

# EUROPEAN DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION

*Founded 5<sup>th</sup> May 1990*



## CONSTITUTION

CONSISTING OF THE EDBF

**STATUTES**

AND

**BYE-LAWS**

**7th EDITION – EDBF Congress 27/08/18**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The European Dragon Boat Federation (EDBF) was formally constituted at a meeting of its Founder Members held, at the Hazewinkle Watersports Centre, Mechelen, Belgium, on Saturday 5th May 1990.

Representatives from the following European Nations were present at the meeting, the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Germany, the Founder Members, with written support for the proposed EDBF Constitution coming from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Switzerland. Messages of support were received from Belgium, Hungary, Ireland, Poland and Portugal.

The role of the EDBF is to develop the Sport of Dragon Boat Racing on the Continent of Europe and to ensure that festival based Dragon Boating retains its traditions and remains a sport and recreation to be enjoyed at all levels, by as many people as possible. This the EDBF seeks to achieve without too many unnecessary rules and regulations or too much officialdom.

The philosophy of the EDBF is that Dragon Boating is great fun and a very social sport. At basic level the EDBF believes that Dragon Boat Racing should be organized with this in mind, thus keeping it well within the capabilities of the average able-bodied or disabled person.

The formal Articles laid down in the EDBF Statutes, together with the Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing, follow those of the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) and are designed to create an organisation, within which, the cultural background and traditions and the social aspects of Dragon Boating are preserved; the competitive aspects of Dragon Boat Racing enhanced; and the ideals on which the IDBF and EDBF were founded, maintained.

The purpose of the EDBF, therefore is to provide a Continental organization for Europe for the general conduct of Dragon Boating and the development of Dragon Boat Racing, as a recognized sport in Europe and to represent the interests of its member Governing Dragon Boat Associations within the IDBF and with other organisations.

**EDBF STATUTES****7<sup>th</sup> Edition approved at EDBF Congress on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018****PART 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

The EDBF Statutes follow those of the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) and consist of the formal Articles of Association adopted by the Congress of the Federation. As such they lay down the principles on which the EDBF is established and the policies under which the EDBF is organised. The description and principles of the EDBF, as an organisation, are laid down in Bye-Laws.

**ARTICLE 1. - NAME AND JURISDICTION.**

1.1 EDBF. The organization shall be known as the EUROPEAN DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION, with the official abbreviation of EDBF. The jurisdiction of the EDBF is directly related to the sport of Dragon Boat Racing in Europe, and through its member organizations may also encompass recreational and festival dragon boating. A 'Dragon Boat', Festival dragon boating and the Sport of Dragon Boat Racing shall be as defined within the Bye-Laws of the EDBF and the format and conduct of Dragon Boat Racing will follow those laid down in the IDBF Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing, which may be supplemented by other such regulations and rules specific to situations in Europe, as determined by the EDBF Council.

1.2 Emblem. The emblem of the EDBF and the circumstances in which it may be used shall be defined within the Bye-Laws.

1.3 Language. The official language of the EDBF is English. The use of other languages in EDBF Meetings may be authorized by the Chairholder with the consent of the meeting concerned.

1.4 Headquarters. As a general rule, the EDBF shall have its Headquarters where its administrative office (Secretariat) is situated. (The Secretariat of the EDBF will normally be located in the country where the EDBF General Secretary is domiciled or by exception in the country where the President is domiciled).

**1.5 Jurisdiction**

With the objects of encouraging the development of the sport of Dragon Boat Racing and of maintaining its Asian cultural, historical and religious traditions and of strengthening the bonds of friendship that unite those who practice it, the Governing Association from Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden, founded the European Dragon Boat Federation (EDBF) on the 5th May 1990, in Mechelen, Belgium.

**1.6 Autonomy of EDBF Members.**

The EDBF shall have no part in purely national or territorial questions, unless the actions of a

Member adversely affects the Status and Standing of the EDBF or another EDBF Member. The EDBF shall allow its Member Associations complete autonomy internally, however, the EDBF shall monitor all activities of its Members that may affect the EDBF either in part or in its entirety.

#### 1.7 The International Dragon Boat Federation

The EDBF recognizes the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) as the only world governing body for Dragon Boating, supports its aims and objectives, the IDBF Statutes, Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing, subject to art. 1.1.

#### ARTICLE 2. - AIMS.

2.1 The EDBF is founded to promote and develop competition in Dragon Boats as a Sport, and to encourage their use as a recreational activity for all people, within the countries of Europe and to strengthen the bonds of friendship that unite those that practice dragon boating in all its aspects.

2.2 The EDBF shall not allow political, racial or religious discrimination between, or towards its crews, competitors, officials and officers. Events, meetings and races organised or sanctioned by the EDBF shall only be held in countries which guarantee unhindered access to all those representing the Federation or a Member Organisation.

2.3 The EDBF shall promote and encourage the social aspects of Dragon Boating amongst its members and shall maintain the cultural background and traditions of festival racing in the modern era of the sport of Dragon Boat Racing, which was established in 1976 from International Races held as part of the Hong Kong Festival.

2.4 The EDBF shall be the means of liaison between EDBF Members. Such matters may demand assistance from the Federation in all matters that fall within the sphere of EDBF activities, interest or influence.

2.5 The EDBF shall uphold the principle of neither interfering with, nor permitting interference in, the internal affairs of Member Organisations, subject to art. 1.6.

2.6 Without infringing the right of self-determination of any of its members the EDBF shall follow and watch any developments in international sport that may affect the Federation or its members or the sport and recreation of Dragon Boating in Europe.

2.7 The EDBF may settle any disputes that may arise between its members from time to time and shall follow the IDBF Disciplinary Procedures in this regard.

#### ARTICLE 3. - OBJECTS.

Other objects may from time to time be defined by the General Assembly.

3.1 To establish competition in dragon boats that will enable all age groups and ability levels to take part in races at a level that is suitable to their degree of skill and experience.

3.2 To encourage the formation of governing associations in countries where none exists and to give advice and guidance on development where a recognized organisation does exist.

3.3 To encourage the organisation of international races open to all crews, at both Club Crew and National Crew level; to co-ordinate a programme of international races and to ensure the right of competitors to take part in international competition.

3.4 To establish European competitions under the title of European National Crew Championships, European Club Crew Championships and regional Championships.

3.5 To issue supplementary Rules and Regulations to those of the IDBF which are appropriate to Europe and to advise member organisations on such matters.

3.6 To ensure that all races organised or authorized by the EDBF are governed by Rules and Regulations that give equal opportunities to men and women in the composition of dragon boat crews.

3.7 To maintain the traditional designs of the craft and equipment used in Dragon Boating and to ensure that rules and regulations for the building and classification of dragon boats, used in competitions within Europe, comply to those specifications laid down by the IDBF.

3.8 To ensure that all Statutes, Bye-Laws; Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing issued by the IDBF and supplemented by the EDBF, where appropriate, are fully observed and complied with.

3.9. To establish formal links and associations with other European Sports Federations and groups

## **PART 2. MEMBERSHIP**

### ARTICLE 4. - MEMBERS.

4.1 The membership of the EDBF is mandatory for a European National Association prior to qualification for IDBF Membership. Such Membership is conditional on the terms laid down in the EDBF Statutes and Bye Laws, shown below and is subject to the payment of an annual administration fee, set by the EDBF Council.

Following Confirmation of EDBF Membership it is mandatory to apply for membership of IDBF.

#### **4.2 FULL MEMBERS**

Subject to the terms; conditions and definitions for Membership, as laid down in the EDBF Bye-Laws, no Governing Association may become an EDBF Full Member, unless its membership includes the majority of bona fide Dragon Boat Clubs (crews) within its country or territory, and its own Statutes are consistent with those of the EDBF/IDBF. Full Members shall immediately notify the Executive Committee of the EDBF/IDBF of any changes made to its Statutes and Rules of Racing; membership of its governing committee; its address or the design or colours of its racing uniform or paddles.

#### **4.3 BASIC MEMBERS**

Basic Membership of the EDBF is open to Governing Associations in countries where a Full Member of the EDBF/IDBF does not exist.

#### 4.4 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The EDBF Council may admit as Associate Members such other organizations and for such periods of time as is defined in the Bye-laws. Applications for Associate Membership shall be made to the Secretary General for consideration by the EDBF Executive Committee and approval by the EDBF Council.

#### 4.5 AFFILIATE MEMBERS

EDBF Affiliate Membership is open to sponsors, event organizers of Continental Dragon Boat Races, non-dragon boat organisations and non-sporting associations supporting the Aims and the objects of the EDBF. Applications for Associate Membership shall be made to the Secretary General for consideration by the EDBF Executive Committee and approval by the EDBF Council.

#### 4.6 TEMPORARY MEMBERS

All applicants for EDBF Membership may, in the first instance, be offered temporary membership by EDBF Executive Committee.

### ARTICLE 5. - MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

5.1 The EDBF Membership Classes will be in accordance with those laid down in the IDBF Statutes and Bye-Laws.

5.2 EDBF Members in Europe must observe and comply with any supplementary EDBF Statutes, Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations and Racing Rules, to those of the EDBF as may be published from time to time, by the EDBF Council and to

- a. Undertake to accept as binding and final the decisions of the competent authorities within the EDBF and with regard to disputes between EDBF Members to recognize the IDBF Courts of Arbitration and the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, as the only external judicial authorities
- b. Undertake to impose the obligations in Articles 2 and 3 upon its own members and their members in all areas in which the EDBF has authority.

5.3 Resignations. A Member wishing to withdraw from EDBF membership shall do so in accordance with the EDBF Statutes and also shall give notice of resignation in writing to the EDBF Secretary-General, who shall inform the EDBF Council and the remaining EDBF Members of any such resignation within 3 months of the resignation occurring.

5.4 Expulsion. A Member who does not continue to fulfil the conditions for EDBF Membership and does not rectify the situation by a date fixed by the EDBF Executive Committee, or if there are other justifiable reasons, the EDBF Congress may expel that member.

### ARTICLE 6. - EDBF SUBSCRIPTION

6.1 All Members of the EDBF shall pay an annual administration fee, as detailed in the Bye-Laws. The annual fee must be paid not later than 60 days after the receipt of the invoice in the year that it is due.

6.2 Members whose fees are in arrears lose their voting rights within the EDBF, and the right to take part in EDBF Nations Championships, until such time as all outstanding fees are paid.

6.3 Non-Payment of an EDBF Member's Fees will automatically deprive the EDBF Member concerned of any voting rights within the EDBF and the right of the Member concerned to be represented on the EDBF Council, until such time as all outstanding fees are paid.

### **PART 3. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **ARTICLE 7. - CONTROL.**

7.1 The Administration of the EDBF shall consist of:

1. The EDBF Members Congress.
2. The Council, consisting of:
  - a. The Executive Committee.
  - b. Five (5) Representatives from the Members
  - c. The Chair Holders of the Commissions

7.2 Finance. The Financial Year of the EDBF shall follow that of the IDBF's, which presently is the calendar year.

7.3 Representation within the EDBF

Representation within the EDBF shall be in accordance with the IDBF Statutes and Bye-Laws, which means that several Dragon Boat Associations or groups, in one country, can only be represented in the EDBF by one (1) Member.

#### **ARTICLE 8 - THE EDBF CONGRESS**

8.1 The EDBF Congress shall be the supreme authority of the EDBF, whose activities shall be subject to its control. The EDBF Congress shall consist of delegates representing the EDBF Full and Basic Members.

The President of the EDBF shall take the Chair and open and close the Congress or, failing him or her, the Senior Vice-President (in case of equal seniority, the eldest) shall preside. In the absence of the Senior (1st) Vice-President the 2nd Vice-President, shall preside. In the absence of all the Vice Presidents, the Secretary General shall preside. In the absence of the Secretary General, the Treasurer shall preside.

The President shall conduct the business of the Congress according to the Final Agenda laid down in these Statutes. In the absence of the President or if the President so directs, a Vice-President or the Secretary-General, or the Treasurer, as detailed above, shall conduct the business of the Congress.

8.2 Ordinary Congress. Members shall meet in an Ordinary Congress at a time and place agreed by the previous meeting. All EDBF Members' shall be entitled to send delegates to an Ordinary Congress.

Each Full Member shall have the right to appoint a maximum of three delegates and each Basic Member a maximum of two delegates to speak and take part in the Congress.

Members may at any time change their delegates but they may not be represented by a delegate who already represents another member or by a member of the Executive Committee.

Each delegate must be a citizen or resident of the country of the member represented and must be able to prove citizenship (residency) by presenting an official document (passport or identity card) to the EDBF Sec-General.

A citizen or resident from one EDBF Member, not already a Delegate, may represent another EDBF Member, by prior formal notification of such a representation by the EDBF Member so being represented. The Executive Committee may make other exceptions concerning proxy voting by a Representative. See art. 8.5 and 8.18 concerning proxy voting by a Representative.

Proof of Authority. All delegates must be able to provide immediate proof of authority as per the EDBF Bye-Laws.

Observers approved by the EDBF Executive Committee may attend an Ordinary Member's Congress.

8.2.1 Convening Notice. The EDBF Secretary-General shall send out a formal convening notice at least one (1) month before the agreed date of the Ordinary Congress. As a minimum, this notice shall confirm the date, time and place of the OC. The notice shall include an Agenda and may include any other supporting papers appropriate to the Agenda items.

8.3 Delegates attendance at a Congress shall be at EDBF Members own expense and those delegates attending should notify the EDBF Secretariat of their intention to do so, at least two weeks before the Congress meets.

8.4 Only those items contained on the Final Agenda and any items of other business notified to the EDBF President, before the Meeting, may be discussed at an EDBF Congress. Papers supporting the Accounts, the Financial Report, the Budget and any other items for discussion, will be provided with the Final Agenda.

8.5 Voting.

Full Members attending an EDBF Congress shall be entitled to one vote each. Basic Members shall be entitled to one vote each on all matters except those concerning and supplementation to the EDBF Statutes or Bye-laws.

A Full Member who is not in attendance at an Ordinary Congress may vote by proxy through the Chair holder or a nominated 'Representative' as allowed for under Article 8.2.



Such proxy votes must relate only to those items published on the agenda and when a Representative is not present, must be submitted, with a written authority, to the EDBF President before the Congress commences.

The Chair-holder shall cast proxy votes held by him/her. In the event of a tied vote the Members of the Executive Committee (less the Congress Chair-holder) shall cast their votes. In the event of a further tied vote the Chair-holder shall then have the casting vote. Decisions of Congress shall be taken on the basis of a majority of votes cast.

8.5.1 Elections. Unless a secret ballot is demanded by a delegate, voting shall be by a show of hands except that when voting for more than one (1) candidate. When this is the case and additional ballots are necessary, the candidate obtaining the smallest number of votes in each ballot, shall be eliminated until one candidate obtains the majority vote. In similar situations, for example awarding the right to organise an EDBF Championship, this method of voting shall also apply.

8.6 Date of Taking Effect. Elections and decisions of an Ordinary EDBF Congress shall take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January, unless the Congress determines otherwise.

8.7 Quorum. Subject to the provisions of Article 20 (Dissolution) the decisions of a Congress shall be valid, irrespective of the number of members represented.

8.8 Agenda. The Agenda for the Ordinary Congress will generally include the following items: -  
The Agenda for an Ordinary meeting of the Congress shall include:

1. Opening of the Congress and the President's address.
2. Identification of the delegates and confirmation of their authority.
3. Appointment of scrutineers for the Congress.
4. The President Report.
5. Reports from the Chair holders of the Commissions.
6. Accounts, Financial Report and Auditor's Report.
7. Approval of the accounts for the previous period.
8. Determination of the Annual Subscription.
9. Budget for the next period.
10. EDBF Championship Regattas.
11. Place and Date of the next Congress.
12. Appointment of a Full Member to be responsible for auditing the accounts.
13. Reports on new members.
14. Individual proposals from members. If necessary, the following, or any other items which the Executive Committee may wish to bring up for discussion may be added to the agenda and notified in accordance with this Article.
15. Supplementations to the EDBF Statutes; Bye-Laws; Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing.
16. Elections.
17. Any Other Business and Closing Address. (Only Any Other Business notified in accordance with the Statute can be discussed formally at a Congress. The President may allow informal AOB to be discussed and noted in the Minutes with or without comment.)

8.9 Motions. Any Member of the EDBF, the Board or Council shall have the right to propose motions or items of other business for the consideration of an Ordinary Congress. Such motions or items shall ordinarily be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General no later than six (6) weeks before the date of the Ordinary Assembly, or minute by a prior Board or Council Meeting.

8.10 Additional items, not in the form of a motion or concerning the Statutes, received after the Final Agenda has been published, may also be discussed as Any Other Business, if the majority of Members at the Congress so agree.

8.11 Formal voting on additional items may only take place if at least two thirds of all Full Members entitled to vote are present at the Congress and providing that the majority of all Members present are in favor of such a vote.

8.12 Supplements from the EDBF to the IDBF Racing Rules and Competition Regulations can be discussed at any Congress but actual proposals to the IDBF, can only be made on even years. Such supplements can only be proposed to the IDBF if they obtain two-thirds of the votes of EDBF Congress.

8.13 Any proposal placed on the Ordinary Congress Agenda by a Member who is not present shall only be discussed if another Member, or the EDBF Executive Committee assumes responsibility for it.

8.14 Auditing of Accounts. The Ordinary Congress shall appoint a Full Member to be responsible for auditing the EDBF accounts.

8.15 Reports. An Ordinary Congress may appoint individuals or organisations to report on matters brought before it. It may also require the Executive Committee to submit its views on questions that the Congress may wish to give further consideration.

8.16 Appeals. Appeals against decisions taken by the Council or Executive Committee must be submitted in the form of a motion, to the EDBF President. This must be done in writing, by recorded post, facsimile transmission or email, at least one day before the date of an Ordinary Congress.

8.17 Extraordinary Congress. Delegates shall meet as an Extraordinary Congress when the Ordinary Congress, the Board or the Council so decide or when at least one third of the Full Members of the federation submit a demand in writing to the EDBF Chair Holder, giving the reasons why.

A convening notice and agenda for an Extraordinary Congress must be sent out by the Secretary-General no later than two (2) weeks before the Congress meets.

8.18 With the exception of business under Article 20, a quorum of half (50%) of the EDBF Full Members entitled to vote is required before an Extraordinary Congress can formally discuss any business on the Agenda. A simple majority vote of all Members present is required to pass a motion placed before an Extraordinary Congress. Voting by proxy is allowed.

8.19 Proposals from Members can only be discussed if the Member's delegates are present. The costs of members delegates attending an Extraordinary Congress remain with the members. Decisions taken by an Extraordinary Congress shall come into immediate effect unless the Congress decides otherwise.

ARTICLE 9. - MANAGEMENT OF THE EDBF.

9.1 The EDBF shall be managed by an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the EDBF President; Four (4) Vice-Presidents; a Treasurer, a Secretary-General and a representative of the Full Members nominated by the Full Members at an Ordinary Congress.

The Executive Committee shall operate under the Direction of the President. In matters concerning formal decisions of the EDBF Congress, the EDBF is bound by the signatures of the President. In the absence of the President the Senior Vice-President, In the absence of the Senior Vice-President the alternative signatory shall be that of the Secretary-General.

Decisions of the EDBF Executive Committee and Council are bound by the signature of the President and Secretary General, other than in exceptional circumstances, when the signatories shall be that of the Senior Vice-President and the Secretary-General.

Agreed Policy Letters and matters of Administration will be signed by one or other of the Officers of the Federation, that is, the President, Secretary-General or Treasurer. The Bye-Laws shall define the circumstances in which the Vice-Presidents may so act and sign documents.

9.2 The Members of the Council shall be elected for four (4) years by the Congress. The Members of the Council are honorary office bearers. The Elected Members of the Council shall retire in sequence and are eligible for re-election, for up to three (3) consecutive terms of office.

The President and the Treasurer shall retire together, and the Secretary-General and four (4) Vice-Presidents, two (2) years later. The four (4) Commission Chair holders shall retire in the same year as the President. The representative of the Full Member and the five (5) representatives from the Members shall retire in the same year as the President.

9.3 In the case of a casual vacancy on the Council, with the exception of the President, the Executive Committee shall replace the member concerned until the next Ordinary Congress. In the case of the President, the Council shall replace him or her, as detailed in Bye-Laws. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the Senior Vice-President shall take the Chair until the next Congress.

The five (5) representatives from the Members can be nominated by any EDBF Member entitled to vote or they can be re-nominated by their respective EDBF Member concerned or replaced by the Executive Committee.

9.4 Nominations. EDBF Officers, for election to the Council, that is, the President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, and Vice-Presidents, shall be nominated and seconded by any two EDBF Members, or the Council in a formal minute. The Full Members Representative must be notified to the EDBF Executive Committee, by the EDBF Member to which they belong (see Bye-Laws for nominating procedures). All such nominations must be lodged with the Secretary – General at least six (6) weeks before an Ordinary Congress.

9.5 Periods of Office. All periods of office shall commence from the 1<sup>st</sup> January after the Congress at which the election takes place, unless the congress decides otherwise.

9.6 Election. The election of Officers, Members Representatives to the Council and the Commissions Chair-holders, shall be by simple majority of those votes cast. All Council Members shall be eligible for re-election subject to the conditions shown in article 9.2

9.7 Co-options. The Council may co-opt additional members to its number, in an advisory capacity. Co-opted members shall not have voting rights.

#### 9.8 PRESIDENT OF HONOUR AND HONORARY PRESIDENTS:

The EDBF shall appoint a President of Honor, whose duties will be detailed in the EDBF Bye-Laws. The EDBF POH shall be an ex-officio Member of the EDBF Executive Committee and Council, in a non-voting capacity.

There shall be EDBF Honorary Presidents' who may be appointed by the Congress on retirement from the office of EDBF President. Congress may also grant the honorary title of their office to former EDBF Vice Presidents and Members of the EDBF Council.

Other individuals proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Council, who have rendered distinguished service to the cause of Dragon Boat Racing, may be granted the title of 'Honorary Member', in addition to former members of the EDBF Council. All those granted an Honorary title may attend the Congress, in a non-voting capacity.

### ARTICLE 10. - THE COUNCIL

10.1 Duties of the Council. The Council shall be responsible for the following:

10.1.1 To take such steps as may be necessary to achieve the aims and object laid down in Articles 2 and 3 of these Statutes.

10.1.2 To ensure the execution of decisions taken by a Congress.

10.1.3 To take what action may be necessary under Articles 16 and 17 concerning disciplinary matters and disputes between EDBF Members.

10.1.4 To ensure the maintenance of proper standards in the organisation of EDBF Championships and Events conducted under the authority of or sanctioned by the EDBF.

10.1.5 To ensure the observation of the EDBF Statutes, Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing Rules by EDBF Members.

10.1.6 To ratify appointments to the Commissions made by the Executive Committee.

10.1.7 To make policy decisions on behalf of the Members Congress between meetings of the Congress concerning the development of the sport in Europe.

10.1.8 To ratify any Supplementary Bye-Laws and non- management decisions made by the Executive Committee and to hear members appeals.

10.2 In order to ensure the effectiveness of its work, the Council shall meet at least once a year, between meetings of the Congress. The Council may conduct its business in writing, by email, facsimile machine or other electronic means or by telephone until, in the context of a discussion, the President deems otherwise.

#### ARTICLE 11. - The Executive Committee

11.1 Duties of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the following:

- a. To conduct the work of the EDBF between meetings of the Council and the Member's Congress and to keep members informed of the affairs of the EDBF.
- b. To make decisions in the interests of Dragon Boat Racing between meetings of the Council and to ensure representation of the EDBF by one of its Officers or Members of the Council.
- c. To assign duties to and direct the work of the EDBF Commissions. To ensure that the duties assigned are properly carried out. For this reason, Executive Committee Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Commissions.
- d. To prepare and issue Convening Notices and Agendas for the Member's Congress and the Council and to prepare reports for both.
- e. To draw up and adapt where necessary, on behalf of the Council, supplementations to the IDBF Statutes, Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations and Racing Rules.
- f. To be responsible for the day to day administration and financial management of the EDBF. To this end the Executive Committee may establish administrative offices with persons who are remunerated.
- g. To deal with such matters as have been specifically delegated to it by the Congress or Council.
- h. To take disciplinary action against any EDBF Member, individual or crews reported to the Executive Committee under the IDBF (EDBF) Competition Regulations or Code of Conduct. An appeal against disciplinary action taken by the Executive Committee may be made to the Council.

11.2 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice during the year, once in conjunction with a Council Meeting and then normally between meetings of the Council. The Executive Committee may conduct its business in writing, by email, facsimile machine or other electronic means, visual or verbal, or by telephone.

#### ARTICLE 12. - EDBF COMMISSIONS

12.1 The Council may approve and the Executive Committee set up, Commissions for specific purposes concerning the development of all aspects of dragon boating in Europe. Such Commissions as may

be necessary from time to time, shall be consultative and advisory bodies for the Executive Committee from whom they shall receive the directions for their work. In particular, Commissions will be established in the following fields:

1. Marketing and Media  
(M&MCOM)
2. Competition and Special Events  
(COMSPEC)
3. Sports Medicine, Psychology and Science  
(SMEDCOM)

and other commissions as instigated by the IDBF.

12.2 Members may nominate people to serve on any Commission but any such nominations must be notified to the Secretary General for consideration by the Executive Committee. The Council and the Executive Committee may make direct appointments to the Commissions. All appointments shall be ratified by the Council and shall be for a period of two (2) years, which may be renewed. The Commission Chair Holders' shall be elected by the Member's Congress and shall be voting members of the EDBF Council.

12.3 Duties of the Commissions The duties and field of activity of the Commissions shall be defined in the EDBF Bye-Laws. The Commissions shall meet as required and when so requisitioned by the Commission Chair Holder. The Commissions may conduct their business in writing, by email, facsimile machine or other electronic means, visual or verbal, or by telephone.

#### ARTICLE 13. - DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSIONS

13.1. All decisions of the Council, Executive Committee, the Commissions and any EDBF appointed groups shall be taken by a majority decision of the votes cast by the members present.

In the case of a tie, the President at Meetings of the Council and Executive Committee or the Chair Holder, at Commissions and other EDBF group meetings, shall have a casting vote.

#### ARTICLE 14. - EXPENSES OF OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

14.1 Travel and accommodation expenses for the Officers and Members of the Council and the Commissions shall normally be borne by the Member Organisation to which the individual belongs. If an individual does not belong to an EDBF Member then, where possible, such expenses may be met by the EDBF. The expenses of the Executive Committee shall, where possible, be met by the EDBF if sufficient funds are available.

14.2 If EDBF finances permit, travel and administrative expenses will be paid to all persons working for the EDBF but details of all such expenses must be submitted to the Treasurer, for approval by the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE 15. - DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

15.1 The duties of the President and Officers of the EDBF shown below and the Honorary Officers are detailed in the Bye-Laws

1. The President
2. The Vice Presidents
3. The Secretary-General
4. The Treasurer
5. Full Members' Representative
6. Commissions' Chair Holders

15.2 Between Council and Executive Committee meetings the President, Secretary General and Treasurer shall deal with current affairs. They shall conduct the day to day management of the EDBF, subject to the authority of the Executive Committee, Council and the Congress.

15.3 Members of the Council. It is incumbent upon the Members Representative of the Council, to represent the views of their EDBF Members. It is also incumbent upon them and the Commission Chairholders, to promote the development of Dragon Boating, within their own Countries and to assist the EDBF Officers in promoting and developing the Sport in those European countries in which the sport is not well known.

15.4 The Members Representative shall also carry out such tasks as may be allocated to him or her by the Council or by the Executive Committee or as published in the Bye-Laws, from time to time.

#### ARTICLE 16. - DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

16.1. The disciplinary measures which the EDBF may recommend to the IDBF or take in circumstances appropriate to EDBF Championship Regattas shall be to:

1. Caution.
2. Reprimand or Fine.
3. Exclude - some or all members of a Member Organisation from participation in EDBF events.
4. Suspension.
5. Expulsion.

16.2 These disciplinary measures can be recommended to the EDBF Executive Committee against any individual from an EDBF Member Organisation in its entirety for a breach of the EDBF Statutes;

Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations; or Rules of Racing, or for having harmed the interests of the IDBF (EDBF) or the reputation and standing of the sport.

16.3 Suspension by the EDBF may bar the individual member of an EDBF Member or the EDBF Member itself, of all rights and prerogatives appertaining to the EDBF, until the suspension is lifted. In the case of the expulsion of a Member, irrespective of Membership Class, membership of the EDBF ceases forthwith – see also Bye-Law 8.

16.4 Disciplinary Measures 1-2 shall be instigated by the EDBF Executive Committee. Disciplinary Measures 3-4 shall be instigated by the Council, with a recommendation from the Executive Committee. Disciplinary Measure 5 shall be instigated by a Members Congress. Action taken by a Congress in this regard, shall require a two thirds majority vote of those EDBF Members present.

#### ARTICLE 17. - COURTS OF ARBITRATION

In the case of a dispute between Members, disputing parties may ask the EDBF to appoint a Court of Arbitration. The Bye-Laws shall define the composition and duties of the Court of Arbitration. EDBF Members may elect to go to an IDBF Court of Arbitration.

#### ARTICLE 18. - COMPETITION REGULATION AND RULES OF RACING.

The Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing of the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) shall be used at EDBF Championships. Such rules and regulations may be supplemented by EDBF rules and regulations where circumstances peculiar to an EDBF Championship's arise.

#### ARTICLE 19. - SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

19.1 Any EDBF Supplementary Regulations and Rules issued by the Congress, the Council, the Executive Committee or the EDBF Commissions must comply with their intention or meaning of such Supplementary Regulations and Rules issued by the IDBF. In the event of a contradiction in intention or meaning between the IDBF and EDBF the meaning of the IDBF shall prevail.

19.2 Interpretation. The authority for interpreting any dispute arising out of Statutes, Bye-Laws or general Rules and regulations specific to the EDBF, shall reside with the EDBF President, who shall seek the advice of the Executive Committee or Council before taking the final decision.

19.3 Spare.

19.4 Spare.

### **PART 4. DISSOLUTION**

#### ARTICLE 20 - DISSOLUTION



20.1 The dissolution of the EDBF shall only be valid if carried by four-fifths of the votes of the members present at an Extraordinary Congress, specially convened for the purpose. Furthermore, a quorum of two-thirds of the Full Members is necessary.

20.2 Assets. If the motion for dissolution is carried, the Secretariat shall be entitled to realize the assets of the EDBF, which shall be equally divided between the EDBF Full Members entitled to vote at the time of dissolution or alternatively shall be applied to the furtherance of any aim or object, singular or plural, of the Federation, or given to the IDBF; whichever is determined by the Congress at the time of dissolution by formal vote.

20.3 In no other circumstances shall any Member have any claim to any share whatever in the assets of the EDBF and any Member ceasing to be in, or suspended from, membership of the EDBF shall forfeit its claim to any assets of the EDBF.

## **PART 5. CONCLUDING PROVISION**

### ARTICLE 21. - ADOPTION OF STATUTES

21.1 The Original EDBF Statutes were adopted by the Inaugural General Assembly of the EDBF held on 5th May 1990 in Mechelen, Belgium, with immediate effect.

21.2 For the purpose of the Inaugural Assembly those attending registered as EDBF Founder Members under the terms of these Statutes and were required to comply with Articles 4 and 5, by the 1st January 1991, to validate their EDBF Membership.

21.3 The Inaugural Assembly appointed Officers and Representative Members of the then Executive Committee to take action in accordance with these Statutes. The initial Periods of Office for those persons appointed to the Executive Committee by the Inaugural Assembly were half the period of time laid down in these Statutes.

21.4 These Statutes as amended by the Inaugural Assembly, remained in force for two years from 1st January 1991. Subsequent minor amendments to the text, but not the meaning or intention of the Statutes and the addition of Article 3.10 were authorized by the 1993 AGA held in Basle, Switzerland, on 27th November 1993, with effect from 1st January 1994.

21.5 Article 4, was changed, to exclude the Individual Membership Class, by the 1994 AGA held in London, England, on 26th November 1994. This change resulted in amendments to Articles 5, 6, 8, 16 and 17, to remove all references to Individual Members, with effect from 1st January 1995.

21.6 Article 7.3, which laid down the EDBF Financial Year was also approved by the 1994 AGA. All amendments up to and including the 1994 AGA were fully incorporated in the 2nd Edition of the EDBF Statutes published in November 1996, which came into effect from 1st January 1997.

21.7 The EDBF Statutes and Bye-Laws were fully revised by the EDBF Secretariat and Executive Committee during 1999 and approved in their entirety by the EDBF Annual General Assembly held in

Copenhagen on 21st November 1999, with immediate effect and published as Edition No.3 in January 2000.

21.8 The 4th Edition of the Statutes was amended by the 2002 AGA on the 16th November 2002, concerning Membership and Disciplinary Matters (Articles 4, 5, 8, 9 and 16).

21.9 The 5th Edition of the Statutes was amended by the 2005 AGA on the 26th November 2005, concerning creation of the position of EDBF President (Articles 8, 9 and 14).

21.10 The 6th Edition of the Statutes was amended by the 2015 AGA on the 7th November 2015, following the IDBF Statute guidelines regarding the management of the Federation.

21.11 The 6th Edition of the Statutes was updated by the 2018 Council on the 27th February 2018, following the EDBF AGA 2015 guidelines. Any subsequent amendments to the Statutes and Bye-Laws, as now published, shall be carried out fully in compliance with the IDBF Statutes.

21.12 The 7th Edition of the Statutes was amended by the 2018 AGA on the 27th August 2018, concerning Membership and date of effect of elections.

Claudio Schermi  
President  
2018, August 27<sup>th</sup>

