

GAMMA
GLOBAL ASSOCIATION OF
MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

**INTERNAL REGULATIONS
(BY-LAWS)**

PREAMBLE

These By-Laws follow the provisions of the GAMMA Constitution and do not intend to supersede, replace, or modify them. In the event of a conflict, the provisions of the GAMMA Constitution shall always prevail.

Definitions

EB

Executive Board of GAMMA as per the definition given in article 22 of the GAMMA Constitution

Regulations

The whole set of GAMMA internal rules such as these By-Laws, the Code of Ethics, the Disciplinary Code, the Competition rules etc., as adopted from time to time by the governing bodies of GAMMA, including any resolutions taken by the EB.

TITLE I

MEMBERSHIP

1. Members

- 1.1 The members of GAMMA shall be the national federations or organisations of any kind, accepted by the Ordinary Congress, as being representative organisations for the Mixed Martial Arts (“MMA”) sport disciplines in the country of that national federation or organisation.
- 1.2 Only one national federation shall be admitted to membership for each country. However, the Executive Board (“EB”) may exceptionally grant provisional exemptions from this rule for a period not exceeding two years.
- 1.3 Without prejudice of paragraph 1.1 above, to the end of promoting GAMMA, the EB may recognise entities (irrespective of the way they are known) carrying on activities in MMA in the relevant country of establishment, provided that the requirements for affiliation of national federations are complied with by such entities.

2. Plurality of Members

- 2.1 In those countries where more than one federation or otherwise named entities are recognised by or affiliated to GAMMA, these federations/entities shall organise a Steering Committee, with the scope of having a unified representation within GAMMA.
- 2.2 The Steering Committee provided for in paragraph 2.1 shall be led and chaired by the president of the national federation/entity having either the oldest membership with GAMMA or the largest number of active members carrying out activities in MMA, upon appointment of the GAMMA Executive Board. The chairperson of the Steering Committee shall participate in the Ordinary Congresses of GAMMA with the right and duty to intervene with voting right in representation of all national federations/entities in that country. Such a provision is without prejudice of the right of each federation to elect the president of the committees in which they exercise activities and are affiliated with GAMMA accordingly.

- 2.3 GAMMA shall promote and facilitate the formation of the steering committees provided for in paragraph 2.1 above with the aim of facilitating the merger of such multiple federations into one national member federation per country within a reasonable time frame to be set by the EB.
- 2.4 If no Steering Committees are formed for the purposes of paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 above, the nomination of the Members' representative entitled to vote at each Ordinary Congress shall be notified to GAMMA during the registration process at the latest. Should a dispute on such nomination arise, the scrutineers shall report it to GAMMA Director General who shall refer the dispute to the Ordinary Congress soon after the opening of the corresponding meeting and before voting on any item on the agenda.
- 2.5 National federations may be also formed as a conglomerate of entities, provided that:
 - a. Each entity carries out actual activities in at least one of the sport disciplines of MMA recognised by GAMMA accordingly.
 - b. Each entity has the basic requirements to be recognised by GAMMA and undertakes to comply with the rules governing GAMMA.
 - c. The conglomerate resulting from the merger or gathering of multiple entities appoints only one representative with voting rights in the name and behalf of each entity at the Ordinary Congresses of GAMMA, without prejudice of the right of each entity to elect the president of the committees in which they eventually exercise activities and are affiliated with GAMMA accordingly.

3. Application for membership

- 3.1 The application for membership, to be drawn up in English, shall be signed by the authorised representatives of the applicant federation and sent to the GAMMA Head Office.
- 3.2 The application must be accompanied by a file containing the following elements:
 - a. a formal statement that the applicant federation, on the condition of its admission, shall accept, apply and comply with the GAMMA Constitution and Regulations.
 - b. the text of the statutes and regulations of the applicant federation.
 - c. a report on the structures and of the sport activities carried out by the applicant federation.
 - d. a list of unions or associations to which the applicant federation is already affiliated.
 - e. if applicable, written evidence of the recognition of the applicant by the sport agencies or authorities of the country of establishment (i.e.: National Olympic Committee or Sport Ministry or equivalent entity).
 - f. the composition of the management committee or equivalent body;
 - g. the official address for correspondence;

- h. the identity of persons empowered to sign correspondence;
- 3.3 The federations shall inform GAMMA of every amendment in the data referred to in points b, d, e, f, g and h of paragraph 3.2 above as soon as possible.
- 3.4 The EB shall periodically review the actual permanence of the requirements for the maintenance of the affiliation to or recognition by GAMMA in respect of all national federations or entities already affiliated to or recognised by GAMMA and shall resolve accordingly also pursuant to the Constitution of GAMMA.
- 3.5 The EB shall review the actual permanence of the requirements for a national federation/entity to keep on presiding the Steering Committee provided for in article 2 to the end of guaranteeing the widest and most actual representation within the governance bodies of GAMMA.
- 3.6 Every application will be reviewed by the EB, and once verified that all conditions are met, the applicant is provisionally affiliated to GAMMA until the next Ordinary Congress, provided that the first-year membership fee is paid in full. During this period, the member is eligible to participate in all GAMMA official events, while the right to vote at Ordinary Congresses of GAMMA shall be fully exercised immediately after ratification of membership by the Ordinary Congress.

TITLE II

GOVERNANCE

4. Congresses of GAMMA

Generalities

- 4.1 The Congress is the meeting of members and the highest authority of the GAMMA. Each member may only have two delegates at the Congress, only one of whom shall have the voting power and the right to speak.
- 4.2 At least 75 days ahead of the Congress, the GAMMA Administration will notify all affiliated National Federations of the date and location of the Congress, the logistical details, and a call for candidates when elections are to be held.

Committee of Scrutineers

- 4.3 At least one day before the opening of the Congress, the EB appoints the Committee of three Scrutineers which shall have the task:
 - [a] of examining and counting the votes at the Congress.
- 4.4 The committee of scrutineers will be approved by the Congress at the start of proceedings.
- 4.5 The scrutineers may not be a member of the EB or Council or standing for any position during an Electing Congress.
- 4.6 Without prejudice of paragraph 2.4 above, any dispute regarding the powers to represent a Member Federation at the Congresses or in respect of candidacies submitted to the GAMMA Head Office shall be referred to the EB and Disciplinary Committee, if necessary, which shall resolve upon the matter in accordance with the

procedures contemplated in the GAMMA Disciplinary Code.

Delegates

- 4.7 Members of delegation representative may not be replaced during the Congress.
- 4.8 No proxies are allowed and the members' delegates to GAMMA Congresses shall be members of the national federation concerned.

Conduction of Congresses

- 4.9 The Congress is chaired by the GAMMA President, or if absent, by the first Vice-President or by the Director General.
- 4.10 Only the items on the agenda shall be discussed by the Congress. However, in exceptional cases, the Congress may discuss a topic not on the agenda, provided this is decided by a vote by 2/3 of the attending members holding the right to vote.
- 4.11 Each affiliated National Federation must be up to date with all its financial obligations with GAMMA and shall not be subject to any disciplinary suspension. In these conditions, it will have the right to one vote at Congress.
- 4.12 Debates are held successively, according to the agenda. The Congress President reports in this order or he/she requests the reporter of the matter in question to speak.
- 4.13 Each report on the topics placed on the agenda shall not last more than ten minutes. On each topic, following the order of the requests previously submitted, the Congress President allows Congress members to give their opinion. Each intervention shall not last more than five minutes.
- 4.14 Only one delegate per member may speak concerning each topic placed on the agenda, and he/she may do so only once.
- 4.15 After all interventions have been concluded, the reporter of each topic has a right to respond for a maximum of 10 minutes.
- 4.16 The Congress President concludes the debate on each topic. The concluded debate shall not be resumed.
- 4.17 If information is needed concerning a topic placed on the agenda, the Congress may allow individuals, who are not members of GAMMA to speak.

Voting procedures

- 4.18 Voting at Congresses shall be by show of hands, unless a secret ballot is required in accordance with the Constitution, or when requested by the absolute majority of the members having the right to vote.
- 4.19 If the vote is secret, voting booths or electronic voting will be used.
- 4.20 In case of personal matters, and for elections, the vote shall always be secret.
- 4.21 The President does not take part in open votes, but has the casting vote in case of a tie.

4.22 Except for the elections of the EB and Council members, if a secret vote ends in a tie, the matter in question is considered as rejected. Any ballot paper which is incomplete or spoiled, or which bears more names than the number of positions to fill shall be considered as void.

5. **Elections**

5.1 Candidatures for vacancies in GAMMA governance bodies shall be submitted in writing by a member national federation no later than 45 days before the date of the elective Congress and accompanied by a short profile of the supported candidate.

5.2 Candidates for presidency shall be granted ten (10) minutes to present their programme, while the other candidates shall be granted no more than three (3) minutes. No replies are allowed.

5.3 Presentations shall follow the very same order of elections and will be made in alphabetical order by candidate surname, hence presidential candidates shall speak first and then votes shall follow and results announced as soon as available. The elected president shall be announced by the Director General and immediately entered in his/her office, thus assuming also the chair of the Congress.

5.4 Once the President is elected, elections for Vice-Presidents, members of the EB and of the Council, preceded by their respective speeches, shall follow.

5.5 At elections, each voter shall vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies. All other votes shall be null and void. The candidates who obtain the largest number of votes shall be elected. In case of an equality of votes for the last position available, a runoff election of the tied candidates will be carried out and the candidate who obtains the largest number of votes shall be elected. In such a case, votes shall be cast for one candidate only, under penalty of the vote being declared void.

5.6 If the election is for only one vacancy, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall be elected.

5.7 If there is only one candidate for a position or if there are as many candidates as there are positions, the candidates shall be automatically elected without voting.

6. **Continental Confederations**

6.1 Upon resolution of the EB, federations from the same geographical region, as per the definition of geographical region provided for by the IOC [hereinafter “**Continent**”] may be grouped together in a continental confederation.

6.2 There shall be no more than 5 continental confederations: Africa – America – Asia – Europe – Oceania. Within each Continent, federations may further be grouped in geographical zones, but solely for sport-related purposes.

6.3 All continental confederations shall promote the development of MMA in their respective continents in accordance with the guidelines and resolutions of GAMMA, with which they shall cooperate and keep informed periodically.

6.4 The continental confederations shall be governed by a Board formed of no less than four members and of the President, all to be elected by the federations belonging to

the confederation every four years, following the very same procedures provided for the election of the EB of GAMMA.

- 6.5 The election of the members of the Board shall follow that of the Elective Congress of GAMMA and must be held within the same year in which the GAMMA EB and Council are elected.
- 6.6 Regulations and decisions of the continental confederations may be cancelled by the EB of GAMMA, either ex officio or at the request of a federation, in case of non-conformity with the Statutes and Regulations of GAMMA.
- 6.7 The continental confederations are not constitutive members of GAMMA. They are auxiliary bodies and they are not indebted to it for any financial contribution. In addition, the Continental Confederations cannot claim to receive any resources (rebate on fees and contributions, television rights etc.) from GAMMA as these resources remain the integral property of GAMMA.
- 6.8 GAMMA may finance programmes suggested by the continental confederations based on a budget approved by GAMMA EB.
- 6.9 The continental confederations have autonomous financial means based on the budget adopted by GAMMA.

TITLE III

FINANCES

7. Resources of GAMMA

- 7.1 The resources of GAMMA comprise subscriptions and fees of all kinds payable by the Members, revenues from its own activity, and resources created under exceptional circumstances by a decision of the GAMMA EB.
- 7.2 The costs which must be borne by GAMMA result from the administration and operating expenses, the expenses incurred in implementing its programme of activity, from the expenses referred to in the Constitution, as well as from the expenditure commitments and obligations of an exceptional nature relating to its activity and decided upon by the EB.
- 7.3 The payment of the various subscriptions, fees, administration fees or fines established in these Regulations must be made in favour of GAMMA in Euro or in another freely transferable currency.
- 7.4 The financial resources of GAMMA may comprise in particular:
 - a. annual subscriptions from the affiliated National Federations
 - b. sanctioning fees for international tournaments
 - c. hosting fees for World and Continental Championships
 - d. participation fees for athletes and officials participating in GAMMA Events
 - e. television, digital and marketing rights

- f. revenue from advertising, sponsoring and marketing at World and Continental Championships and at all other events within its competence, as per valid agreement with GAMMA
- g. fines for infringements of the Disciplinary Regulations in force
- h. proceeds from the sale of all articles relating to GAMMA
- i. proceeds from the investment of funds
- j. legacies and gifts

8. Charges and Costs

- 8.1 The funds of GAMMA shall be used for the following purposes:
 - a. organisation of GAMMA Events and Championships
 - b. education and training courses organised with a view to developing and advancing MMA and any action included in the sport development programme of GAMMA
 - c. administration
 - d. Promotion and marketing of GAMMA
 - e. Publications, films, badges, medals, etc.
 - f. official journeys
 - g. meetings and representation at events
 - h. sundry operating expenses and travel expenses of any commissioned official
 - i. technical assistance expenses
 - j. expenses for working groups, GAMMA EB and Council meetings, technical delegates or other assigned persons
 - k. representation allowances for the President, and any commissioned person
- 8.2 The President is solely competent to order all expense commitments. He/she may delegate this power to the Director General.
- 8.3 The Director General or the appointed financial controller or accounting company is entrusted with the control of expenditure and receipts. A report on the financial management of GAMMA, drawn up by the appointed company, must be approved by the EB and annually submitted to each Congress by the President.
- 8.4 The accounts are checked by a statutory auditor's company, approved by the country of establishment of GAMMA, before being submitted to the EB and the Congress.

9. Membership fees

- 9.1 The annual membership Fee for each affiliated National Federation is proposed to the

Congress by the Council.

- 9.2 The annual membership fee shall be paid to GAMMA at the latest 30 days after receipt of the invoice, by bank transfer, to the GAMMA bank account mentioned on the invoice.
- 9.3 A Federation which fails to pay its annual membership fee by more than three months after the due date, shall lose its rights, and in particular the right to vote at Congresses.
- 9.4 For any Federation which has not paid its membership fees or other due money for more than one year, the EB may suspend it from any activity within GAMMA and put forward to Congress a motion proposing its exclusion. Such proposal is to be voted by secret ballot. An excluded Federation may not be re-affiliated until the subscriptions due are paid.
- 9.5 All other fees, taxes, levies and duties related to GAMMA shall be determined and reviewed annually by the EB.

10. Television and digital rights

- 10.1 The television and digital rights belong to GAMMA, which is the only body that may negotiate and sign contracts. The GAMMA President or his/her representative nominated by them is the only person who may sign for television and digital deals.
- 10.2 The guarantee of television coverage, production and the provision of the international feed shall be provided by the host National Federation and by the host broadcaster. The guarantee for television coverage, production and the provision of the international feed is obligatory for World and Continental Championships.