



## **Rules of the Ethics Committee of the International Judo Federation (IJF)**

### **Article 1 - Purpose**

Within the IJF, there shall be an Ethics Committee in charge of ensuring the application of the IJF Ethics Code and adherence to rules for ethics, morals, and the prevention and management of conflicts of interest.

### **Article 2 - Composition**

The Ethics Committee shall be composed of a Chair, appointed by the IJF Executive Committee (EC), and five (5) to seven (7) members, appointed by the IJF EC based on a proposal from the Chair of the Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee members must be from the five IJF Continental Unions.

Members may not be contractually connected to the IJF.

A member may only be stripped of his/her duties during his/her term in the case of definitive impeachment or resignation or expulsion decided by the disciplinary bodies of the IJF. In the case of inaction or non-performance of assignments by a member of the Ethics Committee, he/she may be expelled by the members of the IJF EC by a unanimous-minus-one vote upon request from a member of the IJF or of the IJF EC.

The duration of the term of Ethics Committee members shall be four whole, consecutive years from the date of their appointment.

Their term shall expire at the end of the sport season that follows the season during which the IJF President and his/her list are elected.

In the case of definitive impeachment, resignation, or expulsion of a member, a new member may be designated as a replacement for the remaining duration of the term.

The work of the Ethics Committee shall be organized and directed by its Chair.

### **Article 3 - Mission**

The mission of the Ethics Committee is to ensure the application of the IJF Ethics Code and adherence to the rules for ethics, morals, and prevention and management of conflicts of interest regarding any subject in direct or indirect connection with the activities of the IJF.

The Committee may propose modifications to the IJF Ethics Code, which must be approved by the IJF EC.

The Committee may issue opinions and recommendations on any issue or any fact or behavior concerning ethics, morals, and the prevention and management of conflicts of interest. The Committee may share or publish said opinions and recommendations, when it deems it appropriate to do so, via IJF means of communication, after having informed the elected members of the IJF Bureau.

The Committee may refer to the IJF Disciplinary Commission any fact or behavior that may constitute a breach of the IJF Ethics Code or rules for ethics, morals, or the prevention and management of conflicts of interest, and that may result in disciplinary sanctions.

The Committee shall have independent evaluation power and may not receive any directives.

To fulfill its mission, the Committee may hear or gather testimony from any person, whether a physical person or legal entity, of its choice; it may also solicit any information or document that it deems necessary.

The bodies of the IJF shall give the Committee access to all information and shall share with the Committee all useful documents in connection with the activities of the IJF.

The Committee shall submit to the IJF EC an annual report of activities.

#### **Article 4 - Meetings and Deliberations**

The Ethics Committee shall issue decisions and/or gather when convened by its Chair.

Meetings of the Ethics Committee are not public.

Deliberations shall only be valid if at least half of its members are present at the meeting or have expressed their opinion.

Decisions shall be made by the majority of members present or that have expressed their opinion (the presence by video conference is considered as physical presence). In the case of a tie in voting, the vote of the Chair shall break the tie.

Voting by mail or by proxy shall not be permitted (for physical meetings). However, when the Ethics Committee cannot be gathered, it is possible, on the initiative of the Chair, to consult members in writing (by mail or electronic means). Decisions made by written consultation shall have the same value as those made during a meeting.

Debates, deliberations, and votes shall be confidential.

Any member with a direct or indirect personal interest in connection with the issue or fact being discussed must inform the Chair and may not under any circumstances participate in the debates, deliberations, or voting.

#### **Article 5 - Referral**

The Ethics Committee may receive a referral from any person regarding any issue related to ethics, morals, or the prevention and management of conflicts of interest, or any fact or behavior that may constitute a breach of the IJF Ethics Code or of rules for ethics, morals, and the prevention and management of conflicts of interest.

The Committee may also receive a referral from any person participating in the operations of the IJF, whether elected or not, who has the duty to report any breach of the IJF Ethics Code or of the rules for ethics, morals, and the prevention and management of conflicts of interest.

Furthermore, the Committee may take up matters ex officio.

For a referral to the Ethics Committee to be admissible, it must be made in writing and must contain sufficient information and evidence for the Committee to be able to evaluate the validity.

The referral must be sent by mail or electronic means to the attention of the Chair of the Ethics Committee (contact information for the Ethics Committee indicated on the IJF website).

A referral cannot be anonymous.

The Ethics Committee shall examine the issue or fact or behavior referred to it and shall determine how to respond to the referral.

The Ethics Committee may decide either to not pursue the referral, or to issue an opinion, express recommendations and/or refer the matter to the IJF Disciplinary Commission.