



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ARMWRESTLING
(IFA)

DISCIPLINARY CODE

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IFA DISCIPLINARY CODE

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PREAMBLE

The International Federation of Armwrestling (hereinafter referred to as "*IFA*") in accordance with Statutes of IFA, enacts the following *Disciplinary Code* as a set of these IFA Disciplinary Rules.

Unless otherwise specifically stated in this *Disciplinary Code*, defined terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the *IFA Statutes*.

FIRST PART GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1

The purpose of disciplinary proceedings

- 1.1 The *IFA* is entitled under the *Statutes* to decide on the disciplinary offenses of its associated members as *National sports federations* and their members, subject to violations of armwrestling worldwide *competition rules*, *anti-doping rules*, regulations and decisions of the *IFA*, to impose *disciplinary sanctions* and determine interim, possible protective measures.
- 1.2 These *disciplinary rules* govern the procedure of the *IFA* disciplinary bodies and the participants in the disciplinary proceedings so that the disciplinary offense is reliably established and fair disciplinary sanctions are imposed on the persons as members of the *IFA* who have committed it.
- 1.3 It is the right as well as the duty of all *IFA* members to help achieve the purpose of these disciplinary rules.

ARTICLE 2

IFA Disciplinary Register

- 2.1 The *IFA* maintains the *IFA Disciplinary Register* as a record of legally imposed disciplinary sanctions, which records violations of sports, competition, anti-doping rules and imposed sanctions.
- 2.2 In particular, the following shall be entered in the *IFA Disciplinary Register*:
 - a) the data needed to identify the person to whom the alert relates;
 - b) an indication of the rule or rules infringed,
 - c) the type of sanction imposed, indicating its duration and the decision imposing it.
- 2.3 The *IFA Disciplinary Register* may be inspected and extracted from it by authorized persons of the *IFA* bodies and the members of the *IFA* to whom the entries relate. The disciplinary body may provide other persons with an extract from the disciplinary register upon their request.

- 2.4** The *IFA* is entitled to provide information from the disciplinary register, to allow access to it and to make extracts and writings from it even without the prior consent of the person to whom the entry in the disciplinary register relates to:
- a) *IFA* bodies and departments authorized by *IFA*, including representatives of National Sports Federations on the basis of *IFA* membership,
 - b) bodies of international sports federations to ensure co-operation in dealing with disciplinary offenses of athletes at the international level,
 - c) the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for disciplinary offenses related to anti-doping rule violations.
- 2.5** The *IFA* Disciplinary Register is maintained by the *IFA* Secretariat. The disciplinary body shall, within 15 days of the entry into force of the disciplinary decision, send to the *IFA* Secretariat valid documents for the creation of an entry in the disciplinary register.

SECOND PART

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

ARTICLE 3

General provision

- 3.1** Disciplinary action shall affect:
- a) respect for sports and technical rules at *IFA* events and / or associated national sports organizations covering and coordinating armwrestling at the international level,
 - b) respect for the Olympic ideals and the principles of sports protection and the conduct of fair play.
- 3.2** Disciplinary action, clarification of disciplinary offenses and setting of disciplinary sanctions, as well as identification of possible protective measures, is aimed at ensuring order, discipline, compliance with rules, adherence to fair play principles, preventing and preventing violations and promoting *IFA* ethical values.

ARTICLE 4

Subject matter and purpose of disciplinary proceedings

- 4.1** The subject of disciplinary proceedings is the proper identification, clarification and fair assessment of disciplinary offenses of natural and legal persons as *IFA* members associated with their participation in *IFA* competitions and international events, compliance with *IFA* statutes, technical regulations and provisions, as well as anti-doping measures.
- 4.2** The purpose of disciplinary proceedings is:

- a) discuss the disciplinary offenses of natural and / or legal persons within the scope of the *IFA* disciplinary bodies so that the disciplinary proceedings and their conduct respect the principles of due process and have not only a sanction but also an educational, preventive and corrective function. The disciplinary body is obliged to ensure that the result of the disciplinary proceedings contributes to the re-education of the offender and the correction of the harmful consequences of the disciplinary offense, the protection of the good name of sports and that it also educates other *IFA* members and other persons
- b) in the case of more serious or repeated disciplinary offenses, also to educate the offender in order not to commit further disciplinary offenses;

4.3 The *IFA* applies the *IFA* Anti-Doping Code, as amended by the World Anti-Doping Code and its International Standards, for disciplinary action against Anti-Doping Rules. The provisions of the International Standard for Testing and Investigation must be applied mutatis mutandis to anti-doping proceedings and anti-doping rule decisions.

ARTICLE 5

Disciplinary bodies

- 5.1** The *IFA*'s disciplinary bodies are empowered to discuss disciplinary offenses and impose disciplinary sanctions, and to determine interim and protective measures.
- 5.2** The *IFA*'s disciplinary bodies responsible for disciplinary proceedings are:
 - a) The Disciplinary Committee,
 - b) The Disciplinary Appeals Committee.
- 5.3** The disciplinary bodies of the *IFA*, its chairman and its members are elected and removed by the *IFA* General Assembly.
- 5.4** The activities of the *IFA* disciplinary body shall be managed by its chairman, in his absence by a member of the *IFA* disciplinary body appointed by him.
- 5.5** The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Body submits to the *IFA* General Assembly a report on the activities of the *IFA* Disciplinary Body, as a rule at annual intervals.

ARTICLE 6

Disciplinary Committee

- 6.1** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee has autonomous *IFA* disciplinary authority, hears disciplinary offenses and imposes disciplinary sanctions, or sets out interim and protective measures within the competence of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee as a first-level disciplinary body.
- 6.2** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, in odd numbers (minimum of three and maximum of five), is composed of its chairman, vice-chairman and other members. The chairman of

the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee and its members are elected and removed by the *IFA* General Assembly.

- 6.3** The activities of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee are managed by its chairman, in his absence by the vice-chairman. Or a member of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee appointed by him.
- 6.4** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall initiate disciplinary proceedings on its own initiative or upon submission of a proposal for disciplinary proceedings by an authorized person. The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee also discusses disciplinary offenses reported by other international sports organizations involving athletes or other persons materially involved in armwrestling and imposes disciplinary sanctions or sets out (determines) interim and protective measures within the competence of the *IFA*.
- 6.5** Disciplinary action in the first instance is conducted by the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee in the event of a violation by athletes, sports professionals or other persons materially affiliated with the *IFA* or at *IFA*-coordinated events related to representation and activities directly managed by the *IFA* and events organized by the *IFA*. If the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee imposes a disciplinary measure banning participation in a sports competition, it will notify the *IFA* Board.
- 6.6** If the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee decides to violate the rules of armwrestling competitions of athletes belonging to the same national sports organization as a member of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, this member of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee is excluded from disciplinary decisions.
- 6.7** In the event of a breach of the rules of armwrestling competitions by sports professionals, in order to ensure fair disciplinary action and decision-making by the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, the disciplinary body may entrust the investigation and preparation of documents to an ad hoc working committee set up by the *IFA* Board.
- 6.8** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee is quorate with at least three of its members. The disciplinary decision shall be approved by a simple majority of the members of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee present.

ARTICLE 7

Disciplinary Appeals Committee

- 7.1** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee discusses complaints in appeal proceedings and decides on appeals against the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee as a second-level disciplinary body, if the appeal is admissible.
- 7.2** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee, in odd numbers (minimum of three and maximum of five), is composed of its chairman and at least two other members. The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee and its members are elected and removed by the *IFA* General Assembly.

- 7.3** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee decides on appeals under (1), including appeals against anti-doping rule violations.
- 7.4** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall have a quorum if an absolute majority of its members is present at the hearing. The decision shall be approved by a simple majority of the members of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee present.
- 7.5** The decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee is final in the intentions of the *IFA* and the decision has no suspensive effect.

ARTICLE 8

Disciplinary offenses

- 8.1** Violations of the *IFA*'s statutes, regulations, rules and guidelines, its sports and technical regulations and anti-doping regulations are classified as disciplinary offenses.
- 8.2** The disciplinary offenses are in particular:
- a) intentional or negligent acts of natural persons, such as athletes and sports professionals, who violate any rules in such a way that, from an educational point of view, the means under these regulations are not sufficient to remedy the violation of established ethical and anti-doping principles in sport,
 - b) intentional negligence or negligent conduct of legal persons, which seriously violates the regularity of the competition or the order in this competition,
 - c) undue influence on the course or results of competitions, incorrect or and / or biased assessment / decision-making during competitions
 - d) non-compliance with the scope of competition at domestic and foreign events,
 - e) serious breach of verbal or written instructions and instructions from *IFA* officials.
 - f) offensive treatment of *IFA* members and / or representatives;
 - g) participation in any act of active or passive corruption or attempted active or passive corruption,
 - h) serious disruption of interpersonal and sporting relations, manipulation and / or abuse of the protected person, harassment and / or abuse of any person or group of persons in any way, in particular because of their race, color, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or national opinion, national or social origin, their financial situation, birth, disability, physical or sporting ability or other status,
 - i) damage to the image of armwrestling and conduct contrary to the interests of the *IFA*.
- 8.3** Disciplinary bodies impose relevant disciplinary measures for breaches of the rules in armwrestling and subsequent determination of disciplinary liability.
- 8.4** Disciplinary offenses of natural persons are in particular:
- a) Unsportsmanlike conduct

Anyone who has behaved in such a way that his or her unsportsmanlike conduct has spoiled the overall impression of the sports atmosphere, in particular he has expressed himself inappropriately, shouted or criticized inappropriately, made inappropriate gestures or acted contrary to the principles of fair play, will be punished by verbal or written reprimand.

b) Gross unsportsmanlike conduct

Anyone who engages in the non-sporting conduct referred to in point (a) of good repulsion or at the same time grossly violates the rules of armwrestling will be fined or, in the case of an athlete, a ban on participation in a 2-8 week sporting competition or, in the case of a sports professional, a ban on sports competition for a maximum of one year.

c) Attempt to influence disciplinary action

In the event of an attempt to influence disciplinary action prior to its conduct, the person who committed such an infringement will be punished as an athlete by a ban on participation in a sports competition for 6-12 months or as a sports expert, a ban on participation in a sports competition for 12-24 months, or conditions set out in the *IFA Statutes* by exclusion from the *IFA*.

d) Insult

Anyone who has acted with the intent to ridicule or humiliate the victim, in particular by swearing, threats, derogatory remarks, hints or gestures, shall be punished. If inflicted:

1 - athlete - ban on participation in a sports competition for 2 - 8 weeks

2 - sports expert - ban on participation in a sports competition for 4 - 12 months

e) Physical assault

Anyone who has physically attacked an athlete, sports expert, spectator or other person present at the armwrestling competition will be penalized by a ban on participating in the sports competition for 2 - 24 months.

8.5 The disciplinary offenses of legal persons are in particular:

a) Failure to provide the organizing service

The National Sports Organization, as an associate member, or an *IFA* authorized member who does not properly provide the organizing service in the armwrestling competition, will be fined up to EUR 1,000.00.

b) Non-entry of the team into the competition

A team that does not enter the competition, despite having been duly entered, may be fined up to EUR 300.00 and a ban on participating in a sports competition for a maximum of two subsequent competitions.

c) Infringement of directives and regulations

A national sports organization as an associate member or its competition team that violates *IFA* guidelines or regulations will be fined up to € 500.00 and / or d disqualified from the competition.

d) Influencing results

A national sports organization as an associate member or team that intentionally affects the result to the detriment of the opponent will be penalized

1 - when influencing without a bribe, by prohibiting participation in a sports competition for a maximum of two competitions,

2 - when influenced for a bribe, a ban on participation in a sports competition for one year.

8.6 Infringements of competition rules in armwrestling coordinated or organized by the *IFA*, or competition rules of associated *IFA* members:

- a) Whoever commits an infringement in *IFA* or *IFA* competition rules by:
- 1 - starts in the competition unauthorized,
 - 2 - left the sports ground arbitrarily,
 - 3 - did not enter the competition in the prescribed equipment,
 - 4 - has not fulfilled the obligations of an athlete or sports expert, will be punished by an oral or written reprimand or a ban on participating in a sports competition for 2 weeks to 10 months.
- b) Anyone who has committed this act in the representation of an associate member or in connection with it, acted in violation of the principles of conduct of the representative, will be punished by a ban on participation in a sports competition or expulsion from the sports team for 2-18 months.

8.7 Violation of the transfer and registration regulations

Anyone who has committed a violation of the provisions of the *IFA* transfer or registration regulations will be punished by an oral or written reprimand or a ban on participating in a sports competition for 1 to 18 months.

8.8 Incorrect information, damage and destruction of documents

Anyone who has intentionally provided incorrect information, damaged or destroyed documents important for the performance of sports activities during armwrestling competitions or their regularity will be fined a financial penalty of 200.00 Euros or a ban on participation in a sports competition for 2 - 18 months.

8.9 Influencing results

Who will intentionally influence the result of the competition to the detriment of the opponent:

- a) non-sports conduct without a bribe, will be punished by a ban on participation in a sports competition for 2 - 10 months
- b) by non-sports conduct for a bribe, will be punished by a ban on participation in a sports competition for 4 - 24 months.

ARTICLE 9

Disciplinary measures

9.1 In disciplinary proceedings, the following disciplinary measures may be imposed on natural persons:

- a) a verbal warning or a written warning,
- b) a financial fine,

- c) prohibition of participation in sports competitions, in the form of temporary or permanent suspension of sports activities, or exclusion from sports representation,
 - d) dismissal, subject to exclusion from *IFA* competitions.
- 9.2** In disciplinary proceedings, the following disciplinary measures may be imposed on legal persons:
- a) a verbal warning or a written warning,
 - b) a financial fine,
 - c) a ban on participation in a sports competition, subject to exclusion from *IFA* competitions, or temporary exclusion from *IFA*,
 - d) permanent exclusion from the *IFA*.
- 9.3** Only one disciplinary sanction may be imposed on a disciplinary prosecutor in one disciplinary proceeding; if he / she has committed several disciplinary offenses at the same time, a comprehensive disciplinary measure may be imposed on him / her.
- 9.4** If the seriousness of the disciplinary proceedings has the characteristics of a small amount of disciplinary offense, he regretted his conduct, showed an effective remedy and, given his personal qualities, could be expected to justify the infringement before the disciplinary body, the disciplinary body may waive the disciplinary sanction or disciplinary measure.
- 9.5** If the disciplinary body finds the person in question guilty of committing a disciplinary offense, it may at the same time order it to pay the costs of the proceedings up to the amount of EUR 300.00. The application of any other costs of disciplinary proceedings is possible only with the exclusive consent of the disciplinary defendant. The costs belong to the body to which they were incurred.
- 9.6** In imposing the type and scope of the disciplinary measure, the disciplinary body shall take into account, as a mitigating circumstance, in particular that the person who committed the violation of the rules of armwrestling competitions:
- a) behaved properly before the violation of the rules,
 - b) has been provoked to violate the rules,
 - c) voluntarily compensated for the damage caused by the violation of the rules,
 - d) expressed sincere remorse,
 - e) he himself reported the violation of the rule he committed,
 - f) effectively assist in clarifying breaches of armwrestling competition rules.
- 9.7** In imposing the type and scope of the disciplinary measure, the disciplinary body shall take into account, as aggravating circumstances, in particular that the infringer:
- a) has committed a breach of the rules insidiously, fraudulently or cruelly,
 - b) has committed an infringement as a sports professional,
 - c) led to a violation of the rules of another,
 - d) violated the rules in a state where he could not sufficiently control his actions and brought himself into this state,
 - e) has committed repeated infringements in the last two years,

f) by its actions endangered or disrupted the course of the competition.

9.8 The scope of the disciplinary measure The ban on participation in a sports competition is set on the day of the beginning and end of the period of the disciplinary measure.

ARTICLE 10

Oral or written warning

An oral or written reprimand is the mildest disciplinary measure. It is pronounced in cases of less serious violations of the rules of armwrestling competitions, usually when this is the first case of disciplinary offense.

ARTICLE 11

Financial fine

A financial fine can be imposed on a natural person as an athlete or sports expert and a legal entity as an associated national sports organization or its team for a serious violation of the rules in armwrestling up to the amount of EUR 1,000.00.

ARTICLE 12

Prohibition of participation of athletes and teams in sports competitions subject to exclusion from *IFA* competitions

12.1 The disciplinary measure prohibiting the participation of an athlete in a sports competition may be imposed for a serious violation of the rules of armwrestling competitions for a maximum period of 18 months, unless otherwise provided in these rules, except for this scope of the athlete's participation in Article 3.

12.2 If a disciplinary measure is imposed to stop a sporting activity, the Athlete may not start in any competition unless the disciplinary body stipulates otherwise in its decision.

12.3 Disciplinary Action The ban on an Athlete participating in a sports competition for an anti-doping rule violation from a reprimand to a lifetime ban is governed by the provisions of the *IFA* Anti-Doping Rules and Anti-Doping Regulations within the scope of the World Anti-Doping Code. An Athlete with such a Prohibition may not start during the Prohibition or participate in any competition or sport.

12.4 The disciplinary measure prohibiting the participation of an athlete in a sports competition may be limited to representative competitions and starts in international sports. It is possible to set a longer period for the ban on the participation of an athlete in a national and international competition than for the ban on the participation of an athlete in a national sports competition.

- 12.5** If a disciplinary measure does not prohibit an athlete from participating in a sporting event for more than 6 months and if, due to the athlete's previous conduct and the circumstances of the armwrestling violation, only a threat of disciplinary action is sufficient, the exercise of this disciplinary measure may be suspended for a period of 5 months to one year. If, during the probationary period, the Athlete again violates the rules of armwrestling competitions by re-imposing a disciplinary measure, a conditionally deferred disciplinary measure will be taken together with this disciplinary measure.
- 12.6** A disciplinary measure prohibiting participation in a sports competition may be imposed on an individual or a team for a serious violation of the rules of competitions in the sports of handicapped athletes, for a maximum of two competitions. At the time when the team has imposed a disciplinary measure prohibiting participation in a sports competition, it may not participate in friendly or international competitions.

ARTICLE 13

Prohibition of participation of *Athlete Support Personnel* in a sports competition

- 13.1** A disciplinary measure prohibiting the participation of *Athlete Support Personnel* in a sports competition may be imposed on a coach, referee, race official and other person providing sports activities for serious violations of armwrestling rules for a maximum of 24 months, unless otherwise provided or otherwise.
- 13.2** Disciplinary Action The ban on the participation of a sports professional in a sports competition for anti-doping rule violations from a reprimand to a lifetime ban is governed by the provisions of the *IFA* Anti-Doping Rules and Anti-Doping Regulations within the scope of the World Anti-Doping Code. A sports professional with such a ban may not participate in any competition or sport.
- 13.3** In the statement of disciplinary action, the disciplinary body shall specify the function or activity associated with that function which the sports professional may not perform during the disciplinary action. The ban on participation in a sports competition by a sports professional may be suspended for a probationary period under the conditions of Article 8 (3) of this Code.

ARTICLE 14

Exclusion from *IFA*

At the discretion of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, an associate *IFA* member may be expelled from the *IFA* in the event of a serious breach of the *IFA* Statutes and Rules or serious damage to the *IFA*'s reputation, with appropriate application of the *IFA* Statutes. Details are determined by the *IFA* Statutes.

ARTICLE 15

Jurisdiction and jurisdiction in disciplinary proceedings

- 15.1** In the event of a disciplinary offense, a natural person and a legal entity as a person subject to *IFA* disciplinary authority shall be discussed by the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee on the basis of registration and material affiliation with *IFA*.
- 15.2** The Disciplinary Committee may, for reasons of expediency, decide to refer a disciplinary offense of a natural or legal person to another disciplinary panel within the competence and / or registration of the associated national sports organization.
- 15.3** If a foreign athlete in the registration affiliation of an associated national sports organization, foreign sports club or his team at the major sporting event organized or managed by the *IFA* is disciplined, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee notifies the disciplinary offense of that registration national sports organization.

ARTICLE 16

Initiation of disciplinary proceedings

- 16.1** Disciplinary proceedings shall be based on the initiation of disciplinary proceedings if the conduct of a natural or legal person subject to disciplinary authority whose circumstances give rise to a reasonable suspicion of disciplinary offense under the *IFA Disciplinary Code* is credibly established.
- 16.2** The initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings must be submitted in writing to the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee or orally at a meeting of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee and recorded in a written record. The petitioner is obliged to attach the documentary evidence to which he refers in order to initiate disciplinary proceedings. The complaint must contain in particular:
- a) the name of the proposer,
 - b) identification of the person against whom the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings is directed,
 - c) indication of disciplinary offense,
 - d) designation of annexes,
 - e) date and signature.
- 16.3** The petitioner shall immediately initiate disciplinary proceedings before the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, which shall send a person subject to disciplinary authority a notice of the interim measure in the form of a temporary injunction.
- 16.4** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall decide on the initiation of disciplinary proceedings within 15 days of receipt of the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings. It shall notify the person concerned of this decision and publish it in an appropriate manner on the *IFA* website. As soon as the disciplinary proceedings have begun, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee will proceed without further proposals so that the matter can be discussed and decided as soon as possible.

- 16.5** The petitioner's initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings may be, in particular:
- a) record of the course and result of the competition,
 - b) the report of a member of the body, or a delegate, or the leader of an *IFA* expedition,
 - c) notification of an *IFA* member or a member of an *IFA* body,
 - d) the official initiative of another international sports federation or international sports organization,
 - e) notification, administration or decision of a public administration body,
 - f) the findings of a member of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 16.6** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall process the initiation of disciplinary proceedings pursuant to point (1) by:
- a) initiate disciplinary proceedings if there is a reasonable suspicion that a disciplinary offense has occurred;
 - b) take note of the complaint without taking further action if the content of the complaint and other known circumstances of the case do not justify the initiation of disciplinary proceedings;
 - c) postpone the complaint if, given the particular circumstances of the case, disciplinary action would be ineffective or ineffective;
 - d) withdraw the complaint to the competent *IFA* or public authority if it finds that it does not have jurisdiction to act and decide.
- 16.7** If the content of the complaint and other known circumstances of the case are not a sufficient basis for the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee to decide, the chairman of the senate shall invite the petitioner to correct or supplement or submit the related documents within 5 days.
- 16.8** The petition for the initiation of disciplinary proceedings may be withdrawn by the petitioner only with the consent of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee at the latest by the time the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee resigns for the final meeting. If the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee agrees to withdraw the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings, it shall terminate the disciplinary proceedings.
- 16.9** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee may impose one or more precautionary measures prior to a decision to commit an offense, consisting of appropriate restrictions and obligations aimed at preventing action and remedying the harmful consequence of the disciplinary offense:
- a) The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall prepare a written record of the handling of the complaint in one of the ways referred to in point (6), which it shall enter in the *IFA* Disciplinary Register.
 - b) Decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee under point (6) (a) (b) shall not preclude further proceedings in the same matter if new circumstances of the case and evidence justifying the conduct of disciplinary proceedings are established.

ARTICLE 17**Exclusion from disciplinary proceedings**

- 17.1** A member of the disciplinary body who may have doubts as to his or her impartiality in relation to the case, the participants or their representatives may be excluded from the hearing and decision-making.
- 17.2** A person who has decided on a case in disciplinary proceedings at first instance and vice versa is also excluded from the hearing and decision-making of the case at the appellate disciplinary body.
- 17.3** The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee decides on the expulsion of a member of the senate of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, and the chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, who appoints another member of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee as a member of the senate, decides on the expulsion of the chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee.
- 17.4** The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee decides on the expulsion of a member of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee, the chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee decides on the expulsion of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee, who appoints another member of the Disciplinary Appeals Committee instead of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee disciplinary proceedings at second instance.

ARTICLE 18**Concurrence of disciplinary proceedings with other proceedings**

- 18.1** If the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee and / or the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee concludes that the facts of the offense may have been simultaneously committed by a disciplinary offense, it shall without delay pass on all its findings to the law enforcement authorities in the country concerned. Disciplinary bodies shall always use the evidence, evidence and conclusions reached by law enforcement authorities, if available during the disciplinary proceedings.
- 18.2** In the concurrence of disciplinary proceedings and criminal proceedings, the disciplinary body may decide, even repeatedly, to suspend the disciplinary proceedings for a certain period, usually limited by the termination of the preparatory proceedings for possible proof of the crime, if it concludes that it is for further course and outcome disciplinary proceedings are expedient.
- 18.3** If an *IFA* member has been charged with a sports corruption offense, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall suspend his or her sporting, non-sporting or non-sporting activities in the *IFA* until the end of the proceedings for that offense.
- 18.4** In the context of disciplinary proceedings with proceedings before another *IFA* body, the disciplinary body may decide to suspend the disciplinary proceedings for a certain

period, usually limited to the duration of the proceedings before another *IFA* body. The disciplinary body is entitled to perform all actions aimed at clarifying the disciplinary offense, regardless of the ongoing proceedings or proceedings of law enforcement authorities, if it concludes that it is appropriate / expedient for the further course and outcome of the disciplinary proceedings.

ARTICLE 19

Inadmissibility of disciplinary proceedings

- 19.1** Disciplinary proceedings cannot be initiated and, if they have already begun, cannot be continued and must be stopped if:
- a) the disciplinary accused died,
 - b) the disciplinary offense is time-barred,
 - c) the application for the commencement of disciplinary proceedings was submitted by an unauthorized person,
 - d) the finding of the preliminary proceedings that the designated proceedings is not a disciplinary offense,
 - e) disciplinary proceedings have been instituted against the disciplinary defendant for the same act,
 - f) the matter has already been validly decided in the disciplinary proceedings.
- 19.2** The limitation period for a disciplinary offense is two years.
- 19.3** The limitation period in the case of disciplinary proceedings for anti-doping rule violations established in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code is ten years.
- 19.4** The limitation period shall begin to run the day following the commission of the disciplinary offense. The interruption of the time limit begins on the day of the commencement of disciplinary proceedings and continues with the issuance of a decision.
- 19.5** Disciplinary proceedings may not be instituted if the disciplinary accused person has been expelled from the *IFA* for life or has ceased to be a member of the *IFA*, is not associated with it and if he no longer participates in its activities in any way.

ARTICLE 20

Participants in disciplinary proceedings

- 20.1** The participant in the disciplinary proceedings is the disciplinary accused and the petitioner.
- 20.2** The proposer acts in disciplinary proceedings through an authorized *IFA* member or an authorized person.

ARTICLE 21

Rights of participants in disciplinary proceedings

- 21.1** For the purposes of disciplinary proceedings, a disciplinary defendant under these disciplinary rules shall in particular have the following rights:
- a) choose a lawyer at his own expense,
 - b) to comment on the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings and on all the facts stated therein,
 - c) to get acquainted with the disciplinary file,
 - d) take part in the hearing of the case before the disciplinary body,
 - e) to state in its defense the facts proving in its favor,
 - f) ask witnesses questions,
 - g) propose the taking of evidence,
 - h) comment on all facts and evidence taken,
 - i) to appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee,
 - j) apply to the court for review of the final decision of the disciplinary body.
- 21.2** The petitioner has the same rights as the disciplinary accused, but does not have the right to choose a lawyer.

ARTICLE 22

Witnesses

- 22.1** *IFA* members, all members of *IFA* associate members, or persons in an *IFA* member otherwise associated with or participating in its activities are required to testify as a witness in disciplinary proceedings.
- 22.2** Other persons may be heard as witnesses in the disciplinary proceedings if they are willing to testify in the disciplinary proceedings. They must always be instructed in advance about the voluntary nature of their statements.
- 22.3** The witness shall be informed before the hearing of his rights and obligations and of the significance of his testimony in order to establish the facts of the case properly and to invite him to testify in truth and not to conceal anything.
- 22.4** A witness who is a member of the *IFA* shall be informed of a false testimony before hearing so that he or she may be considered a serious breach of the member's duties.
- 22.5** A witness who is a member of an *IFA* member or is otherwise associated with or participates in his or her activities must be instructed prior to questioning that a false statement may be considered a breach of his or her obligations to the *IFA* member.
- 22.6** The examination of witnesses shall take place at the hearing. Outside the hearing, a witness may be questioned only for serious reasons; such a hearing may be attended by the disciplinary defendant or his / her lawyer.

THE COURSE OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD

ARTICLE 23

Preparation of the Disciplinary Committee meeting

- 23.1** In preparation for the hearing, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee examines whether the conditions for disciplinary action are met.
- 23.2** One copy of the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings shall be delivered to the disciplinary defendant in his own hands. Together with the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings, the disciplinary defendant shall be invited to state the alleged violation of the rules of competition in sports for disadvantaged athletes within a specified period, which may not be less than 10 days, and indicate the evidence he proposes to take at the hearing.
- 23.3** After the expiration of the time limit of the disciplinary accused to comment on the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, the chairman of the senate shall order a hearing, unless these *IFA* Disciplinary rules provide otherwise. The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee may decide to suspend disciplinary proceedings without a hearing.
- 23.4** The chairman of the senate shall summon the participants and all those whose presence is necessary to attend the hearing. The summons to a hearing must be delivered to the parties to the disciplinary proceedings so that they have sufficient time to prepare, at least 3 days before the day on which it is to take place. Without complying with the time limit set out in the previous sentence, the hearing may be held only with the consent of the petitioner, the disciplinary defendant and his lawyer.
- 23.5** If another inquiry is necessary to properly clarify the matter, the appropriate measures shall be taken by the chairman of the senate or a member of the senate authorized by him.
- 23.6** At the request of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, the disciplinary defendant is obliged to issue or make available for inspection the relevant documentation in the form of documents, records, records and other matters necessary to prove in the present case.
- 23.7** The hearing may be held in the absence of the disciplinary defendant if:
- a) he has been served with a request to initiate disciplinary proceedings,
 - b) has been invited to comment on the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings and to indicate the evidence which it proposes to take;
 - c) a summons to a hearing has been delivered to him in time,
 - d) has not justified his non-participation in the hearing for a serious reason,
 - e) has been instructed in the possibility of holding the hearing in his absence.
- 23.8** The petitioner's participation in the hearing is not mandatory. If the petitioner has been duly summoned to a hearing, he may act in his absence.

- 23.9** The chairman of the senate shall prepare the hearing so that it takes place within two months of the commencement of the disciplinary proceedings and so that, as a general rule, the matter can be decided at a single hearing. The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee must, as a general rule, decide within 3 months of the commencement of disciplinary proceedings; this does not apply if it is not possible to decide within this period for reasons on the part of the disciplinary defendant.

ARTICLE 24

The course of the hearing and the taking of evidence

- 24.1** The Disciplinary Committee shall take active action in disciplinary proceedings so that disciplinary offenses are duly identified and those who committed them are fairly sanctioned under these *IFA* Disciplinary rules, respecting the principles of due process, fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals and the rights and legitimate interests of legal entities persons.
- 24.2** The meeting of the disciplinary body shall be chaired by the chairman of the senate. A written record of the course of the hearing is drawn up and signed by the recorder and the chairman of the senate. Each participant has the right to inspect the minutes of the hearing and make extracts from it.
- 24.3** The meeting of the disciplinary body shall not be public. The presence of the public at the hearing of a disciplinary offense may be permitted by the chairman of the disciplinary body, in particular if it is appropriate for the purpose of preventing disciplinary proceedings or if a disciplinary person so requests.
- 24.4** In addition to the members of the disciplinary body, a participant in the disciplinary proceedings, his / her legal representative, legal representative, representative, invited persons shall also attend a meeting of the disciplinary body, with the consent of the disciplinary body, a trustee or other persons not considered public. A participant in disciplinary proceedings is a natural person or legal entity whose rights or obligations are decided in disciplinary proceedings.
- 24.5** In order to properly clarify the circumstances of a disciplinary offense, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee is authorized to:
- a) invite persons who can provide important information to the meeting,
 - b) request the opinion of another *IFA* body,
 - c) request written documents, reports or other evidence.
- 24.6** In cases deserving special consideration, the disciplinary body shall award partial or full reimbursement of the costs expediently incurred in providing the required co-operation in disciplinary proceedings, in other cases the entities shall provide co-operation without the right to reimbursement of the costs incurred.

- 24.7** After the commencement of the hearing, the petitioner shall submit a motion to initiate disciplinary proceedings;
- 24.8** The disciplinary defendant has the right to comment on the initiation of disciplinary proceedings. If the hearing takes place in the absence of the disciplinary accused, the chairman of the senate or a member of the senate authorized by him shall read the written statement of the disciplinary accused on the initiative to initiate disciplinary proceedings, if he submitted it. The further course of the hearing shall be determined by the chairman of the senate according to the circumstances of the case. The disciplinary body is not obliged to carry out all the evidence proposed by the parties to the disciplinary proceedings. The disciplinary body is also entitled to take evidence not proposed by the participants, if this is necessary to properly establish the facts of the case.
- 24.9** The chairman of the senate is obliged to allow the disciplinary defendant to comment on all the facts and circumstances of the case and all the evidence presented. If there are no proposals for further evidence, or the chairman of the senate has rejected the proposal for further evidence, the chairman of the senate shall declare the evidence completed. At the end of the taking of evidence, the chairman of the senate will give the floor to present the final motions to the petitioner, the lawyer and the disciplinary defendant, who always has the right of the last word.
- 24.10** After the final motions of the participants and the last word of the disciplinary accused, the senate will be taken to the final meeting for a decision, which can be attended only by the members of the senate and the recorder. After the hearing, the chairman of the senate shall announce the decision, together with a brief statement of reasons and instructions on the appeal.
- 24.11** Hearings may be adjourned only for important reasons, which must be announced. If a hearing is adjourned, the chairman of the senate, as a general rule, announce the date on which the new hearing will take place. At the beginning of the new hearing, the chairman of the senate shall announce the content of the statements and the evidence presented.
- 24.12** The costs of the participation of persons in the disciplinary proceedings pursuant to points (1), (5) and (7) shall be borne by these persons, unless otherwise provided or unless otherwise provided in the *IFA* regulations.

If the disciplinary body is unable to discuss the disciplinary offense for reasons on the part of the disciplinary body, the travel expenses of the summoned participants who appeared before the disciplinary body shall be reimbursed by the *IFA* in which the disciplinary body operates.

ARTICLE 25

Ordinary fine

- 25.1** A person of the *IFA*'s federal affiliation who, despite a previous reprimand, cancels disciplinary proceedings or who acts offensively against the disciplinary body or its member, or who fails to obey an order without sufficient justification, fails or fails to comply with the disciplinary procedure, the disciplinary body to impose a disciplinary fine; in the case of a natural person up to EUR 1,000.00, in the case of a legal person up to EUR 3,000.00.
- 25.2** The person concerned must be notified in advance of the possibility of imposing a disciplinary fine.
- 25.3** An appeal may be lodged against a decision on a disciplinary fine, which shall not have suspensory effect.

ARTICLE 26

Suspension of sports activities

- 26.1** If an Athlete has been excluded from the Competition or if a person delegated to the Competition has indicated that he / she should have been excluded and this fact is stated in the record of the course and outcome of the Competition and the leader of the execution team or team leader was demonstrably informed, has suspended sports activities with immediate effect.
- 26.2** If a member of the implementation team or another person not participating in the competition has been expelled from the sports ground or other areas defined by the sporting rules or if the person delegated to the competition has been marked by the sports association and should be reported of the execution team or the leader of the offender's team was demonstrably acquainted with it, the designated offender has suspended the performance of the sports activity which he performed at the time of the competition with immediate effect.
- 26.3** Suspension of a sporting activity under points (1) or (2) or according to an *IFA* decision, the relevant delegated person shall immediately notify the *IFA*, who shall ensure its publication.
- 26.4** Suspension of the performance of a sporting activity of a person excluded pursuant to point (1) or reported pursuant to point (2) shall be included in the disciplinary sanction imposed, if offsetting is possible.
- 26.5** If a person under point (1) or expelled under point (2) has lodged an appeal against the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee decision on the disciplinary offense for which he was expelled or expelled, the disciplinary body may decide to terminate the suspension, especially if the continued suspension sports activity was disproportionate in relation

to the anticipated length of the appeal proceedings and the anticipated type and scope of the disciplinary sanction that may be imposed.

- 26.6** The immediate suspension of sports activities does not apply to the participation of an Athlete, Team Member or other person in an International Competition, including competitions conducted by an International Sports Organization.
- 26.7** An Athlete or member of the Implementation Team who fails to attend a national team event for which he or she has been duly and timely nominated without proper justification shall be automatically suspended from the national team until the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

ARTICLE 27

Decision on safeguard measure

- 27.1** The disciplinary body may at any time during the disciplinary proceedings decide to determine appropriate protective disciplinary measures if this is in the interest of achieving the purpose of the disciplinary proceedings.
- 27.2** The decision pursuant to point (1) shall be notified immediately by publication.
- 27.3** An appeal may be lodged against a decision imposing protective disciplinary measures, which shall not have suspensory effect.

ARTICLE 28

Decision of the disciplinary body

- 28.1** After clarifying all the circumstances of the disciplinary offense, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall decide to impose a disciplinary sanction in accordance with these *IFA* Disciplinary rules if it is concluded that the disciplinary offense has occurred.
- 28.2** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee may waive the imposition of a disciplinary sanction if, in view of the nature of the disciplinary offense and the person of the offender, it considers that the *IFA*'s disciplinary proceedings alone are sufficient to achieve the purpose of the disciplinary proceedings.
- 28.3** The decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall be made in writing.
- 28.4** The decision shall be delivered to the disciplinary defendant, his lawyer, the petitioner or his representative and the body which maintains the disciplinary register.
- 28.5** The decision is delivered to the participants and the lawyer in their own hands.

- 28.6** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee's decision to impose a disciplinary sanction shall contain:
- a) *IFA* designation,
 - b) the designation of the *IFA* disciplinary body that issued the decision, stating the names of its composition,
 - c) the precise identification of the participants in the disciplinary proceedings, including the offender against whom the disciplinary sanction is imposed and their representative or lawyer,
 - d) designation of the thing,
 - e) the exact wording of the statement,
 - f) a protective measure, if it has been determined during the disciplinary proceedings,
 - g) justification, description of disciplinary offense
 - h) instructions on the appeal, including notification of the possibility and time limit for lodging an appeal, the appellate body and the amount of the appeal fee,
 - i) date and place of issue of the decision,
 - j) signature of the chairman of the senate,
- 28.7** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee announces the decision to impose a disciplinary sanction:
- a) by declaring the decision to the offender, if he participated in the discussion of the disciplinary offense,
 - b) by notifying the statement of the decision by publication within three days of the issuance of the decision, in the interest of preventive and educational action, the Disciplinary Board may decide to publish the decision for a period specified in the decision, not more than one year after the disciplinary sanction is imposed,
 - c) service of a written copy of the decision; and / or
 - d) by registering the decision in full in the *IFA* Disciplinary Register.
- 28.8** The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall decide to stay the proceedings if it concludes if:
- a) disciplinary proceedings are inadmissible,
 - b) there has been no disciplinary offense,
 - c) the suspicion of disciplinary offense has not been proven,
 - d) the disciplinary motion has been withdrawn and the disciplinary charge has been accepted and the Disciplinary Committee agrees and the act is not a disciplinary offense and there is no reason to transfer the matter to another *IFA* or public authority, or a disciplinary offense cannot be decided from another reason.
- 28.9** The written reasoning of the decision pursuant to points (8) and (9) shall be prepared by the *IFA* disciplinary body only after payment of the reasoning fee within a time limit set by the *IFA* disciplinary body, not less than seven days, otherwise it will not comply with the reasoning request; *IFA* authorities are exempt from the fee for drawing up the statement of reasons.

ARTICLE 29

Effectiveness of the disciplinary measures imposed

- 29.1** The disciplinary sanction imposed and the designated protective measure shall take effect on the day of notification of the decision, unless another date of entry into force is specified in the decision.
- 29.2** If an Athlete, Team Member or other person has a provisional suspension of a sporting activity prior to the commencement of disciplinary proceedings, the disciplinary sanction shall commence on the date of the provisional suspension of the Sporting Activity.
- 29.3** The effectiveness of the disciplinary sanction of suspension of sports activities pursuant to Article 26 shall begin automatically on the day following the end of the event and / or event of the sports team for which the Athlete or member of the Implementation Team has been duly and timely nominated in advance.
- 29.4** Disciplinary sanctions for disciplinary offenses in transfer proceedings shall be imposed with effect from the date of commencement of the transfer proceedings.

APPEAL PROCEEDINGS

ARTICLE 30

Appeal

- 30.1** An appeal against a decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee is an appeal.
- 30.2** An appeal shall not have suspensory effect.
- 30.3** The recall of a person who has committed a disciplinary offense within the meaning of Article 8 and a violation of the rules in the sports of disabled athletes is subject to the payment of a fee provided for by the *IFA*'s internal regulations. Proof of payment of the appeal fee may be part of the written form of the appeal and the disciplinary person is obliged to pay this fee at the latest after the issuance of the decision and its entry into force.
- 30.4** The decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, which was served on the parties and against which no appeal has been lodged, is valid. The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee will notify the participants in the proceedings and the body that maintains the *IFA* Disciplinary Register of the entry into force of the decision.
- 30.5** The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee may, upon a reasoned request from the person entitled to appeal, decide on the suspensory effect of a properly and timely lodged appeal.

- 30.6** The annulment or amendment of an *IFA* Disciplinary Committee's decision may be sought for procedural error only if there is a reasonable presumption that the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee would have decided otherwise if it had acted correctly.

ARTICLE 31

Authorized persons

- 31.1** The persons entitled to appeal against the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Appellant”) are:
- a) a natural person on whom a disciplinary sanction or protective measure has been imposed or a person authorized by it; in the case of a person under the age of 18, his / her legal representative or a person authorized by him,
 - b) a legal person on whom a disciplinary sanction or a designated protective measure has been imposed or a person authorized by it,
 - c) another body which demonstrates a legitimate interest in the result of the case.
- 31.2** A person entitled to appeal against a statement of a decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee may also challenge it because such a statement has not been made, as well as for a breach of the provisions of the procedure preceding the decision, if such a breach may have caused the statement to be incorrect or missing.

ARTICLE 32

Requirements for the appeal

- 32.1** The appeal shall contain the following mandatory particulars:
- a) an indication of which authority it is addressed to,
 - b) identification of the person submitting it, stating the name and address of the natural person or the name and registered office of the legal person,
 - c) an indication of the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee against which the appeal is directed,
 - d) grounds of appeal,
 - e) identification of the evidence (witnesses, documents, etc.) to be used in the appeal proceedings,
 - f) an indication of what the appellant is seeking,
 - g) the signature of the appellant, and
 - h) proof of payment of the appeal fee, except where proof of advance payment is not required under *IFA* regulations.
- 32.2** If the appeal does not meet the requirements of point (1), the chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee or a person authorized by him shall invite the appellant to remedy the deficiency of the appeal within a reasonable period of time which he shall also determine.

- 32.3** If the identified deficiency of the appeal has not been remedied within the period specified in paragraph (3), the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall terminate the appeal proceedings.
- 32.4** An appeal is admissible against a decision to discontinue an appeal.

ARTICLE 33

Time and place of appeal

- 33.1** An appeal against a decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, which ruled at first instance, shall be filed and heard by the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee.
- 33.2** The appeal shall be lodged within ten days of the date of receipt of the notification of the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, unless the matter is in accordance with point (3). If the person entitled to appeal against the decision has requested that a written statement of reasons for the decision be drawn up by the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, the time limit for lodging the appeal shall run from that person only upon receipt of the written statement of reasons for the decision by post or other usual verifiable means.
- 33.3** An appeal against a decision on an anti-doping rule violation shall be made to the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee, which conducts second-stage doping hearings in accordance with the *IFA* Anti-Doping Rules and the International Standard for Testing and Investigation.
- 33.4** The Chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee or a person authorized by him shall announce the receipt of the appeal in a verifiable manner.
- 33.5** The Chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee or a person authorized by him shall, within seven days of service of the appeal meeting all the requirements for proper service, file an appeal with the opinion of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee and the necessary supporting documents.
- 33.6** If, under *IFA* regulations, the payment of an appeal fee is a condition of its hearing, the chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall refer the matter to the Appellate Body with information on the payment of the appeal fee; this does not apply to a matter which cannot be postponed.
- 33.7** If the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee upholds the appeal in full (autoreture), the matter will not be referred to the appellate body and the appeal fee will be refunded in full to the person who paid it.
- 33.8** If the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee does not fully comply with the appeal, it shall notify it in a verifiable manner.

33.9 The appellate body is obliged to decide on the appeal within 30 days from the proper submission of the case. If the matter is not adjourned, the appellate body shall decide within 14 days of the proper referral of the case to the chairman of the appellate body.

ARTICLE 34

Proceedings before the Disciplinary Appeals Committee

34.1 The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall deliver a copy of the appeal to the other participant (or, if the appeal is lodged by a person other than the participant, to both participants), stating the period within which he has the right to comment. The period for comment may not be less than 7 days.

34.2 At the end of the period for comment, the chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall file a file for the proceedings before the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee.

34.3 The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee will examine the contested decision in its entirety. Any misconduct in the proceedings before the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee will be taken into account by the *IFA* only in so far as this could result in an incorrect decision.

34.4 The chairman of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee will order a hearing to hear the appeal. A hearing will not be ordered if:

- a) the appeal is dismissed,
- b) an appeal is pending,
- c) the proceedings shall be terminated.

ARTICLE 35

Decision on appeal

35.1 The decision on the appeal is issued by the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee and must be reasoned.

35.2 The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee will dismiss the appeal if:

- a) the appeal was lodged late,
- b) the appeal was lodged by a person who was not authorized to file it,
- c) the participant who filed the appeal waived the right to file it,
- d) the contested decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee is justified and correct,
- e) the person who lodged the appeal withdrew him.

35.3 The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall suspend disciplinary proceedings if:

- a) the conditions for hearing the appeal are not met and should have already been done by the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, or
- b) the reason for the suspension of the disciplinary proceedings arose after the announcement of the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee,

- c) on the basis of the circumstances of the case, further action proves to be impracticable.
- 35.4** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall annul the contested decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee and refer the matter back to the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee for a new procedure and decision.
- 35.5** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee will forward the submitted appeal to the relevant person if it finds that it is not competent to hear and decide on the appeal.
- 35.6** If the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee terminates the disciplinary proceedings, the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee shall annul the decision.
- 35.7** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee will confirm the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee if it is factually correct.
- 35.8** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee will reverse the decision if the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee has made an incorrect decision, even though it has correctly established the facts or concludes that the contested decision of the first instance body does not comply with the *IFA* Statutes or other regulations or is contrary to law.
- 35.9** The *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee may change the decision even if, after the evidence has been adduced, the facts are established in such a way that the matter can be decided.
- 35.10** If there is no reason to dismiss the appeal, stay the proceedings, confirm or change the decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee, the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall annul the contested decision and refer the matter back to the *IFA* Disciplinary Committee for further proceedings; The *IFA* Disciplinary Committee is bound by the legal opinion of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee.
- 35.11** The decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee is binding on the bodies and persons belonging to the *IFA* affected by the decision.
- 35.12** The decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee is final and no decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee may be lodged.
- 35.13** WADA may appeal to the CAS against a decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee; the conditions of appeal and the procedure in this procedure are governed by these regulations applicable to CAS.
- 35.14** If, in similar circumstances, the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee decides differently than it did in its earlier decision on another matter, it shall state the reasons on which it deviated from its earlier decision in order to unify its own decision-making activities. If a disagreement in the decision-making activities of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee is found only after two non-compliant decisions have been issued, the appellate body shall issue a conciliation opinion on or without the initiative of the *IFA*

member, which shall be binding for other similar cases until revoked or subsequently out of date. due to a change in regulations.

- 35.15** In justified cases, the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee may issue an interpretative opinion, which is part of the reasoning of the decision, and this is a generally binding rule for *IFA* members.

ARTICLE 36

Judicial protection

- 36.1** If a disciplinary defendant considers a decision of a disciplinary body against which an appeal can no longer be lodged to be illegal or contrary to the statutes, he may, within 30 days of becoming aware of it, request the competent court to do so within 3 months of the decision review.

- 36.2** The request for review shall not have suspensory effect. However, the court may, in justified cases, suspend the enforcement of the contested decision.

ARTICLE 37

Enforcement of decisions

The disciplinary measure imposed in the disciplinary proceedings shall be entered in the *IFA* Disciplinary Register.

THIRD PART

COMMON PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 38

Decision - making and negotiation of disciplinary bodies

- 38.1** Decisions of disciplinary bodies shall be taken in the form of a resolution.
- 38.2** Decisions of the disciplinary body in less serious matters may also be approved by voting using electronic communication, the rules of which are set out in the *IFA*'s internal regulations.
- 38.3** Unless the nature of the case precludes it, the personal hearing of the disciplinary body may also be held by telephone or video conference of the members of the disciplinary body, including a decision on the case.
- 38.4** In matters of fundamental legal importance, the disciplinary bodies may, before deciding on the matter, request an interpretation of the regulations of the *IFA* Controller or another body designated by the *IFA* Statutes.

- 38.5** If the fact or information to be ascertained or verified as a basis for the decision of the disciplinary body is kept in the *IFA* information system or is publicly available in the sports information system or other public register and can be verified free of charge by remote access (via the Internet), the disciplinary body shall ensure the detection or verification of such fact or information in its own jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 39

Disciplinary proceedings documentation

- 39.1** Minutes shall be taken of the proceedings of the disciplinary body, which shall contain all relevant information on the commencement, course and conclusions of the hearing. The minutes shall be signed or approved by the chairman of the disciplinary body or a member of the disciplinary body authorized by him and by the secretary, if present at the hearing.
- 39.2** All decisions of disciplinary bodies taken in the framework of disciplinary proceedings shall be published and recorded in printed form and in the *IFA* information system.
- 39.3** The decision of the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall be published in full, unless, for serious reasons, the *IFA* Disciplinary Appeals Committee decides otherwise in advance.

ARTICLE 40

Records of disciplinary sanctions and protective measures

- 40.1** Records of imposed disciplinary sanctions and designated protective measures for natural persons and legal entities shall be kept by the disciplinary bodies in the records of decisions kept in the *IFA* information system.
- 40.2** The *IFA* provides for the publication of disciplinary decisions in hard copy, unless records are kept in electronic form only.
- 40.3** The data in the records pursuant to point (1) shall be entered by the secretary of the disciplinary body and / or, by the chairman of the disciplinary body or a person authorized by him.
- 40.4** Disciplinary sanctions and protective measures imposed or imposed on persons registered in the information system shall be entered by the *IFA* on the card of the person concerned.

ARTICLE 41

Disciplinary misconduct fees

- 41.1** For the hearing of each disciplinary offense, the disciplinary accused shall pay a fee for the disciplinary proceedings in advance to the account of the *IFA*, unless the *IFA* regulations require proof of the fee to be paid in advance.
- 41.2** The amount of the fee for hearing the disciplinary offense of a natural or legal person is determined by the internal regulation of the *IFA*.
- 41.3** If the disciplinary body decides that no disciplinary offense has taken place and stops the proceedings, the fee shall be refunded to the person who paid it, in the usual manner in which the fee was paid.
- 41.4** Proof of payment of the fee for the disciplinary offense may also be submitted to the disciplinary body at the meeting at which the disciplinary offense is to be heard, unless the *IFA* regulations require proof of the fee to be paid.
- 41.5** Proof of payment of the appeal fee becomes part of the written form of the appeal. The disciplinary person is obliged to pay this fee at the latest after the issuance of the decision and its entry into force.

PART FOUR

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 42

Transitional provision

- 42.1** Disciplinary proceedings instituted before the date of entry into force of this *IFA* Disciplinary Code shall continue in accordance with this *IFA* Disciplinary Code.
- 42.2** Disciplinary proceedings instituted before the date of entry into force of this *IFA* Disciplinary Code and the acts performed therein shall have the same effects as disciplinary proceedings instituted and acts performed pursuant to this *IFA* Disciplinary Code.
- 42.3** Disciplinary sanctions and measures imposed in accordance with existing disciplinary regulations shall remain valid and effective.

ARTICLE 43

Equal treatment of men and women

The use of the masculine form in these Disciplinary Regulations refers also to the feminine.

ARTICLE 44

Final provisions

- 44.1** Subject to the right of appeal, any decision of the *IFA* in accordance with this *IFA* Code and these disciplinary rules must be recognized and respected by all other *IFA* members.
- 44.2** All *IFA* members, including natural or legal persons and other national associations, such as armwrestling associations / clubs / federations, must recognize and respect decisions made by any other sports authority or court of competent jurisdiction that is not a sports organization as defined in these rules.
- 44.3** The *IFA* and all its members are required to comply with any CAS decision deciding on appeals under this *IFA* Disciplinary Code.
- 44.4** This *IFA* Disciplinary Code is an implementing regulation to the *IFA* Statutes of 11 June 2019 for dealing with disciplinary offenses.

ARTICLE 45

Entry into force - effectiveness

- 45.1** This *IFA* Disciplinary Code was approved by the *IFA* Board on 27 May 2022 and may be amended or modified at any time within the exclusive competence of the *IFA* Board.
- 45.2** This *IFA* Disciplinary Code entered into force on 27 May 2022 (the “Effective Date”).

APPENDIX 1

DEFINITIONS

Anti-Doping Rules IFA: Anti-Doping regulation of the International Federation of Armwrestling, related World Anti-Doping Code.

Armwrestling's competition rules: Armwrestling's competition rules worldwide of the International Federation of Armwrestling related their IFA Competition Rules.

Athlete: Any Person who competes in sport at the international level (as defined by each International Sports Federation) or the national level (as defined by each National Sport Organization), any Person who participates in sport under the sports authority.

Athlete Support Personnel: Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical, paramedical personnel, parent or any other Person working with, treating or assisting an Athlete participating in or preparing for sports competition.

CAS: The Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Code: The World Anti-Doping Code.

Competition: A single race, match, game or singular sport contest. For stage races and other sport contests where prizes are awarded on a daily or other interim basis the distinction between a Competition and an Event will be as provided in the rules of the applicable International Federation.

Disciplinary Committee: A panel that decides on disciplinary offenses appointed pursuant to Article 6. Appellant means the party making the appeal.

Disciplinary Appeals Committee: A panel appointed pursuant to Article 7. Appellant means the party making the appeal.

Disciplinary Code: IFA Disciplinary Regulations means these disciplinary and dispute resolution regulations, as amended from time to time.

International Federation of Armwrestling (IFA): The International Sports Federation, the non-governmental organization that governing armwrestling sport at the international level, and the International anti-doping organization for armwrestling according to the Code.

International Federation of Armwrestling Anti-Doping Rules (IFA ADRs): Anti-Doping Rules of the International Federation of Armwrestling, anti-doping regulation for Control and Punishment of Doping in worldwide armwrestling sport issued in accordance with the Code.

International Event: A duly-sanctioned match, competition or event contested by National Sport Organization or under the jurisdiction of IFA.

National Event: A sport Event or Competition involving International- or National-Level Athletes that is not an International Event.

National Sports Organisation (or Federation): A national or regional entity which is a member of or is recognized by IFA as the entity governing IFA's sport in that nation or region.

National-Level Athlete: Athletes who compete in sport at the national level.

Person: A natural Person or an organization or other entity.

Protected Person: An Athlete or other natural Person who at the time of the anti-doping rule violation: (i) has not reached the age of sixteen (16) years; (ii) has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years and is not included in any Registered Testing Pool and has never competed in any International Event in an open category; or (iii) for reasons other than age has been determined to lack legal capacity under applicable national legislation.

Provisional Hearing: For purposes of Article 7.4.3, an expedited abbreviated hearing occurring prior to a hearing under Article 8 that provides the Athlete with notice and an opportunity to be heard in either written or oral form.

Provisional Suspension: Consequences of Rule Violations pursuant to Article 8.

Regulations: Laws regulations of which the party has knowledge, and full cooperation with any investigation and prosecution (whether by the Company or another body) of such Misconduct and breaches, including (without limitation) by testifying at a hearing if required to do so.

WADA: The World Anti-Doping Agency.