

# Statutes of Swiss Hockey

Swiss Field Hockey Association,  
Fédération Suisse de Hockey sur Gazon,  
Swiss Hockey Federation in Prato

## **I. General Provisions**

### Art. 1: Name

Under the name Swiss Hockey (Swiss Hockey Association, Fédération Suisse de Hockey sur Gazon, Federazione Svizzera di Hockey su Prato) is an association according to Art. 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code.

### Art. 2: Seat

The headquarters of Swiss Hockey is located at the location of the office.

### Article 3: Purpose

Swiss Hockey aims to organize, promote and further develop field hockey, indoor hockey and Hockey5s in Switzerland.

### Art 4: Membership in other associations and organizations

Swiss Hockey is a member of the International Hockey Federation (FIH), the European Hockey Federation (EHF) and the Swiss Olympic Association (SOA).

Swiss Hockey can also join other organizations.

### Article 5: Binding rules

The statutes, regulations, instructions and resolutions of Swiss Hockey and its bodies and committees are binding for members, players and officials.

### Art. 6: Protection of the association's interests

The statutes, regulations, instructions and resolutions of a member of Swiss Hockey must not contradict the purpose and interests of Swiss Hockey. This applies in particular to the statutory arbitration clauses according to Art. 7, Art. 49 and Art. 52.

### Art. 7: Association jurisdiction

With a view to ensuring equal and orderly game operations, the members, their club members, all participants, players and officials submit themselves exclusively to the association's jurisdiction for all disputes arising from membership of Swiss Hockey or from participation in Swiss Hockey's game operations, as set out in the statutes, regulations and instructions of Swiss Hockey and the relevant international associations (namely in accordance with Articles 4, 9 and 52 of the statutes).

#### Article 8: Publications

Publications are made on the Swiss Hockey website.

#### Art. 9: Membership categories

Members of Swiss Hockey are:

- a) the admitted clubs,
- b) the honorary members,
- c) the direct members.

#### Art. 10: Admission of a club or association

A club can be accepted as a member of Swiss Hockey if it plays at least one of the following sports : field hockey, indoor hockey or hockey 5s.

To be admitted, a written application must be submitted to the association's board of directors, enclosing the association's statutes. If the board considers that the requirements have been met, this will be communicated to the members of Swiss Hockey.

If an objection is raised within 30 days by at least 3 members in accordance with Article 9 (a ) of the statutes, the general assembly will make the final decision on admission. If no objection is raised or if the objection is insufficient, the association's board of directors will make the final decision on admission.

#### Art. 11: Admission of an honorary member

Anyone who has made outstanding contributions to Swiss Hockey can be appointed honorary member upon written application addressed to the Association Board or upon application by the Association Board. The General Assembly decides on the appointment.

#### Art. 12: Admission of a direct member

Swiss Hockey can join as direct members:

- a) the free referees,
- b) volunteers and
- c) natural persons who wish to participate in the association's activities and support it with their contribution.

#### Art. 13: Termination of membership

Membership expires:

- a) by leaving,
- b) by dissolution of the association,
- c) by exclusion or
- d) by death of an honorary member or member.

#### Article 14: Withdrawal

A member can terminate his/her membership with a six-month notice period effective December 31. Termination must be made by registered letter to the association's board of directors.

Resignation does not release the member from the obligation to pay previously due contributions, license fees, accrued fines, etc. and those for the current club year.

Those who have left the association have no right to any share in the association's assets.

#### Art. 15: Dissolution of the Association

If an association decides to dissolve, it must notify the association's board of directors by registered letter.

The dissolution does not release the association from the obligation to pay contributions, license fees, accrued fines, etc. that have already become due and those for the current association year.

Associations in the process of being dissolved have no right to shares in the association's assets.

#### Art. 16: Exclusion

A member can only be excluded for important reasons and upon request by the General Assembly of Swiss Hockey. Important reasons include neglect of financial obligations or inactivity over several years. An absolute majority of the voting members present at the General Assembly is required.

The exclusion does not release the member from the obligation to pay previously due contributions, license fees, accrued fines, etc. and those for the current club year.

Those excluded have no right to shares in the association's assets.

## **II. Organs**

### **Art. 17: Organs**

The organs of Swiss Hockey are:

- a) the General Assembly of the Associations (GV),
- b) the Association Board (VV),
- c) the Association Court (VG),
- d) the auditors,
- e) the Disciplinary Commission (DK)
- f) the other committees that may be appointed by the VV (Art. 42) and
- g) the managing director.

### **Art. 18: General Assembly of the Associations**

The General Assembly shall be composed of the members entitled to vote in accordance with Article 9 (a ) of the Articles of Association, who shall be represented by their President or a Club member.

A participant in the General Assembly can only represent one association.

Clubs that are not represented at the general meeting will be fined 200 francs. The board of directors can waive the fine in justified emergency cases.

### **Art. 19: Convening of the General Assembly**

The General Meeting takes place once a year, no later than four months after the end of the financial year.

The General Assembly must be convened in writing by the Board of Directors at least 30 days before the scheduled date. The agenda must be announced and the budget, annual accounts and annual reports must be enclosed.

### **Art. 20: Right to request**

The associations and the members of the bodies have the right to submit proposals to the General Assembly.

The applications must be submitted in writing at least 40 days before the General Assembly. The applications to the General Assembly must be brought to the attention of the associations with the invitation to the General Assembly.

### **Art. 21: Management of the General Assembly**

The General Assembly is chaired by the President or, in exceptional cases, by another member of the Board of Directors.

#### Art. 22: Powers of the General Assembly

The General Assembly has the following powers:

- 1) Approval of the minutes of the last General Assembly,
- 2) Approval of the annual report of the VV, the VG, the auditor's report and the annual accounts,
- 3) Choice:
  - a. the President,
  - b. the members of the association's board,
  - c. the President and the other members of the Association Court and
  - d. the auditors and a deputy
- 4) revision of the statutes,
- 5) temporary establishment of an independent special commission,
- 6) Defining the strategic direction and mission statement,
- 7) issuing and amending regulations,
- 8) Determination of fees and
- 9) Designation of place and date of the general meeting.

#### Art. 23: Voting rights

Each member according to Article 9 lit. a of the statutes has 20 votes in principle. The voting power of each member increases as follows:

- Number of licenses for active field and / or hall multiplied by 3
- Number of licenses for junior field and / or hall multiplied by 2
- number of licenses HKT

To calculate the number of votes of a member, the number of active and paid licenses 30 days before the AGM counts.

#### Art. 24: Quorum

Any properly convened General Meeting shall have a quorum.

#### Art. 25: Votes and elections

Voting and elections are open. Individual votes or elections can be conducted in secret if the majority of the assembly agrees to the request of a member entitled to vote. Resolutions are passed by a simple majority of the votes represented unless the law and statutes provide for a qualified majority. In the event of a tie, the chairman has the casting vote.

#### Art. 26: Protocol

The Secretary General shall keep the minutes. In his absence, the President or his deputy shall appoint a secretary.

The minutes must be drawn up in German and French and published on the website no later than 30 days after the General Meeting.

#### Art. 27: Extraordinary General Meeting

An extraordinary general meeting will be held if the board considers it necessary or if at least one third of all Swiss Hockey clubs request it in writing, stating the reasons. In this case, the extraordinary general meeting must be held within 40 days at the latest.

The extraordinary general meeting must be convened by the board of directors at least 30 days before the date by email, stating the subject, place and date.

#### Art. 28: Term of office

The VV members are elected for a term of three years.

If a board member resigns during his term of office, the board can elect a successor. The next general meeting must confirm or reject this election. If the successor is confirmed, his term of office will again last for 3 years.

#### Art. 29: The Association Board (VV)

The association's board consists of at least:

- the President,
- the Vice President,
- the Secretary General,
- the CFO

and, if possible, one to five additional members.

In case of a tie, the chair of the meeting of the Board of Directors has the casting vote.

The various positions of the VV will be allocated no later than 30 days after the elections and will be published on the Internet no later than 40 days after the elections.

#### Art. 30: Competences of the VV

The Board of Directors has all the powers that enable it to manage Swiss Hockey and represent it externally and that do not fall within the powers of the General Assembly. The Board of Directors is specifically authorized to issue instructions in implementing the statutes and regulations.

The Board of Directors can appoint a managing director. The President is responsible for the management of the managing director or can appoint another member of the Board of Directors to do so.

#### Art. 31: Financial competences of the VV

The Board draws up a budget before the start of a financial year and informs the clubs in an appropriate manner. It can decide on extraordinary expenses, provided that the additional burden does not exceed 10% of the budgeted annual income.

Art. 32: Activities of the President and the other members of the VV

The President shall carry out all business on behalf of the Board of Directors unless it is treated as a single body and does not fall within the scope of duties of the Executive Board or the other members of the Board of Directors as determined by the Board of Directors.

Art. 33: Signing authority

Transactions that create a financial obligation to third parties as well as joining organizations must be signed jointly by the President and the Chief Financial Officer.

For all other transactions, all members of the Board of Directors plus the managing directors may sign collectively in pairs.

Art. 34: Vice President of the VV

The Vice President represents the President when he is unable to perform his duties. He may be entrusted with special tasks by the Executive Board.

Art. 35: Secretary General (GS)

The Secretary General is responsible for the administrative tasks of the VV. This explicitly includes the invitations, agendas and minutes of the general assemblies and the VV meetings as well as the VV's correspondence.

Art. 36: Chief Financial Officer

The CFO acts in accordance with the specifications.

He shall submit the accounts to the auditors and to the General Meeting at the General Meeting.

Art. 37: Members of the VV

The members of the VV can be entrusted with permanent or temporary special tasks by the VV. Members of the VV can sit on committees.

For each function on the board of directors, a job description must be drawn up.

Art. 38: Association Court (VG)

The Association Court is composed of members elected by the General Assembly:

- the President,
- 2 judges (one of them as Vice-President),
- 2 substitute judges,
- a court clerk elected by the Administrative Court at the request of the President of the Administrative Court.

A maximum of 2 people per club can belong to the VG.

The members of the Association Court are elected for a term of three years.

The procedure before the Association Court is laid down in the Judicial Administration Regulations.

#### Art. 39: The Disciplinary Commission

The composition, the election procedure and the proceedings before the Disciplinary Commission are regulated in the Judicial Administration Regulations.

#### Art. 40: Procedural rules

In addition to provisions on the association court and the disciplinary committee, further procedural provisions can be included in the judicial regulations.

#### Art. 41: Auditors

The two auditors (or alternatively 1 auditor and 1 substitute auditor) check the annual accounts. They report to the general meeting in the spring. The auditors can be elected for a maximum of two terms of office. The election takes place at the general meeting.

By resolution of the General Meeting, the mandate of the auditors may be awarded to an external auditing body.

### **IV. Commissions**

#### Art. 42: Commissions

The Board of Directors can form permanent or temporary committees as required. In doing so, it must adhere to the provisions of the statutes and regulations and inform the members accordingly.

The president and members of a committee are appointed by the Board of Directors. The clubs have the right to propose candidates. Members of the Board of Directors can sit on committees.

For each committee, the Board of Directors draws up a specification sheet that sets out the tasks and powers of the committee. The term of office of the committee members is determined by the Board of Directors as required. The committees report to the Board of Directors.

Article 22, paragraph 5 of the statutes, which regulates the temporary establishment of an independent special commission, remains reserved. This is elected by the general assembly and is solely responsible to the general assembly. It works according to a mandate and timetable defined by the general assembly. It has access to all of the association's files.

The Board of Directors may delegate tasks of a committee to the Managing Director.



## **V. Finance**

### **Art. 43: Accounting and financial year**

Swiss Hockey maintains proper annual accounts in accordance with the guidelines of the Swiss Olympic Association .

The financial year corresponds to the calendar year.

### **Art. 44: Revenue**

Ordinary income is:

- the membership fees of the associations according to the resolution of the General Assembly,
- the fees to be paid by the clubs for the players and officials according to the decision of the General Assembly,
- the participation fees of a team in official tournaments,
- the fine contributions,
- the contributions of the public sector,
- the sponsorship income,
- the active interest,
- any additional annual income according to the proposal of the Board of Directors and the resolution of the General Meeting or according to the contract.

### **Art. 45: Membership fees**

Membership fees are set by the General Assembly. Honorary members and direct members do not pay membership fees.

### **Art. 46: Principle regarding financial management and liability**

The principle of a solid financial budget that is adapted to the performance of Swiss Hockey is central to the budget and annual accounts.

The association's assets are solely liable for the association's liabilities. Any liability of the members is excluded. The liability of the association's bodies remains reserved.

## **VI. Disciplinary system**

### **Art. 47: Sanctions against players, officials or referees**

A player, official or referee who is subject to the statutes, regulations, instructions and decisions of Swiss Hockey may be subject to the following disciplinary measures:

- a) Reference,
- b) withdrawal of the right to play for a specific or indefinite period,
- c) Suspension as an association or club official for a fixed or indefinite period,
- d) Fines as provided for in the regulations up to a maximum of 2000 francs per case,
- e) Suspension as arbitrator for a fixed or indefinite period,

f) Suspension as an instructor or training leader for a fixed or indefinite period,  
The right to take extraordinary disciplinary measures in special cases remains reserved.

#### Art. 48: Sanctions against members

A member may be subject to the following sanctions:

- a) ban on a club or team,
- b) Boycott for a fixed or indefinite period, consisting of the cessation of all relations between those bound by the statutes of Swiss Hockey and the boycotted party,
- c) Fines as provided for in the regulations up to a maximum of 2000 francs per case.
- d) Exclusion of a team from participation in association and international matches.

The right to impose extraordinary sanctions in special cases remains reserved.

#### Art. 49: Ethics / Doping

Swiss Hockey is committed to a healthy, respectful, fair and successful sport. It lives these values by treating others with respect, acting transparently and communicating transparently - as well as its bodies and members. Swiss Hockey recognizes the current "Ethics Charter" of Swiss sport and disseminates its principles to its members.

Doping contradicts the fundamental principles of sport and medical ethics and represents a health risk. For these reasons, it is prohibited. Swiss Hockey and its members are subject to the Swiss Olympic Doping Statute (hereinafter: Doping Statute) and other specifying documents. Any violation of Articles 2.1 ff. of the Doping Statute is considered doping.

Swiss Hockey is subject to the Swiss Sport Ethics Statute. The Ethics Statute is binding for Swiss Hockey itself, its employees, committee members, members, clubs and their respective bodies, members, employees, athletes, coaches, supervisors, doctors and officials . Swiss Hockey ensures that its direct and indirect members also adopt the statute and enforce it against their members, employees and representatives.

Suspected violations of the applicable anti-doping regulations and the ethics statute are investigated by Swiss Sport Integrity. The Disciplinary Chamber of Swiss Sport (hereinafter: Disciplinary Chamber) is responsible for assessing and sanctioning identified violations of the applicable doping regulations and the ethics statute . The Disciplinary Chamber applies its procedural rules and imposes the sanctions set out in the doping statute or in the regulations of the relevant international association or in the ethics statute. Decisions of the Disciplinary Chamber can be appealed to the Tribunal Arbitral du Sport (CAS) in Lausanne within 21 days of receipt of the reasoned decision, to the exclusion of the state courts .

## **VII. Statute revision / dissolution of Swiss Hockey**

### Art. 50: Revision of the statutes

A revision of the statutes must be approved by at least two thirds of the members present or

represented.

#### Art. 51: Dissolution

The dissolution of Swiss Hockey can only be decided at an extraordinary general meeting by a two-thirds majority of all votes of all members.

The decision regarding the use of the association's assets requires an absolute majority of the votes represented.

### **VIII. Final Provisions**

#### Art. 52: Tribunal Arbitral du Sport (TAS)

Civil and association law disputes between individual members of Swiss Hockey, disputes between members and Swiss Hockey, decisions of the association bodies and the judicial bodies of Swiss Hockey which are no longer contestable within the association and are not final are subject to arbitration to the exclusion of the ordinary courts. The competent arbitration court is the International Sports Court, the Tribunal Arbitral du Sport (CAS) in Lausanne. The procedural provisions of the CAS (Code de l'arbitrage en matière de sport ) apply . The appeal period is 30 days. Additional procedural provisions can be made in the judicial regulations. In this case, the statutes, regulations, instructions and resolutions of Swiss Hockey apply; Swiss law applies subsidiarily. This is subject to differing provisions of international associations, namely in accordance with Art. 49 of the statutes.

#### Article 53: Language

If there are differences between a German version of the statutes, regulations, instructions, resolutions and minutes and a version in another language, the German version shall prevail. For the sake of simplicity, only the male form is used in statutes, regulations, instructions, minutes and resolutions. This always includes the female form or other forms .

#### Art. 54: Image, text, sound and personality rights

Swiss Hockey has the right to market text, image, sound and similar recordings (including names of participants) that are made by Swiss Hockey alone or with partners as part of publicly accessible events and to use them for advertising purposes. In particular, Swiss Hockey has the right to use these recordings on the website without restriction and to pass them on to third parties. The rights are transferred to Swiss Hockey for an unlimited period of time and irrevocably. Simultaneous use by the respective members remains reserved, provided they are involved in an event.

#### Art. 55: Data protection

The board regulates data protection issues in a regulation. This must be approved by the general meeting.

Art. 56: Delivery of notices

To the extent that the statutes, regulations and instructions provide for written delivery, delivery by email is equivalent to written delivery. This does not apply to expressly stipulated registered delivery and the special delivery rules in accordance with the regulations governing the administration of justice or the procedural rules of the international associations (including CAS).

Art. 57: Entry into force of the statutes

The statutes will come into force on November 26, 2023 and replace those of May 1, 2022.

**Swiss Hockey**

The President



Frank Schneider

The Secretary General



Nick Zepf