

**PAN AMERICAN  
HOCKEY FEDERATION**

**STATUTES**

With effect from August 07, 2019



# STATUTES OF THE PAN AMERICAN HOCKEY FEDERATION

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## 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 enforces 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*<sup>1</sup> 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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<sup>1</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

- (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*<sup>2</sup>;
- (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*,

<sup>2</sup> With effect August 2013 Mendoza Congress

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;<sup>3</sup>
  - (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 Regulations, *the FIH Integrity Code* <sup>4</sup>and (b) the *FIH* Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events Regulations (each as amended from time to time);<sup>5</sup>
  - (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/its 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

<sup>3</sup> With effect August 2013 Mendoza Congress

<sup>4</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

<sup>5</sup> With effect August 2013 Mendoza Congress

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 fulfil 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 at 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 <sup>6</sup>to the meeting, each of whom must be at least 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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<sup>6</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

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<sup>7</sup> 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 American 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*,<sup>8</sup>
- (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.<sup>9</sup>
  - (ii) The *President* and the *Treasurer* shall be elected in alternate *Congress* years to guarantee strategic and administrative continuity<sup>10</sup>
  - (iii) No *National Association* should have more than three (3) members on the *Board of Directors*.
- (c) The *Athletes' Representative*<sup>11</sup>

<sup>7</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

<sup>8</sup> With effect August 2015 Mendoza Congress

<sup>9</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

<sup>10</sup> With effect August 2017 Lancaster Congress

<sup>11</sup> 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<sup>12</sup>
  - (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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<sup>12</sup> With effect August 2013 Mendoza Congress

- (xiii) In order to establish regulations for elections matters not covered by these *Statutes*, and to amend them where appropriate. These regulations shall apply only in a subsidiary manner to these *Statutes*.
- (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<sup>13</sup>.
  - (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*)<sup>14</sup>
- (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<sup>15</sup>
- (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 <sup>16</sup>years.

<sup>13</sup> With effect August 2017 Lancaster Congress

<sup>14</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

<sup>15</sup> With effect from August 2018 Lancaster Congress

<sup>16</sup> With effect from 2013 Congress in Mendoza, Argentina

- (d) Nominations must reach the *Managing Director* no later than ten (10) weeks <sup>17</sup>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*.<sup>18</sup>
  - (iv) There may be no more than one such *Board of Directors member* for whom the *Age*

<sup>17</sup> With effect from August 2017 Lancaster Congress

<sup>18</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

Limit is extended at any time<sup>19</sup>.

(v) Article 6.2.1 (a) (b) (c) and their sub clauses only applies on the elected members of the *Board of Directors* and may not be applicable on the appointments and appointed members<sup>20</sup>.

(c) The *Athletes' Representative* is nominated by the *Board of Directors* and holds office for a term of a minimum of two (2) years to a maximum of four (4) years, which may be renewed. If he has to be replaced during that term, his replacement shall hold office for the remainder of that term.

### 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.<sup>21</sup>
- (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

<sup>19</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

<sup>20</sup> With effect August 2019 Lima Congress

<sup>21</sup> 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*.



- (b) 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;
- (g) make recommendations on the management of the funds of the *PAHF* and prepare budgets and reports as and when requested by the *Board of Directors*.

- 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:

<i>Absolute Majority</i>	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)
<i>Adherent Organisation</i>	An organisation recognised by the <i>FIH</i> referred to in Article 10 of the <i>FIH Statutes</i> .
<i>Age Limit</i>	As defined in Article 7.3 of the <i>FIH Statutes</i>
<i>Athlete</i>	A natural person competing in a <i>Hockey</i> event sanctioned in accordance with the <i>FIH</i> Regulations on Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Events.
<i>Board of Directors</i>	The <i>Board of Directors</i> of the <i>PAHF</i> referred to in Article 6 of these <i>Statutes</i> .
CAS	The Court of Arbitration for Sport, in Lausanne, Switzerland.
<i>Citizen</i>	holder a valid passport of the country they are representing (as per the <i>FIH</i> amended statutes as of November 2018)
<i>Cleared Funds</i>	means either USD or Euros
<i>Committee</i>	The committees appointed by the <i>Board of Directors</i> under Article 6.1 (c).
<i>Congress</i>	The Congress of the Pan American Hockey Federation referred to in Article 5 of these <i>Statutes</i> .

<i>Continental Event</i>	A <i>Hockey</i> 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 <i>Members</i> of the Pan American Hockey Federation; and (b) staged within America.
<i>Continental Federation/CF</i>	A Continental Federation established in accordance with Article 5 of the <i>FIH's</i> Statutes.
<i>Country</i>	The whole <i>Country</i> , state, territory or part of a territory under the jurisdiction of a <i>National Association</i> , as recognised by the <i>FIH</i> , and identical to that of the <i>NOC</i> of the <i>Country</i> , as recognized by the International Olympic Committee.
<i>Disciplinary Commissioner</i>	The <i>Disciplinary Commissioner</i> appointed in accordance with Article 10.1 of these <i>Statutes</i> .
<i>FIH</i>	The International Hockey Federation.
<i>Regulations</i>	Any codes (including the <i>FIH</i> Code of Ethics), rules or regulations made by or on behalf of the PAHF in accordance with these <i>Statutes</i> , including all amendments thereto and re-enactments thereof.
<i>Hockey</i>	The sport of hockey, played according with the official rules approved by the <i>FIH</i> , 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 <i>FIH</i> , excluding any discipline that is listed as winter sport or roller sport.
<i>International Event</i>	A match or event contested by national representative teams and sanctioned by the <i>FIH</i> .
<i>Managing Director</i>	The <i>Managing Director</i> or <i>equivalent</i> of the Pan American Hockey Federation referred to in Article 7.2 of these <i>Statutes</i>
<i>Recognised Organisation</i>	An organisation recognised by the <i>FIH</i> referred to in Article 10 of the <i>FIH Statutes</i>
<i>National Association/NA</i>	A national governing body of <i>Hockey</i> , which is the recognized central authority responsible for all matters relating to the administration, organization and playing of <i>Hockey</i> in that <i>Country</i> by its respective <i>NOC</i> .
<i>Provisional Member</i>	<i>Association</i> that has been admitted as a <i>Member</i> of the Pan American Hockey Federation.

<i>Full Member</i>	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.
<i>NOC</i>	<i>National Olympic Committee.</i>
<i>Simple Majority</i>	More than ½ of the votes validly cast (disregarding any abstentions or blanked or spoiled votes).
<i>Special Majority</i>	More than ¾ of those present in the room at the time of the vote and entitled to vote.
<i>Spoiled Vote</i>	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.
<i>Statutes</i>	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.