

# PI STATUTE

Lausanne, 11 June 2022

## Title I – Aims and Scope

Article 1 – Name, Motto and Headquarters  
Article 2 – The Aims of Panathlon

## Title II – Components

Article 3 – Clubs  
Article 4 – Club Members  
Article 5 – Qualifications of Club Members  
Article 6 – Honourable Members of Panathlon International

## Title III – Panathlon International Organisation Chart

Article 7 – Bodies

## Title IV – International Bodies and Congresses

Article 8 – General Assembly  
Article 9 – Elective Assembly - Electoral Procedures  
Article 10 – International President  
Article 11 – International Board  
Article 12 – President's Committee  
Article 13 – District Presidents Committee  
Article 14 – Auditors' Committee (A.C.)  
Article 15 – Constitution and Arbitration Board (C.A.B.)  
Article 16 – Congresses

## Title V – National Bodies

Article 17 – Districts  
Article 18 – District Presidents  
Article 19 – Areas  
Article 20 – Area Governors  
**Article 21 – District Assemblies**  
**Article 22 – Area Assemblies**

## Title VI – Appointments and Functions

Article 23 – Secretary General  
Article 24 – Treasurer

## Title VII – Final Provisions

Article 25 – Voluntary Posts  
Article 26 – Revision of the Constitution  
Article 27 – Dissolution of Panathlon International  
Article 28 – Official Languages  
Article 29 – Hierarchy of Sources

## Title I – Aims and Scope

### Article 1 – Name, Motto and Headquarters

1. Panathlon International (P.I.) is the association of all Panathlon Clubs. Panathlon unites the whole movement and directs it with the support of Clubs, grouped into Districts, on an ideally unique, unitary represented local area. It is a non-denominational, non-partisan Association, without sex or racial distinction. It is a non profit-making organisation.

2. Its motto is "Ludis lungit". Its only symbol is a blue disk with at its centre the flaming Olympic torch in gold with the words "Panathlon International" circling it. The whole is contained in a double circle divided into five sectors bearing the colours of the Olympic rings.

3. Its legal, administrative and operative headquarters are in Rapallo (Genoa – Italy) where the General Secretariat is located.

The International Board may entrust operational activities to P.I. representations outside Italy.

### Article 2 - Aims of Panathlon

1. It is a free, non-governmental, non profit-making Association, with legal status.

2. The main aim of Panathlon is the achievement of the sporting ideal and the establishment of its cultural and moral values as a means towards the development and advancement of the individual and solidarity between men and peoples.

3. To this end:

- a) it encourages friendship among all panathletes and everyone who works in the world of sport;
- b) it acts systematically and continuously in the different areas of authority of its Bodies, to spread the idea of sport, inspired by the ethics of responsibility, by the spirit of solidarity and fair play, as elements belonging to the culture of all men and peoples;
- c) it promotes studies and research into the problems of sport and its interrelations with society, communicating the results to the public opinion in collaboration with schools, universities and other cultural organisations;
- d) it undertakes concrete forms of participation, by getting involved in procedures for proposals, consultations and programming in the field of sport, through the methods provided for by national and regional regulations;
- e) it works towards the ideal of a healthy sporting education guaranteed for all, regardless of race or sex or age, particularly through the promotion of cultural and sporting activities for young people and through schools;
- f) it establishes permanent relations with state and local public organisations and with those responsible for sport, to procure their active participation in legislative and administrative undertakings and effective commitment in the organisational and operative phases;
- g) as an association of 'service' clubs, it rejects all forms of doping, violence, racism and corruption and undertakes to encourage and support activities for the disabled, activities for the prevention of drug abuse and the recovery of its victims, initiatives of solidarity for sports veterans and the promotion and development of education programmes against violence and doping;
- h) it supports the Olympic Movement in any activities consistent with the aims of the Association;

- i) it promotes the expansion of Panathlon's movement world-wide through the founding of new Clubs or the appointment of its delegates;
- j) it undertakes any venture that will help to achieve institutional aims.

4. Panathlon's Movement relies upon the voluntary work of its Club Members to achieve its aims.

## **Title II - Components**

### **Article 3 - Clubs**

1. Clubs constitute the members of P. I. They are set up and function in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and of the Regulations. The club is represented by its President elected by the Members' Assembly.

2. Every Club is governed by its own Constitution in accordance with P.I. Statute and Regulations.

3. Clubs organise meetings in the course of the year.

4. Clubs are required to:

- a) timely forward to the General Secretariat, to the District President and to the Area Governor, all information relating to changes in membership and in the composition of Club bodies and activities;
- b) forward, every year, to these same recipients, within 31 March, the moral and financial report on past activities, together with the minutes of the Members' Assembly;
- c) timely pay P.I. General Secretariat, every year, within the term decided by the President's Committee, the per capita membership fees determined by the General Assembly;
- d) In applying for P.I. membership, the Clubs also undertake to join, automatically and effectively, under penalty of non-admission or exclusion, any other forms of association which may be established by the individual District, in compliance with the applicable legal and tax regulations, subject to I.B.'s approval.

5. Clubs can form Junior Clubs (PJ), according to the methods established by the regulations in force.

### **Article 4 – Club Members**

1. Adult persons, who have taken part or take part in either competitive or non-competitive sporting, managerial, promotional and cultural activities, or have in some way distinguished themselves, with a significant career, displaying a behaviour in accordance with the panathletic spirit, are eligible to become members of a Panathlon Club.

2. The Members are nominated as representatives of the categories specified in the list given in the Regulations.

3. On admission, the Member on his honour undertakes:

- to pursue P.I. statutory aims;
- to conform his behaviour, wherever he is operating, to the ethical principles set out in the Panathlete's Charter;
- to take part in monthly meetings;

- to directly and actively co-operate in every initiative promoted by his Club or organised by his Club to enforce P.I. or District resolutions, also by assuming specific roles in the 'services';
- to fulfil his financial obligations according to the rules of his Club;
- to submit any dispute concerning behaviour in the course of Panathletic activities exclusively to the Judicial Bodies within the Association;
- to accept as fully binding all measures taken by the Constitutional bodies and all decisions adopted by the in-house judicial bodies once they are final.

### **Article 5 – Qualifications of Club Members**

1. The following qualifications are provided:

- ordinary Members;
- honorary Members.

2. Honorary members are nominated by the Clubs in recognition of their exceptional merits in the promotion of Panathlon's values.

3. The Regulations establish the requirements for membership under each qualification.

### **Article 6 - Honourable Members of Panathlon International**

1. Honourable Members of Panathlon International are nominated by the General Assembly, upon proposal of the International Board, for exceptional merits that emerged in their relations with Panathlon's movement.

2. P.I. Honourable Members are entitled to take part in all Assemblies and Congresses, with the right to speak.

## **Title III – Panathlon International Organisation Chart**

### **Article 7 - Bodies**

1.a) The International Bodies of P.I. are:

- the General Assembly of the Clubs;
- the International Board;
- the President's Committee;
- the International President;
- the District Presidents Committee
- the Auditors' Committee (A.C.);
- the Constitution and Arbitration Board (C.A.B.).

**b) The term of all offices is four years, renewable for one further four-year period.**

2.a) The National Bodies are:

- Districts;
- District Presidents;
- District Assemblies.

**b) The term of all offices is four years, renewable for one further four-year period.**

3.a) Local Bodies are:

- Areas;
- Area Governors;
- Area Assemblies.

**b) The term of all offices is four years, renewable for one further four-year period.**

- 4.a)** Panathlon International local autonomous members are:
- Clubs.
- b)** The term of office is 2 years and can be renewed in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations.

#### **Title IV – International Bodies and Congresses**

##### **Article 8 - General Assembly**

- 1.** The General Assembly is the assize of all member Clubs. It may be either Ordinary or Extraordinary.
- 2.** Procedures for calling, holding Assemblies and electing International Bodies are reported in the Regulations. **Due to exceptional reasons, the I.B. may convene the General Assembly to hold an online general meeting**
- 3.** Each Club has the right to one vote.
- 3.** Panathletes who have held an international office, either as District President or Area Governor, can take part in the Assembly with the right to speak.
- 5.** The General Assembly elects:
  - a)** the International President;
  - b)** **8** International Board members;
  - c)** 3 full members and 2 added members of AC;
  - d)** 3 full members and 2 added members of CAB;
  - e)** fixes membership fees.
- 6.** The General Assembly is also summoned within 6 months from the session of the International Board, and has the approval of the Annual Economic-Financial, Patrimonial Report in the agenda if it was not approved by the AC.

##### **Article 9 – Elective Assembly - Electoral Procedures**

- 1.** For International Bodies, elections will take place at the General Assembly, **through separate votes**, with all Clubs - formed at least by 31 December of the year prior to the year in which the Elective Assembly will be held, and up-to-date with the payments of membership fees - entitled to vote on separate slips for each of the said bodies.
 

The General Assembly elects:

  - the International President;
  - **8** International Board members;
  - 3 full members and 2 added members of the Auditors' Committee (A.C.);
  - 3 full members and 2 added members of the Constitution and Arbitration Board (C.A.B.)
- 2.** Only Clubs complying with the provisions reported in para.1 of this article can submit the nomination of candidates for offices, together with the related curricula to the General Secretariat, by 28<sup>th</sup> February prior to the Assembly. The nomination for the International President shall be presented by at least 20 Clubs belonging to three different Districts. For all other offices, nominations shall be presented by at least 10 Clubs. Each Club can only submit one nomination for each office.
- 3.** The General Secretariat checks that nominations are valid.

- 4.** The General Secretariat forwards to the International Board the list of candidates for the above offices; this list is notified to Clubs at least 30 days prior to the Assembly.
- 5.** Every Continental Area or District is entitled to one Board Member every 30 regularly affiliated Clubs, with a maximum of **5** Board Members per District **if their nationality is not the same as the President's. Otherwise, the limit is a maximum of 4 Board Members per District if their nationality is the same as the newly elected President's.**
- 6.** Every Club can vote in relation to the number of eligible candidates for each District or Continental Area.
- 7. Voting can also take place by means of electronic or mail-in voting, in accordance with the instructions of the International Board. The secrecy of the ballot, where required, shall be guaranteed in all circumstances.**

##### **Article 10 – International President**

- 1.** The International President is the legal representative of P. I.
- 2.** He is elected by the General Assembly of the Clubs by separate election, on a majority vote, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations
- 3.** He directs and co-ordinates all the activities for the achievement of Panathlon's aims, ensuring that resolutions passed by International Bodies are enforced.
- 4. He convenes and chairs the President Committee and the International Board meetings.**

##### **Article 11 - International Board**

- 1.** It is composed of the International President and of **8** Board Members elected by the Assembly. The Secretary General, the Treasurer, only if not a board member, and at least one member of the Auditors' Committee take part without voting right. **The Past-president attends the meetings in an advisory capacity. He may be assigned specific duties by the International Board.**
- 2.** The International Board:
  - a)** **at its first meeting and through separate votes, elects the First Vice-President and the Second Vice-President from among its members. One of them will be an Italian national, whereas the other Vice-President's nationality must not be the same as the President's;**
  - b)** establishes the guidelines of P.I. activities, superintends their implementation, adopting enforcement provisions, for accomplishing all institutional functions;
  - c)** deals with proposals for ratification of resolutions passed by the President's Committee and of urgent resolutions adopted by the President;
  - d)** nominates:
    - the Secretary General;
    - the Treasurer;
    - the Head of Communication and establishes the related guidelines;
  - e)** nominates the Commissions having specific tasks determined by programming and organisation requirements and fixes each time the period of their mandate;
  - f)** on an annual basis, approves the year-end financial statements, **within 120 days of the end of the financial year**, and the budget with the favourable opinion of the Auditors' Committee (A.C.) **and publishes it on the P.I. website;**

- g) submits for approval to the Ordinary Assembly for ratification:
  - the moral, organisation and economic- financial, patrimonial reports for the two previous years;
  - the motivated proposal for the Club membership fees, for the two years following the year in progress;
- h) issues the regulations of the International Bodies and of the Commissions, and fixes the guidelines for Club Statutes and for District Regulations.

3. The International Board generally meets **at least three times** a year, **including via e-meetings**, and decides by simple majority and open vote, provided that at least two thirds of the members with effective vote are present. In the case of a tied vote, the person chairing the meeting has the casting vote.  
The International Board may hold additional meetings online or via videoconferencing.

4. The tasks of the International Board Members are specified in the Regulations.

#### Article 12 - President's Committee

1. The President's Committee comprises the International President **and the two** Vice-Presidents. The President's Committee meeting is also attended, without voting right, by one International Board Member invited by the President as a function of the topics to be discussed, the Secretary General and the Treasurer at least one Member of the A.C. **The Past-president takes part in the meetings in an advisory capacity and without the right to vote. The President may invite any International Board members to attend the meetings, without the right to vote, depending on the matters to be discussed.**

2. The President's Committee deals with all the association's ordinary administration.

**3. The meetings may be held remotely via electronic communication.**

#### Article 13 – District Presidents Committee

1. The District Presidents Committee comprises the Presidents of the Districts. It is called at least once a year, it is chaired by the International President and is assisted by the President's Committee.

2. The District Presidents Committee, after examining the reports of the International President on the activities of the international bodies and of the Presidents on past and future activities of their Districts, discusses problems that emerged and gives advice on such issues, drawing up a final document to be submitted to the International Board.

**3. The meetings may be held remotely via electronic communication.**

#### Article 14 - Auditors' Committee (A.C.)

1. The Auditors' Committee consists of three full members and two added members, elected by the General Assembly.

2. **a)** Members are elected from among panathletes, duly registered in the Official Register of Auditors in their country or having specific professional competence, both for full and added members, but shall not all belong to the same District.

**b)** In case of vacancy of an effective member, the first of substitute members steps in, also notwithstanding point 2a

3. The Committee appoints its Chairman from among full members.

**4. The meetings may be held remotely via electronic communication and with the assistance of the General Secretariat.**

#### Article 15 - Constitution and Arbitration Board (C.A.B.)

1. **a)** The Constitution and Arbitration Board consists of three Full Members and two Added Members, elected by the General Assembly, but they shall not all belong to the same District.

**b)** In case of vacancy of an effective member, the first of substitute members steps in, also notwithstanding point 1a.

2. Its Members are elected from among Panathletes who are or used to be practicing judges, lawyers, notaries or university professors of law.

3. The Board appoints a Chairman from among its full members.

**4. The meetings may be held remotely via electronic communication and with the assistance of the General Secretariat.**

#### Article 16 - Congresses

1. The International Board calls, at least once every four years, P.I. Congress.

2. All Panathletes can participate. The Congress examines and discusses current cultural issues and topics.

3. Districts can either jointly or individually, organise supranational congresses, co-ordinated by the International Board, in agreement with the General Secretariat.

#### Title V – National Bodies

##### Article 17 - Districts

1. For organisational purposes, **when there are a minimum of three Clubs, these** are grouped in a national District corresponding to the territory of a Country after which the District is named. Districts are headed by a President, according to statutory rules. For countries **where there are less than three Clubs, such Clubs** may be included in an **already** existing District of a nearby Country and the Presidents of said Clubs **may** represent Panathlon International **in their country's authorities, including sports authorities**. The Expansion Commission of PI is responsible for coordinating the Clubs that are not associated with any District.

2. Districts are funded by membership fees paid by Clubs, whose criteria are fixed by the District Assembly.

3. In addition to P.I. Statute and Regulations, the District activities shall be governed by the District Statute and Regulations, to be approved by a specific District Assembly meeting and enforced by P.I. President Committee, after consulting with P.I. CAB.

##### Article 18 – District Presidents

1. The District President shall be elected by the Clubs of that District.

2. The President acts as representative of the Areas or Clubs in his District before P.I., Public Institutions and Sports Organisations, both for the implementation of the resolutions and

guidelines provided by the International Bodies and for the autonomous initiatives in his area of competence.

3. The President ensures the liaison and harmonisation of the activities of District Areas or of Clubs with the guidelines and initiatives of Institutional Bodies.

#### **Article 19 – Areas**

1. An Area corresponds to an existing administrative unit including both the area of a region and the area of a confederate Country with at least 5 Clubs.

2. Areas take the name of their region or confederate Country.

3. Clubs from different regions, if bordering, or in case of specific geographic or language requirements, can be grouped into one Area, irrespective of their number.

4. The District President, in case of an extensive geographic area or a substantial number of Clubs, shall authorise the formation of a new Area, upon approval of the Governor concerned, and shall submit it to the International Board for ratification.

5. Areas are funded by membership fees paid by Clubs, whose criteria are fixed by their Area Assembly.

#### **Article 20 – Area Governors**

1. At the head of each Area is a Governor, elected by the Clubs of his Area.

2. They act as representatives of the local Clubs before public authorities and sports organisations in his Area, co-ordinating Club activities and common initiatives.

#### **Article 21 - District Assemblies**

1. **District Assemblies are convened by the District President at least once a year, to examine the moral, economic-financial and programmatic reports related to District activities, and to examine any further matters concerning the District and P.I.**

2. **The District Assemblies are attended by Club Presidents or their Delegates. The Area Governors, the Panathletes who have held an international office or the office of District President, respectively, are also entitled to participate with the right to speak.**

#### **Article 22 – Area Assemblies**

1. **Area Assemblies are convened by the Area Governor at least once a year, to examine the moral, economic-financial and programmatic concerning the activities of the Clubs in the Area.**

2. **The Area Assemblies are attended by the Club Presidents or their Delegates. The Panathletes who have held an international office or the office of District President or Governor, respectively, are also entitled to participate with the right to speak.**

#### **Title VI – Appointments and Functions**

##### **Article 23 – Secretary General**

1. The Secretary General is appointed by the International Board, following proposal by the President. He is responsible for the General Secretariat and reports to the International President and to the International Board.

He participates in the International Board and the President's Committee meetings, without voting rights, and attends the General Assembly and the meetings of the District Presidents Committee and of the Commissions appointed by the International Board to take the minutes of the meetings.

2. The Secretary General organises and directs the events promoted by the International Board and superintends all events at supradistrict level.

3. The office of Secretary General is incompatible with any other P.I. national or international office.

##### **Article 24 -Treasurer**

1. The Treasurer is appointed by the International Board, with the same term of office.

2. The Treasurer must have specific experience in the administrative and financial sector. He attends the meetings of the International Board and of the President's Committee, without voting rights unless he is an International Board Member.

#### **Title VII – Final Provisions**

##### **Article 25 - Voluntary Posts**

1. Offices assumed upon election or appointment are voluntary posts and as such are unpaid.

2. The same applies to every post held by Panathletes in connection with the General Secretariat, except where the services offered are the object of a contract of employment stipulated with P.I..

##### **Article 26 - Revision of the Constitution**

Amendments to the Constitution can be formulated:

a) by the International Board;

b) by at least twenty per cent of Clubs regularly established and up-to-date with the requested provisions. Amendments must reach the General Secretariat by the December preceding the General Assembly of the following year.

All amendments shall be communicated to all Clubs at least 60 days before the Extraordinary General Assembly, together with the opinion expressed by the Constitution and Arbitration Board.

##### **Article 27 - Dissolution of Panathlon International**

1. The dissolution of P.I. is decided by an Extraordinary Assembly, specifically called in compliance with the law in force.

2. In case of dissolution of this Association for any reason whatsoever, its net estate will be transferred, in agreement with the control organ provided for by law No. 662, art. 3, paragraph 190, dated 23 December 1996, and any subsequent amendments, and with the International Olympic Committee, to another Association with similar aims or of public interest, except as otherwise provided for by law.

3. The Assembly shall appoint three panathletes, at least one of these must be a member of the Auditors' Committee in office, for the necessary winding-up, transfer and assignment of the estate.

4. If the provisions approved by the Assembly should not be sufficient for this purpose, the general principles provided by the Italian law shall apply.

**Article 28 – Official Languages**

Panathlon International official languages are French, English and Italian.

**Article 29 – Hierarchy of Sources**

The fundamental norms of Panathlon International are:

1. PI Statute
2. **PI Regulation**
3. **Internal rules and decisions passed by the International Board to organise and regulate Panathlon International's activities.**

**- The Statutes and Regulations of Districts and Areas must be in compliance with the P.I. Rules pursuant to Article 17.3 of the Statutes.**

**These statute amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2023.**