# STATUTES OF THE PAN AMERICAN HOCKEY FEDERATION

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PAHF
ARTICLE 1 – INTRODUCTION

1.1. These Statutes, together with Regulations issued under them, form the constitution of the Pan American Hockey Federation (or “PAHF”, by its official initials), a Continental, non-governmental, not-for-profit association formed under the laws of Venezuela in 1983 and certified as a not for profit corporation under the laws of State of Florida, filed July 08, 2015. For sporting and representative effects on behalf of The International Hockey Federation (or “FIH by its official initials), PAHF abbreviation of the “Pan American Hockey Federation” founded on October 17th, 1959 in Greenwich, Connecticut, United States of America.

1.2. The official seat and address of the PAHF is Miami, Florida, State of Florida, United States of America, or such other address decided by the Board of Directors. Any amendment to the Statutes shall be registered as appropriate in the State of Florida, as its address. These Statutes shall be governed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida and the Statutes of the FIH.

1.3. The official languages of the PAHF are English and Spanish. Any communications to the PAHF must be in an official language. In case of conflict the English predominates.

1.4. Words and terms appearing in the Statutes in italicized text bear the defined meanings given to them in Article 14 of these Statutes.

1.5. These Statutes were adopted by the Congress in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on July 19, 2015, with immediate effect. Being modified by Congress in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, United States of America on August 10, 2017, with immediate effect, being modified by Congress in Lima, Peru on August 07, 2019 with immediate effect, that is they shall take effect as soon as the resolution has been passed by Congress.

ARTICLE 2 - COMMITMENT AND PURPOSE

2.1. The PAHF is recognized by the FIH as the sole Continental Federation and the authority for the governance and regulation of Hockey in the Americas. The PAHF works in collaboration with the FIH. In carrying out its responsibilities the PAHF shall at all times work in conformity with such directions as may from time to time be given by the Executive Board of the FIH. As such, it:

(a) Recognizes the sole ultimate authority of the FIH as the governing body for the sport of Hockey worldwide;

(b) Formally undertakes to be bound by and to comply at all times with the FIH’s Statutes and Regulations, and with the decisions taken by the FIH and its constituent bodies (including the FIH Congress, the FIH Executive Board, and other duly appointed officials and bodies of the FIH) pursuant to and in application of the FIH Statutes and Regulations.

(c) Agrees not to become a member of or recognize or otherwise support any organization with similar objects to the FIH unless that organization is recognized by the FIH;

(d) Agrees not to bring any proposed amendments to these Statutes into effect, or to adopt any Regulations, or to adopt any fundamental initiative or change in its operations, without the prior approval of the FIH’s Executive Board;

(e) Commits itself to the ideals and objects of the Olympic Movement;
(f) Declares its opposition to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;

(g) Declares the independence and autonomy of the FIH, the Continental Federations and the National Associations to govern and regulate the sport of Hockey, including exercising the right of democratic elections free of any outside influence;

(h) Maintains good relations with the FIH and with the other Continental Federations, and

(i) Submits to the jurisdiction of the FIH Disciplinary Commissioner, the FIH Judicial Commission, and the CAS abbreviation for Court of Arbitration for Sport to hear and determine disputes and appeals as set out in Article 14 of the FIH’s Statutes and in Article 12.2 of these Statutes, to the exclusion of all other courts, tribunals and arbitration bodies of any whatsoever.

2.2. By delegated authority from the FIH, the PAHF shall take responsibility for the following:

(a) Administering, encouraging, promoting and developing Hockey for both men and women within the Americas, at all levels, pursuant to a strategic plan that is developed and maintained in consultation with the FIH and is consistent with the FIH’s own strategic plan, and in accordance with the scope and extent of the activity and responsibility delegated by the FIH;

(b) Governing and regulating Hockey at a continental level within the Americas, and recognizing the authority of National Associations to govern and regulate the sport at a national level, all in accordance with and subject to the FIH’s ultimate authority over the sport;

(c) Maintaining the ideals and objects of the Olympic Movement;

(d) Preserving the integrity of the sport as it is practiced within the Americas, including (without limitation) by implementing within the Americas anti-doping regulations that are compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code and the FIH’s Anti-Doping Regulations, and anti-corruption regulations that are compliant with the FIH’s Integrity Code and other appropriate codes of conduct, and ensuring that such regulations and codes are enforced at all Hockey events played in the Americas that are sanctioned by the FIH, the PAHF and/or a Member (as applicable);

(e) Conducting itself and take such administrative, financial or other actions as are necessary and in conformity with and in furtherance of its objects, for these purposes the PAHF shall establish and maintain an efficient administration to control, regulate and direct its affairs;

(f) Organizing such International Events as are delegated to PAHF by the FIH, on such terms and conditions as the FIH may specify;

(g) Organizing and/or sanctioning Continental Events and matches (whether between countries or clubs) within the Americas in accordance with the FIH’s Statutes and Regulations (included in the FIH Integrity Code) on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events (provided that the proposed dates for such tournaments, events and matches must be approved in advance by the FIH);

(h) Establishing and enforcing appropriate disciplinary measures for tournaments, events and matches that it organizes;

(i) Preserving the independence of the PAHF in all matters directly or indirectly concerning Hockey within the Americas without the intervention of any outside authority;

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PAHF
(j) Exercising jurisdiction over and resolve disputes or disagreements between Athletes or other individuals and the PAHF as set out in Article 12.1 of these Statutes; and

(k) Exercising such other powers and responsibilities as are delegated to it by the FIH.

Authority in respect of the areas of responsibility may be withdrawn by the FIH at any time.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP AND AUTHORITY

The PAHF is an association representing its Members (A national Association that has been admitted as a Member of the FIH in accordance with Articles 2 of the FIH Statutes effective 12 November 2015) which only shall be the National Associations for Countries located within the Americas recognized as members by the FIH.

The PAHF is formed by full and provisional Members

3.1. Each Full and provisional Member:

(i) Must respect and further the purposes set out in Article 1.4 of the FIH Statutes;

(ii) Must adhere to rights and obligations as set out in Article 2.2 (iii) and (iv) of the FIH Statutes;

(iii) Must determine its office-holders by democratic elections, ensuring at all times an adequate minimum representation of each gender within its governance structure;

(iv) Members must be solvent.

3.2. Without prejudice to the powers of suspension set out in these Statutes (see Articles 5.1 (c) and 6.1 (d)), membership of the PAHF is coterminous with membership of the FIH, and therefore:

(a) A National Association that is recognized as a full or provisional member of the FIH as set out in Article 2.3 of the FIH Statutes must be admitted to the membership to the PAHF as set in Article 5.1 (b) (i) of these Statutes to be deemed recognized as a full or provisional Member of the PAHF, respectively;

(b) A National Association that is suspended from membership of the FIH as set out in Article 2.6 of the FIH Statutes shall automatically be deemed suspended from membership of the PAHF;

(c) A National Association that withdraws from or is removed from membership of the FIH as set out in Article 2.5 of the FIH Statutes shall automatically be deemed to have withdrawn from or to have been removed from membership of the PAHF, and

(d) A National Association that recovers its status as member of the FIH shall automatically be deemed recognized as active member of the PAHF.

3.3. All Members, as well as all of the PAHF’s constituent bodies, officers, employees and appointees (including, without limitation, any person holding any PAHF appointment or sitting on any PAHF board or committee), and all persons participating in any way in activities controlled and/or sanctioned by the PAHF (including, without limitation, any person who is involved in organizing and/or participates as an Athlete, 2

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umpire, tournament official or team official in any Continental Event), shall be deemed to have agreed and acknowledged that:

(a) Subject only to the FIH’s ultimate authority, the PAHF has sole authority over the governance, regulation, and playing of Hockey in the Americas;

(b) They shall not become a member of or recognize or otherwise support any organization with similar objects to the PAHF unless that organization is recognized by the PAHF;

(c) They are bound by and must comply with the Statutes and Regulations, and with the decisions taken by the PAHF and its constituent bodies (including the Congress, the Board of Directors, and other duly appointed officials and bodies of the PAHF) pursuant to and in application and enforcement of the Statutes and Regulations; and

(d) They submit to the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Commissioner and Appeal Commissioner, and of the FIH Judicial Commission and the CAS, to hear and determine disputes and appeals as set out in Article 10 of these Statutes, to the exclusion of all other courts, tribunals and arbitration bodies of any Country or organization whatsoever.

The PAHF may from time to time require any of them to execute a written agreement (in a form to be determined by the Board of Directors) confirming that acknowledgement and agreement, but they shall be deemed to have made such agreement and acknowledgement whether or not such a written agreement is in place.

3.4. Rights and obligations of Members:

(a) Unless suspended from membership:

(i) A full Member shall enjoy all of the rights and benefits conferred on Members by these Statutes and Regulations, including (without limitation) recognition as the sole national governing body for Hockey in that Member’s Country in accordance with Article 3.4, and the right to participate in meetings of the Congress and to cast a vote on resolutions put to the Congress; and

(b) A provisional Member may attend and speak but may not vote at meetings of the Congress. In all other respects, provisional Members shall enjoy the same rights and benefits as full Members. Each full Member and provisional Member:

(i) Must respect the commitment and purpose of the PAHF set out in Article 2 and commits itself with the matters set out in Article 2.1 in the way these apply;

(ii) Must pay when due all Member subscriptions decided upon by the Congress and any other monies due and owing to the PAHF. Any Member that has failed to pay any part of any subscription or other debt when due for payment to the PAHF:

(A) May not enter any team in a Continental Event without the approval of the Board of Directors, unless it settles all such debts at least ninety (90) calendar days before the start of the Continental Event in question; and

(B) May not attend (and so may not vote at) any meeting of the Congress unless the full amount owing is paid (in fully cleared funds) at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting;
(iii) Must pay by March 31 of the year concerned the Statutory Subscriptions fixed at each meeting of the prior Congress;

(iv) Must comply with the requirements of these Statutes and Regulations issued hereunder, as well as the Statutes and Regulations of the FIH, including (without limitation) submitting to the authority and jurisdiction of the PAHF and its constituent bodies as set out at Article 3.2;

(v) Must declare within its Country statutes and regulations (i) its opposition to discrimination of any kind, such as race, color, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;3

(vi) Must adopt and implement and enforce within its Country statutes and regulations that are consistent with the Statutes and Regulations, as well as anti-doping regulations that are compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code and the FIH Anti-Doping Code, the FIH Integrity Code4 and (b) the FIH Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events Regulations (each as amended from time to time);5

(vii) must recognize and enforce within its Country:

(A) all decisions of the PAHF’s constituent bodies and/or officials made under the Statutes and Regulations;

(B) periods of ineligibility and other disciplinary sanctions imposed under the Statutes and Regulations; and

(C) periods of ineligibility and other disciplinary sanctions imposed by the FIH, the PAHF, other Continental Federations, and/or other National Associations;

(viii) must provide in its Country statutes and regulations (in a form approved by the Board of Directors) that each of its members and all persons under its jurisdiction acknowledges and agrees on his/her own part to each of the matters set out in Article 3.2;

(ix) must provide within its Country statutes and regulations for a transparent procedure that guarantees the complete independence of its election(s) and appointment(s)

(x) must file an annual report with the PAHF Board of Directors within the first ninety (90) calendar days of each year, reporting on the Member’s activities (including major domestic championships and international competitions staged, and drug-testing conducted) in the previous year, and

(xi) must not maintain sporting contact with a suspended Member.

(c) A Member that has been suspended (see Articles 5.1 (c) and 6.1 (d)) may not exercise any of the rights or benefits of membership of the PAHF during the period of such suspension. In particular, a suspended Member may not attend meetings of the Congress other than to be heard in accordance with Article 5.2 (e) (ii).

3.5. The PAHF recognizes that each Member has sole authority for the governance and regulation of the sport

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in its Country. The PAHF agrees not to recognize any body that makes any claim that is inconsistent with that authority.

3.6. Neither these Statutes nor membership of the PAHF shall create a partnership or agency relationship between the PAHF and its Members. Members are not liable for the debts or obligations of the PAHF, and the PAHF is not liable for the debts or obligations of Members.

ARTICLE 4 – POWERS

4.1. In furtherance of its purposes, the PAHF may:

(a) (subject always to the approval of the FIH) amend these Statutes, and/or establish and enforce Regulations, to make further provision for the management, regulation and control of the sport of Hockey in the Americas and/or the affairs of the PAHF, its Members and for the resolution of disputes relating thereto;

(b) apply and enforce the Statutes and Regulations and ensure their application and enforcement by Members throughout the Americas;

(c) organize and/or sanction the organization of Continental Events and establish rules and/or regulations for player eligibility and conduct of those events consistent with the rules and regulations of the FIH;

(d) raise funds to finance its activities by all appropriate means, including by levying subscriptions and other fees from Members, by exploiting the commercial assets of the PAHF, including its intellectual property rights and any sponsorship, broadcasting and/or other commercial rights that it controls, including in relation to Continental Events, and by receiving donations, gifts, bequests, inheritances and legacies;

(e) invest any funds not immediately required to fund the PAHF’s activities in such manner as the Board of Directors thinks fit subject to any conditions as may for the time being be imposed by the Board of Directors or required by law;

(f) hire, pay and terminate the employment or services of any person(s) to supervise, organize and carry out the work of the PAHF;

(g) purchase, take on lease or in exchange or otherwise acquire any property or other rights and privileges necessary for the promotion of its objects; construct, maintain and alter any buildings or premises, and/or sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of the PAHF;

(h) establish, acquire or otherwise control other legal entities such as foundations or corporations;

(i) encourage a relevant entity that is solely and exclusively dedicated to Hockey in a Country located within the Americas, where there is not a recognized member of the FIH, to become an affiliated National Association of its NOC. The Board of Directors of the PAHF may recognize as applicant the resultant National Association and give it technical assistance under the condition that it would apply for a membership in the FIH, and to provide support for the National Association to properly fulfill the criteria for its admission. There will be only one applicant by Country and it doesn’t have the rights of the Members, and

(j) exercise all such other rights, powers and authorities and take such other lawful actions as may be considered necessary or desirable to achieve its purposes and the objects of the PAHF.

4.2. The PAHF will exercise its powers through its constituent bodies and officials, i.e., the Congress, the Board of Directors, the President, the Managing Director, and/or other bodies or committees or persons
appointed by and representing the PAHF.

ARTICLE 5 – CONGRESS

5.1. Composition and authority

(a) The Congress is the Members of the PAHF in general meeting.

(b) Subject always to Article 2.1, the Congress holds ultimate and supreme authority in relation to the affairs of the PAHF, including sole and exclusive authority

(i) to agree to accept, suspend or expel a Member;

(ii) to amend, to add or to alter these Statutes;

(iii) to approve the accounts of the Board of Directors;

(iv) to elect members of the Board of Directors;

(v) to appoint an auditor for the PAHF accounts for the ensuing two years;

(vi) to remove the Disciplinary Commissioner;

(vii) to resolve any matter put to the Congress and

(viii) to agree to dissolve the PAHF.

(c) Upon the proposal of the Board of Directors, the Congress may (by resolution supported by a Special Majority) suspend any Member from membership of the PAHF if:

(i) the Member owes more than two (2) annual subscriptions; or

(ii) the Member has committed a serious or persistent breach of its obligations as a Member, or has neglected or compromised the interests of the PAHF; or

(iii) there is other just cause to suspend the Member;

PROVIDED ALWAYS THAT the Member shall be given due notice of any such proposal for suspension, as well as of the grounds for that proposal, and shall be given the opportunity to be heard by the Congress before any final decision is made in respect of such proposal. Furthermore, any such decision shall be subject to challenge by the Member, such challenge to be heard by the FIH Judicial Commission in accordance with Article 12.2 of these Statutes.

(d) In cases where action short of suspension is warranted against a Member, the Congress has the power to caution or censure the Member, withhold grants or subsidies from the Member, exclude the Member’s teams from one or more Continental Event(s), remove or deny accreditation to officers or other representatives of the Member, or take such other action against the Member as it deems appropriate, provided that the Member shall be given due notice and an opportunity to be heard before any final decision is made, and any such decision shall be subject to challenge by the Member, such challenge to be heard by the FIH Judicial Commission in accordance with Article 12.2 of these Statutes.

(e) The Congress may delegate any of its other powers to the Board of Directors, and/or may refer items to the Board of Directors for consideration and report.

5.2. Meetings of Congress
(a) **Ordinary meetings of the Congress** shall be held once every two (2) years. The *Board of Directors* shall determine the date and the venue for each such meeting. Any item that a *Member* wishes to be considered for inclusion on the agenda must be sent to the *Board of Directors* in writing, with a brief explanation, at least sixty (60) calendar days before the date of the meeting. The *Board of Directors* shall determine the agenda for each meeting and send same to all *Members*.

(b) **Extraordinary meetings of the Congress** shall be held

(i) on the request of the *Board of Directors* or the *President*;

(ii) within ninety (90) calendar days of the death, resignation or permanent incapacity of the *President*, unless the remaining presidential period is less than one hundred and eight (180) calendar days; or

(iii) within ninety (90) calendar days of receipt by the *Managing Director* of a request signed by at least one third (1/3) of all *full Members*, stating the matters to be discussed at the meeting.

The *Board of Directors* shall determine the date, the venue and the agenda for each such meeting, except that the business of an extraordinary meeting that is requested by *Members* shall be as specified in that request.

(c) *Members* shall be given no less than ninety (90) calendar days’ notice of the date and venue of any ordinary meeting of the *Congress* and no less than sixty (60) calendar days’ notice of the date and venue of any extraordinary meeting of the *Congress*. The formal convocation of *Members* shall be made in writing at least thirty (30) calendar days before the date of the meeting, and shall include an agenda:

(i) stating the nature of the business to be transacted as such meeting;

(ii) as well as (in the case of an ordinary meeting) copies of the *President* report;

(iii) and the audited financial statements of the *PAHF* for the period since the last ordinary meeting of the *Congress*;

(iv) and a list of the persons who have been nominated to stand in any election (s) to be conducted at the meeting stating the nature of the businesses to be transacted at such meeting, as well as (in the case of an ordinary meeting) copies of the *President’s* report and the audited financial statements of the *PAHF* for the period since the last ordinary meeting of the *Congress*.

(d) Any matter that is not included on the agenda sent to *Members* at least thirty (30) calendar days before the date of the meeting of the *Congress* may only be discussed at the meeting if the *Members* present at the meeting agree by a *Special Majority* to do so.

(e) **Meetings of the Congress** may be attended by the following persons:

(i) Each *Member* that is not in arrears (see Article 3.3 (b) (ii)) or suspended from membership (see Articles 5.1 (c) and 6.1 (d)) may send up to two (2) delegates to the meeting, each of whom must be eighteen (18) years of age or over and show written authorization from that *Member*. The *PAHF* strongly encourages delegates to be one from each gender. One of those two (2) delegates (who must be a *citizen* of the *Member’s Country*) must be designated the head of the delegation, with

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exclusive authority to speak for and (in the case of a full Member) to cast the vote of that Member on each resolution put to the Congress at the meeting.

(ii) In the event that the Member is not able to send a delegate to the meeting of the Congress then that Member may provide written authorization for a member of the Board of Directors who is a citizen of that Member’s country to act as Head of Delegation to speak for and to cast the vote of the Member on each resolution.

(iii) A Member whose suspension is on the agenda may send up to two (2) delegates to the part of the meeting where such suspension is considered, one of whom (who must be a citizen of that National Association’s Country) must be designated the head of the delegation. He may speak to but may not vote on the resolution for suspension. If the resolution is not passed, from that point the delegation may remain in the meeting and may speak to and vote (exclusively through the head of its delegation) on all subsequent resolutions put to the Congress at the meeting.

(iv) Members of the Board of Directors, who may speak at meetings of the Congress in their own right but may not vote on resolutions put to the Congress.

(v) Save except in respect to Article 5.2 (e) (ii) of these Statutes,

(vi) Other observers, at the discretion of the President.

(f) No business (save for adjournment of the meeting) may be conducted at a meeting of the Congress that is not quorate. For a meeting of the Congress to be quorate, one-third (1/3) of all full Members must be in attendance at the opening of the meeting. If such quorum is not reached, the Board of Directors may convene another meeting of the Congress with the same agenda within thirty (30) calendar days by written notice to all Members. Such meeting will be validly convened even if no quorum is then reached.

5.3. Decision-making

(a) The Congress shall make decisions by voting on resolutions put to it at a meeting convened in accordance with Article 5.2. Such decisions shall come into effect immediately, that is it shall take effect as soon as the resolution has been passed by Congress, unless the Congress specifies another effective date. Resolutions for the suspension or expulsion of any Members shall be considered before any other resolutions.

(b) Save where these Statutes provide to the contrary, each full Member is entitled to one (1) vote on each resolution put to the Congress, provided it has a delegation present at the meeting. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.

(c) The Member’s vote on the resolution shall be exercised by the head of that Member’s delegation to the Congress, provided that a person may only be head of one Member’s delegation and so may only vote on behalf of one (1) Member.

(d) Voting shall be by show of hands or secret ballot (manual or electronic). The Member’s vote on the resolution shall be exercised by the head of that Member’s delegation to Congress, provided that a person may only be head of one Member’s delegation and so may only vote on behalf of one (1) Member.

(e) A resolution shall be considered passed by the Congress if it receives the requisite majority of votes in favour, as follows:

(i) Alterations to these Statutes require the support of a Special Majority, as does the suspension or expulsion of a Member.
(ii) The election for a Board Member requires the majority as indicated in section 6.2.

(iii) Unless otherwise specified in these Statutes, all other resolutions require a Simple Majority (disregarding any abstentions or blanked or spoiled votes).

ARTICLE 6 - THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

6.1. Composition and authority

(a) The Board of Directors shall consist of:

(i) The President, who shall be elected in accordance with Article 6.2 of these Statutes;

(ii) The Treasurer, who shall be elected in accordance with Article 6.2 of these Statutes;

(iii) Eight (8) Ordinary members, each of whom shall be elected by Congress in accordance with Article 6.2 of these Statutes. PROVIDED ALWAYS THAT of the Eight (8) Ordinary members on the Board of Directors, four (4) shall be female and four (4) shall be male; and at least one (1) shall be from North America, at least one shall be from South America and at least one (1) shall be from Central America and the Caribbean.

(iv) The Athletes’ Representative who shall be nominated by the Board of Directors. He shall be chair the Athletes’ Committee;

(v) The Managing Director.

(b) The President, Treasurer and the eight (8) Ordinary Members shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with Article 6.2 of these Statutes

(i) The elected members of the Board of Directors shall hold office for a term of four (4) years expiring at the close of the ordinary meeting of the Congress at which their positions fall vacant for election, one half of the Ordinary Members retiring every two (2) years. PROVIDED ALWAYS THAT of the Eight (8) Ordinary members of the Board of Directors, two (2) shall be females and two (2) shall be males retiring every two (2) years.

(ii) The President and the Treasurer shall be elected in alternate Congress years to guarantee strategic and administrative continuity

(iii) No National Association should have more than three (3) members on the Board of Directors.

(c) The Athletes’ Representative

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8 With effect August 2015 Mendoza Congress
9 With effect August 2019 Lima Congress
10 With effect August 2017 Lancaster Congress
11 With effect August 2015 Mendoza Congress
(i) Must be nominated by the National Association for the Country of which they are a citizen and must have played on their national team in International Competition no later than four (4) years before the date of their nomination.

(ii) Shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a period of at least two (2) years, but not more than four (4) years.

(iii) Shall be the Chair of the Athletes’ Committee. The PAHF Board of Directors shall establish regulations for election and/or appointment for the Athletes’ Committee.

(d) The Managing Director

(i) Shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

(e) Subject to the exclusive powers and the authority of the Congress and the FIH (where applicable), the Board of Directors shall have full power and authority:

(i) to manage the affairs of the PAHF, ensuring the proper accomplishment of its purposes and commitments and the enforcement of its Statutes and Regulations,

(ii) to exercise all of its powers as set out in these Statutes or the law, including (without limitation) the power to implement its own decisions and the decisions of the Congress,

(iii) to issue, amend and rescind Regulations (according with these Statutes and the Statutes and Regulations of the FIH) including the regulations to these Statutes to rule the meetings of the Congress and the Board of Directors in the procedural matters unforeseen.

(iv) to fix the strategy and policies of the PAHF, according with the strategic plan of the FIH,

(v) to approve and amend the annual budget of the PAHF,

(vi) to appoint and remove the Managing Director and the Athletes’ Representative,

(vii) to oversee legal compliance and risk management,

(viii) to appoint or remove committees, councils and/or working parties and their members to advise the Congress, the Board of Directors, the President and/or Managing Director, as well to establish their terms of reference,

(ix) to appoint the staff in the administration of the affairs of the PAHF on such terms and conditions as to remuneration, period of employment (and termination thereof) and duties as the Board of Directors deems fit, as well to supervise the Managing Director and his staff in the implementation of the strategy and policies of the PAHF,

(x) to appoint a Disciplinary Commissioner and an Appeal Commissioner,

(xi) to grant of titles for Continental Events, and

(xii) to adopt, regulate and modify the emblem and the motto of the PAHF.

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(xiii) In order to establish regulations for elections matters not covered by these Statues, and to amend them where appropriate. These regulations shall apply only in a subsidiary manner to these Statues.

(f) The Board of Directors may at any time (by resolution supported by a Special Majority) suspend a Member on any of the grounds set out in Article 5.1 (c), or exercise any of the powers given to the Congress in Article 5.1 (e), pending consideration by the Congress at its next meeting of the Board of Directors' proposal for suspension of other action in respect of that Member. The Board of Directors shall give the Member due notice and an opportunity to be heard (by means of written submission, unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors) before it makes any such decision. Furthermore, any such decision shall be subject to challenge by the Member, such challenge to be heard by the FIH Judicial Commission in accordance with Article 12.2 of these Statutes.

(g) In general, all matters not otherwise reserved to another body by these Statutes or by a mandatory provision of the laws of USA shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

(h) Save the Athletes' Representative and the Managing Director, all members of the Board of Directors shall hold such office in their personal capacity and not as representatives of any Member or any other organization. All the members of the Board of Directors shall be required at all times to discharge their responsibilities as Board of Directors members not on behalf of any individual, Member or Members but rather in the best interests of the PAHF and its Members as a whole.

6.2. Election to the Board of Directors

(a) The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected at meetings of Congress in accordance with the following provisions of this Article 6.2.

(i) The President shall within thirty (30) calendar days' election retire from (and during the term of his office shall not accept) any executive office position (not included honorary or ex-officio positions) within any National Association (or FIH). He shall during his term as President have no direct involvement in the day to day operation of a National Association (or FIH).

(b) Candidates for election (or re-election as the case may be) to the Board of Directors:

(i) must be nominated by the National Association for the Country of which they are a citizen,

(ii) must not have reached the Age Limit of seventy (70) years as at the date of the ordinary meeting of Congress at which they stand for election or if they will reach that age within one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days thereafter.

(iii) must accept the PAHF Conflict of Interest policy.

(c) The members of the Board of Directors are eligible for re-election at the end of any term of office, save that they may not hold the same office for more than twelve (12) consecutive years.

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13 With effect August 2017 Lancaster Congress
14 With effect August 2019 Lima Congress
15 With effect from August 2018 Lancaster Congress
16 With effect from 2013 Congress in Mendoza, Argentina
(d) Nominations must reach the Managing Director no later than ten (10) weeks before the date fixed for the meeting of the Congress in which the election shall be done. Such nomination constitutes an undertaking by the National Association to provide financial support to the nominee, if elected, so that he can attend meetings of the Board of Directors.

(e) The Board of Directors may issue regulations for the electoral procedure and reform it when appropriate.

(f) Election to the Board of Directors (whether as President, Treasurer or as an ordinary member) requires an Absolute Majority to vote in favour of the candidate. If no candidate receives the support of an Absolute Majority on the first ballot:

(i) A second ballot shall be held. If there are more than two candidates for the post, then only the two candidates who came first and second in the first ballot shall be put forward in the second ballot.

(ii) If neither candidate is supported by an Absolute Majority on the second ballot, there shall be a third ballot.

(iii) If neither candidate is supported by an Absolute Majority on the third ballot, the candidate with the larger number of votes shall be declared the winner.

(iv) If there is a tied vote on the third ballot, the following completion of all other elections the members of the Board of Directors present at Congress shall select the winner by Simple Majority

6.2.1 Term of Office

(a) The President and Treasurer holds office for a term of four (4) years expiring at the close of the ordinary meeting of Congress at which the position falls vacant for election. The ordinary Members of the Board of Directors holds office for a term of four (4) years (one half (1/2) retiring every two years) expiring at the close of the ordinary meeting of Congress at which their position falls vacant for election.

(b) The President, Treasurer and ordinary members of the Board of Directors are eligible for re-election at the end of any term of office, save that:

(i) they may not hold the same office for more than twelve (12) consecutive years; and

(ii) they are not eligible for election if they have reached the Age of seventy (70) years as at the date of the ordinary meeting of Congress at which they stand for election or if they will reach the Age limit within six (6) months thereafter. For these purposes, the “Age Limit” is such age as the FIH has implemented (as of the date of the Board of Directors election) as the age limit for membership of the FIH.

(iii) A one-time extension term of office or a maximum of four (4) years beyond the “Age Limit” as mentioned above to one Board of Directors member can be granted by the Congress upon recommendations of the Board of Directors.\(^{18}\)

(iv) There may be no more than one such Board of Directors member for whom the Age

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\(^{17}\) With effect from August 2017 Lancaster Congress

\(^{18}\) With effect August 2019 Lima Congress
6.3. Vacancies

(a) If the President dies, resigns is expelled or becomes permanently incapacitated during his term of office, or if there is no eligible or elected candidate for the position of President at the time of an election, the Board of Directors shall appoint an Ordinary Member of the Board of Directors as acting President to hold office until the Congress elects a person to fill the vacancy and complete his period as set out in Article 5.2 (b) (ii). A meeting of the Congress must be held within ninety (90) calendar days for that purpose, unless the vacancy arises less than one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days before the next meeting of Congress, in which case, the acting President shall continue to hold office until the Congress elects a new President. The acting President shall be entitled to all privileges and responsible for all duties of the President and his Ordinary Member’s seat won’t be filled.

(b) If any ordinary member of the Board of Directors dies, resigns, is expelled or becomes permanently incapacitated, the Board of Directors

(i) shall, if the member concerned holds the position of Managing Director or Athletes’ Representative, appoint a new Managing Director or Athletes’ Representative, as soon as possible, or

(ii) may appoint a replacement of the same gender and region to serve on the Board of Directors in his place until the next ordinary meeting of the Congress when a person will be elected to fill the vacancy and complete the period. If an extraordinary meeting of the Congress is requested for any other matter, the Board of Directors will include in the agenda the election of a new member for that purpose.

(c) The Board of Directors has the right to end the mandate of any of its elected members who has been absent for two (2) consecutive meetings. In such event, that member’s seat shall remain vacant until the next ordinary meeting of the Congress when a person will be elected to fill the vacancy and complete the period. If an extraordinary meeting of the Congress is requested for any other matter, the Board of Directors will include in the agenda the election of a new member for that purpose.\(^\text{21}\)

(d) A member of the Board of Directors may be expelled by decision of the Congress if such member has breached the FIH Integrity Code (or other similar regulations) or if the Congress considers that such member has neglected or knowingly jeopardized the interests of the PAHF or acted in a way which is unworthy of the PAHF.

\(^{i)}\) the decision to expel a member of the Board of Directors is taken by the Congress upon the proposal of the Board of Directors. Such decision requires a Special Majority. The member concerned has the right to be heard; such right includes the right to be acquainted with the charges and the right to appear personally and/or submit a

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19 With effect August 2019 Lima Congress
20 With effect August 2019 Lima Congress
21 With effect August 2013 Mendoza Congress
defense in writing.

ii) until the Congress decides on an expulsion proposal, the Board of Directors may provisionally suspend the member concerned and deprive such member of all or part of the rights, prerogatives and functions deriving from his membership.

(e) A member expelled from the PAHF may no longer be a member or representative of a Member.

6.4. Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall meet in person at least one (1) time each calendar year on such dates and at such times and places as the President decides. Notice of such a meeting must be issued at least thirty (30) calendar days before it is held. Where urgent action is required between such meetings, the President may convene an emergency meeting at short notice, to be attended by members in person or by telephone or other technical means, and/or for votes on urgent business to be cast by electronic communication. If one third (1/3) of the Board of Directors request an emergency meeting of the Board, the President must convene such a meeting. The request must be sent to the Managing Director and state the matters to be discussed at the meeting.

(a) The quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors (and for any resolution on urgent business that is cast by electronic communication) shall be one half (1/2) of the total membership of the Board of Directors. If such quorum is not reached, the President may convene another meeting of the Board of Directors with the same agenda within thirty (30) calendar days. Such meeting will be validly convened even if no quorum is then reached.

6.5. Decision-making

(a) The Board of Directors shall make decisions by voting on resolutions put to it at a meeting convened (or an urgent resolution circulated by electronic communication) in accordance with Article 6.4. Such decisions shall come into effect immediately, unless the Board of Directors specifies another effective date.

(b) Each member of the Board of Directors present at the meeting shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each resolution, save the cases of conflict of interest. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted. The resolution shall be considered passed by the Board of Directors if it receives the requisite majority of votes in favour, as follows:

(i) Approval of Regulations and any amendments, additions or alterations to them requires the support of a Special Majority.

(ii) Suspension of a Member requires the support of a Special Majority.

(iii) Unless otherwise specified in these Statutes or agreed by the Board of Directors, other resolutions require a Simple Majority (disregarding any abstentions).

ARTICLE 7 - ELECTED DIRECTORS AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

7.1. The President

(a) The President is the principal elected officer of the PAHF, and represents it in all official functions, including as a member of the FIH’s Executive Board. He is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the governance processes followed by the Congress and the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise agreed, he chairs all meetings of the PAHF’s Congress and of the Board of Directors.
The President may take any urgent action or decision within the powers of the Board of Directors when circumstances prevent the Board of Directors taking such action or decision sufficiently quickly. Such action or decision must be consistent with the agreed policies of the Board of Directors and must be submitted promptly for ratification by the Board of Directors.

(c) The President may delegate temporarily some of his duties as he deems appropriate.

(d) In circumstances where the President is provisionally or temporarily unable to perform his duties, the Board of Directors may appoint an acting President until such time as the President is able to resume his duties.

7.2. The Managing Director

(a) The Board of Directors may appoint a Managing Director on such terms and conditions as to remuneration, period of employment (and termination thereof) and duties as the Board of Directors deems fit.

(b) The Managing Director shall be responsible for managing the staff and the day-to-day operations of the PAHF for administering its affairs (including the secretariat of the entity and the managing day-to-day relations with the FIH as well the NOCs, the Members, the Pan American Sports Organization and other regional multisport organizations), and for implementing the decisions and policies of the Congress and the Board of Directors.

7.3. Official statements and acts

(a) All official announcements, statements and correspondence (in all forms) on behalf of the PAHF may only be made by the President, the Managing Director or any other person duly authorized by them.

(b) Only the President and/or the Managing Director (or another person holding the written mandate of the President) has authority to enter into contracts or make legally binding commitments on behalf of the PAHF.

7.4. The Treasurer shall:

(a) collect all dues, fees, levies and other monies payable to the PAHF and deposit them in the PAHF’s accounts;
(b) make all necessary disbursements on behalf of the PAHF;
(c) on behalf of the PAHF, participate in negotiations for payment for royalties, sponsorships and television and other rights of the PAHF;
(d) submit a statement showing the current financial position of the PAHF to each meeting of the Board of Directors;
(e) produce to each ordinary meeting of the Congress an audited balance sheet and a receipts and payments account made up to 31 December immediately preceding that meeting,
(f) with the Managing Director, prepare the project of annual budget of the PAHF, taking into account the costs of the entity, the projects that seeks to boost the Board of Directors and the applications of the committees and councils;

7.5. The Ordinary Members, in addition to the functions that establish in these statutes and other regulations, may be part of one Committee on behalf of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 8 - COMMERCIAL RIGHTS
8.1. **PAHF** is the absolute and outright legal and beneficial owner of all commercial rights, including the use of the **PAHF** title and logo, title and logo of all **PAHF**-named International Events, including, without limitation, on a worldwide basis:

(a) Media and digital rights;

(b) Sponsorship, advertising, merchandising and other similar rights;

(c) Ticketing, hospitality and other concessions rights; and

(d) Any other commercial rights that may come into existence.

8.2 The **PAHF** has the exclusive right to exploit all the properties mentioned above, including assigning the rights and/or granting licenses in respect of such rights (or part thereof) to Members or other third parties.

8.3 **PAHF** is the absolute and outright legal and beneficial owner of any and all intellectual property rights which may now or at any time in the future subsist anywhere in the Pan Americas in respect of any data or information relating to **PAHF** Events, including (but not limited to) all such right in match data. And Continental ranking lists. No one may collect or exploit any data or information relating to continental events without the **PAHF** prior written authorization. To the extent any such person is deemed to own or control rights to such data or information by operation of applicable law, that person hereby assigns to the **PAHF** all such existing and (by present assignment of future rights) all such future rights (including intellectual property rights and other proprietary rights) in that data or information.

**ARTICLE 9 - RECOGNISED ORGANISATIONS AND ADHERENT ORGANISATIONS**

9.1. **General Provisions**

(a) With the object of promoting **Hockey**, the **Board of Directors** may in its entire discretion recognise certain organisations as **Recognised Organisation**

(b) In exceptional circumstances, in particular where geographical or historical circumstances require, the **Board of Directors** may in its entire discretion recognise **Adherent Organisations**

(c) **Recognised Organisations and Adherent Organisations**:

(d) Have the freedom to operate in accordance with their constitutions. The **Board of Directors** must have confirmed that its constitution (including any amendments thereto from time to time) is compliant and consistent with these **Statutes and Regulations**

(e) May attend, but not vote at the **Congress**. **Recognised Organisations and Adherent Organisations** shall not be included in the calculation of the “Absolute Majority”, “Simple Majority” or “Special Majority”, as defined in **theses Statutes**.

(f) Cannot represent **PAHF** before third parties

(g) Shall be given recognition without fee or other payment

(h) Must send detailed reports on each of their activities on at least one (1) occasion per year to the **PAHF Managing Director**. The **Board of Directors** reserves the right in its entire discretion to withdraw its recognition if the activities are not satisfactory in the opinion of the **Board of Directors**.
ARTICLE 10 - SAVINGS CLAUSE

10.1. The Board of Directors shall have the power to decide on any matter not provided for in these Statutes or Regulations, or in cases of ‘force majeure’.

10.2. If any provision of these Statutes is determined to be unlawful or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of these Statutes will remain intact and enforceable.

10.3. Departures from the requirements of these Statutes (including but not limited to departures from procedural requirements) may be cured by the Congress at its next meeting by ratifying the act(s) and/or decision(s) in issue.

ARTICLE 11 - DISSOLUTION

11.1. The PAHF may only be dissolved by a resolution supported by a Special Majority at an extraordinary meeting of the Congress convened for this only purpose. If the dissolution is approved, the Congress shall appoint three (3) liquidators and set a period for their duties.

11.2. If the PAHF is dissolved, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the PAHF shall be duly discharged and its remaining assets, if any after the liquidation, shall be paid to the FIH with a direction that those assets/funds be used for the benefit of promotion of hockey in the Americas.

11.3. In the case of dissolution of the PAHF, the National Associations of Countries of the Americas, which are active full members of the FIH, will have the right to create a new Continental Federation, with the prior written approval of the FIH.

ARTICLE 12 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

12.1. Disciplinary matters

   (a) The Board of Directors shall appoint from time to time a Disciplinary Commissioner, to hear and determine allegations of breach of the Regulations.

   (b) Each of the Disciplinary Commissioner shall be independent of the PAHF, and shall hold office for four (4) years (one retiring every two years). During that term, the Disciplinary Commissioner may be removed from office only by a resolution of the Congress passed by an Absolute Majority.

   (c) The Board of Directors may issue regulations setting out the procedures to be followed in matters referred to the Disciplinary Commissioner, or else the Disciplinary Commissioner shall determine the procedures to be followed in such matters. In either case, such procedures (i) are subject to any overriding provisions in the Regulations at issue; and (ii) must respect the parties’ rights to a fair and impartial process.

12.2. Disputes between the PAHF and one or more Members

   (a) In accordance with Article 14.2 (b) (i) of the FIH Statutes, the FIH Judicial Commission shall have exclusive jurisdiction to resolve any dispute between the PAHF and any one or more of its Members, subject to the parties’ right to appeal the final decision of the FIH Judicial Commission to the CAS in accordance with Article 14.3 (b)(ii) of the FIH Statutes.
(b) Save where expressly provided to the contrary in these Statutes or by applicable law, no complaint, claim or challenge of any kind may be commenced before the FIH Judicial Commission or any other body based on any alleged act or omission of the PAHF or of any constituent body, official, employee or representative of the PAHF more than thirty (30) calendar days after the aggrieved party acquires actual or constructive knowledge of such act or omission. Any complaint or challenge brought after this deadline shall be summarily dismissed.

ARTICLE 13 - INDEMNITY

Every member of the Board of Directors, every member of a committee, council or working group, the Disciplinary Commissioner every person appointed by the PAHF to perform a special assignment, the Managing Director and every employee, every official and every officer of the PAHF shall be indemnified by the PAHF in respect of any claim (whether civil or criminal) that is made against him and/or any liability that he incurs as a result of his office or the exercise of his powers or the execution of his duties, whether or not judgment is given in his favour or he is acquitted, provided that he has acted at all times in good faith.

ARTICLE 14 - DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

14.1. In these Statutes, the following words and expressions have the meanings set out opposite them:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Majority</td>
<td>More than ½ those present in the room at the time of the vote and entitled to vote, (including any abstentions or blanked or spoiled votes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adherent Organisation</td>
<td>An organisation recognised by the FIH referred to in Article 10 of the FIH Statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Limit</td>
<td>As defined in Article 7.3 of the FIH Statutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athlete</td>
<td>A natural person competing in a Hockey event sanctioned in accordance with the FIH Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
<td>The Board of Directors of the PAHF referred to in Article 6 of these Statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS</td>
<td>The Court of Arbitration for Sport, in Lausanne, Switzerland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen</td>
<td>holder a valid passport of the country they are representing (as per the FIH amended statutes as of November 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleared Funds</td>
<td>means either USD or Euros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>The committees appointed by the Board of Directors under Article 6.1 (c).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress</td>
<td>The Congress of the Pan American Hockey Federation referred to in Article 5 of these Statutes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Continental Event**

A *Hockey* tournament, competition or match organised or sanctioned or recognised by Pan American Hockey Federation that is: (a) open only to teams that are representatives of or affiliated to different *Members* of the Pan American Hockey Federation; and (b) staged within America.

**Continental Federation/CF**

A Continental Federation established in accordance with Article 5 of the *FIH’s Statutes*.

**Country**

The whole *Country*, state, territory or part of a territory under the jurisdiction of a *National Association*, as recognised by the *FIH*, and identical to that of the *NOC* of the *Country*, as recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

**Disciplinary Commissioner**

The *Disciplinary Commissioner* appointed in accordance with Article 10.1 of these *Statutes*.

**FIH**

The International Hockey Federation.

**Regulations**

Any codes (including the *FIH Code of Ethics*), rules or regulations made by or on behalf of the PAHF in accordance with these Statutes, including all amendments thereto and re-enactments thereof.

**Hockey**

The sport of hockey, played according to the official rules approved by the *FIH*, including both field and indoor hockey and all current and future forms, variations and/or derivatives of the game modified or derived from its traditional form, irrespective of the number of players involved, or the type of venue or playing surface used, as decided from time to time by the *FIH*, excluding any discipline that is listed as winter sport or roller sport.

**International Event**

A match or event contested by national representative teams and sanctioned by the *FIH*.

**Managing Director**

The *Managing Director or equivalent* of the Pan American Hockey Federation referred to in Article 7.2 of these *Statutes*.

**Recognised Organisation**

An organisation recognised by the *FIH referred to in Article 10 of the *FIH Statutes*.

**National Association/NA**

A national governing body of *Hockey*, which is the recognized central authority responsible for all matters relating to the administration, organization and playing of *Hockey* in that *Country* by its respective *NOC*.

**Provisional Member**

*Association* that has been admitted as a *Member* of the Pan American Hockey Federation.
**Full Member**

The National Association fulfilling the criteria for membership of the PAHF may provisionally be admitted by the Board of Directors and formally admitted by the first Congress following application for membership.

**NOC**

National Olympic Committee.

**Simple Majority**

More than ½ of the votes validly cast (disregarding any abstentions or blanked or spoiled votes).

**Special Majority**

More than ¾ of those present in the room at the time of the vote and entitled to vote.

**Spoiled Vote**

A ballot paper that has not been filled in correctly (for example, too many Candidates have been selected) or the intention of the voter is not absolutely clear (for example is ineligible) Spoiled votes are counted to determine an Absolute Majority and Special Majority.

**Statutes**

These Statutes of the Pan American Hockey Federation.

**14.2.** These Statutes shall be interpreted and applied in the manner most consistent with the commitment and purpose of the PAHF set out at Article 2 of these Statutes.

**14.3.** Conflicts:

(a) In the case of conflict between (1) these Statutes and any Regulations or any document issued by the PAHF and (2) the FIH Statutes or any regulations or documents issued by the FIH, the FIH Statutes, regulations or document shall prevail.

(b) In the case of conflict between (1) these Statutes and any Regulations or any document issued by the PAHF, and (2) the statutes, regulations or documents issued by a Member, these Statutes and any Regulations or other document issued by the PAHF shall prevail.

(c) In case of differences of interpretation between the English and the Spanish text of a document and any translation of that document, the English text shall prevail.

**14.4.** For convenience and clarity in these Statutes, the masculine gender is used and shall be interpreted to include the feminine gender as appropriate. Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.