connection with the competition.

Without prejudice to consequences and sanctions pursuant to art. 8 below, the IWF (through the competition officials entrusted with the implementation of the requirements set forth in this article) may take immediate measures to preserve the competition and require the concerned Athlete or Athlete's Support Personnel to immediately remove or cover any element and/or to immediately discontinue any behaviour, which in their discretion may not be in compliance with the above. In case of refusal, the concerned Athlete and/or Athlete's Support Personal may immediately be removed from the competition venue and/or be excluded from the competition.

If the IWF Executive Board considers that further consequences may be warranted beyond exclusion from the specific competition, it may refer the matter to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission (see art. 8 below).

7. Consequences of subsequent applicability of exclusion criterion.

In the event, an exclusion criterion is found to apply in connection with an Athlete initially determined as eligible, then, irrespective of whether or not the concerned criterion did exist from the beginning and was concealed, or whether it materialised thereafter, the Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel shall automatically and

immediately become and thereafter remain ineligible for participation in any further IWF competition for as long as this Policy remains in effect.

Athletes or Athletes Support Personnel in respect to which the first exclusion criterion set forth in art. 1 of this Policy becomes subsequently applicable have the obligation to inform the IWF and to voluntarily waive their eligibility. Failure to do so may lead to sanctions in accordance with art. 8 below.

The ineligibility based on the existence of an exclusion criteria is an objective consequence and may be implemented directly and immediately by the Executive Board. The decision of the Executive Board becomes immediately enforceable. The Athlete or Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel may however file an objection in front of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission within ten days. The objection does not stay the decision of the Executive Board.

If the IWF Executive Board considers that consequences or sanctions may be warranted beyond the ineligibility, it may refer the matter to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission within ten days. In that case, objection (if any) and referral are to be consolidated in front of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission.

8. Issues to be adjudicated by the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission

The Ethics and Disciplinary Commission shall be in charge of adjudicating the following issues:

- Upon objection of an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel to a decision of the Executive Board to declare him/her ineligible, to determine whether or not an exclusion criterion applies and accordingly whether the ineligibility has to be confirmed or lifted.
- Upon referral of the Executive Board, to decide whether in view of the circumstances (further) consequences or sanctions have to be applied against the concerned Athletes, Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel and/or federation, notably but without in case of deliberate provision of false information or wilful failure to comply with the requirements set forth in art. 6 of this Policy.

The consequences or sanctions which the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission may issue include:

- Ineligibility for as long as this Policy remains in effect (to the extent not already finally decided in the absence of an objection).
- Ineligibility for a period to be served in any event and irrespective of whether or not the Policy remains in effect.

- Disqualification of all or part of the results obtained in competitions to which the Athlete participated on the basis of the Policy.
- Fine up to US\$ 5'000.-- against the Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel and up to US\$ 100'000.-- against a national federation

The adjudication competence of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission pursuant to this Policy is without prejudice to the jurisdiction of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission or another IWF body to issue further consequences or sanctions if the circumstances at stake do fall within the scope of application of other existing provisions of the IWF Constitution or other IWF Policies.

The proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission.

Decisions of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission are exclusively subject to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

9. Entry into force, amendments, repeal

This Policy enters into force immediately.

It may be amended from time to time or repealed by the IWF Executive Board.

This Policy as well as any amendment thereof shall be promptly published on the IWF website.

Policy issued by the IWF Executive Board on 12 May 2023