

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE BASKETBALL
INTERNATIONAL BASKETBALL FEDERATION

FIBA

Address:

**Chemin de Blandonnet 8
P.O. Box 715
CH-1214 Vernier / Geneva
Switzerland**

Founded in 1932

Telephone: (+41 22) 545 00 00

Fax: (+41 22) 545 00 99

Email: info@fiba.com

Web site: www.fiba.com

CENTRAL BOARD OF FIBA

2002-2006

President: Mr Carl Men Ky CHING, Hong Kong / China

Vice-Presidents:

Oceania (First Vice-President) Mr Bob ELPHINSTON, Australia
Africa Mr Alain EKRA, Côte d'Ivoire
Americas Mr Charles M. NEWTON, USA
Asia Dato YEOH Choo Hock, Malaysia
Europe Mr George VASSILAKOPOULOS, Greece

Secretary General 2002: Mr Borislav STANKOVIĆ, Yugoslavia

Secretary General 2003-2006: Mr Patrick BAUMANN, Switzerland
Secretary General Emeritus
2003-2006: Mr Borislav STANKOVIĆ, Yugoslavia

Treasurer: Mr Manfred STRÖHER, Federal Republic of Germany

Members with full rights:

Africa Mr Alphonse BILÉ, Côte d'Ivoire
Ms Salamatou MAÏGA, Mali

Americas Mr Jenaro MARCHAND, Puerto Rico
Ms Leslie DAL CIN, Canada
Mr Horacio MURATORE, Argentina

Asia Sheik TALAL Fahad Al-Ahmad Alsabah, Kuwait
Ms LIU Yumin, People's Republic of China

Europe Mr Yvan MAININI, France
Mr Fausto MAIFREDI, Italy
Ms Lena WALLIN-KANTZY, Sweden

Oceania Mr Steve SMITH, Australia
Ms Barbara WHEADON, New Zealand

GENERAL STATUTES

**As adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL BASKETBALL
FEDERATION
(FIBA)**



2002



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter One	Definition, Composition, Purpose.....	3
Chapter Two	Divisions of FIBA	7
First Division -	The Congress	7
Second Division -	The Central Board	10
Third Division -	The Secretariat of FIBA.....	13
Fourth Division -	The Permanent International Commissions.....	15
	I. The Technical Commission.....	16
	II. The Commission for International Competitions	16
	III. The Commission for Women’s Basketball	17
	IV. The Commission for Youth Basketball	17
	V. The Commission for Legal Matters.....	17
	VI. The Appeals' Commission	18
Fifth Division -	The Councils	18
	I. The Finance Council	18
	II. The Medical Council	18
	III. The Council for Basketball for Persons with a Disability.....	19
	IV. The Media Council.....	20
	V. Other structures.....	20
Sixth Division -	The Zone Commissions	20
Seventh Division -	Organisations officially recognised by FIBA.....	22
	I. General Provisions.....	22
	II. The World Association of Basketball Coaches	23
	III. The International Wheelchair Basketball Federation	24
	IV. The International Centre for the Documentation and Research of Basketball: The Pedro Ferrándiz Foundation.....	24
	V. The FIBA Hall of Fame.....	24
Chapter Three	Financial Provisions	25
Chapter Four	Legal Provisions.....	27
	The Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland	27
Chapter Five	General Provisions	28
ANNEX:	List of affiliated national federations by Zone	30



Chapter One

Definition, Composition, Purpose

Article 1

FIBA Fédération Internationale de Basketball, hereinafter FIBA, shall be an independent association composed of national basketball federations and associations worldwide, as provided for under Article 6 of these General Statutes.

This federation shall be organised in such a manner as to acquire legal status. It must be listed in the Registre du Commerce of the country in which its headquarters are located.

FIBA is the sole competent authority for men's and women's basketball throughout the world and is recognised as such by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Article 2

The headquarters of FIBA shall be established in Geneva, Switzerland. Any change to these headquarters to another continent must be approved by the Congress of FIBA.

FIBA shall be subject to the laws of the country in which the headquarters are located.

Article 3

FIBA is a non-profit-making organisation. Therefore, it shall not pursue any objective for its own gains. It shall pursue solely and directly objectives of general interest in accordance with the legislation of the country in which its headquarters are located. The financial resources of FIBA may only be used in pursuit of the objectives laid down in these General Statutes.

To the extent that compensation or reimbursement of expenses is paid to individuals, it must be appropriate, justified and related to the federation's objectives.

FIBA shall establish reserve funds to an extent and in a manner permitted by the legal provisions of the country in which its headquarters are located.

These reserves may be used in compliance with the legal provisions of the country in which the headquarters of FIBA are located. The Central Board shall decide on the usage of the reserves.

Article 4

FIBA shall maintain absolute political and religious neutrality and shall not tolerate any form of discrimination, racial or otherwise.



Article 5

FIBA's aim shall be to develop and control the sport of basketball in all countries worldwide. To this end, FIBA shall promote, supervise and direct the sport of basketball throughout the world.

In particular, FIBA shall:

- a) Establish the Official Basketball Rules, the specifications for equipment and facilities, and all internal and general regulations that must be applied on all occasions, particularly at international or Olympic competitions for which FIBA establishes the system of competition.
- b) Organise, govern and control all international competitions, particularly at national and club team level.
- c) Control the practice of men's and women's basketball in all its forms and in all age groups.
- d) Govern and control the appointment of international referees.
- e) Regulate and approve the transfer of players and referees from one national federation to another.
- f) Promote amicable and courteous relations between national federations, Zone Commissions and their officials and players.
- g) Take every measure appropriate in order to prevent violations of the General Statutes, Internal Regulations of FIBA and Official Basketball Rules.
- h) Provide for the principles valid for deciding and settling all disputes and guaranteeing the right of defence and an impartial judgement, as per the statutory provisions or regulations.

Article 6

Those national federations listed in the Annex to these General Statutes are members of FIBA.

In order to become a member of FIBA, a national federation must submit an application for membership to FIBA for approval by the Central Board.

The application for membership shall contain a declaration in which the applicant national federation undertakes:

- a) to conform at all times to the General Statutes, Internal Regulations and decisions of FIBA and the appropriate Zone Commission.
- b) to observe the Official Basketball Rules of FIBA.



The applicant shall enclose a copy of its own statutes and regulations with its request and submit to FIBA a file containing details of its internal organisation and the sport infrastructure (facilities for playing basketball) in its country.

The application shall be accompanied by confirmation of recognition from the highest sporting authority of the country or territory. In the event of conflict or doubts, the Central Board shall take a decision, including cases where recognition has been previously withdrawn.

The following shall be eligible for membership of FIBA:

Any independent national basketball federation. "National" is understood to mean that its authority applies to a country or territory with clearly established geographical limits.

In any country where basketball is controlled by a section of a sports organisation responsible for other sports, only the section governing and organising basketball shall be recognised and empowered as an affiliated member of FIBA with sole power at national and international level in basketball.

National federations affiliated to FIBA are automatically members of their respective Zones. The composition of the Zones shall be decided by the Central Board.

The statutes and regulations of affiliated federations shall conform to the current General Statutes and Internal Regulations of FIBA. The FIBA General Statutes and Internal Regulations therefore form part of the national statutes and regulations. Furthermore, affiliated national federations agree to strictly observe all regulations and decisions of FIBA. In cases of doubt or conflict, the General Statutes and Internal Regulations of FIBA shall prevail.

Only one national basketball federation per country or territory shall be recognised by FIBA. This federation shall be required to govern both men's and women's basketball in that country or territory and to apply the Official Basketball Rules. The various bodies of affiliated national federations may only pursue their activities within the limits of their own national federation and with the latter's permission. No international activity of such bodies shall be permitted without the authorisation of the competent national federation and approval of the Central Board of FIBA or of the regional executive bodies.

Only direct and indirect members of a national federation affiliated to FIBA may participate in official FIBA competitions and activities.

The Central Board of FIBA may, for important reasons, and in particular when the FIBA General Statutes, Regulations or decisions are flagrantly violated, sanction and/or suspend the affiliation of any FIBA member. The suspension, if not lifted in the meantime, may only remain enforced until the next World Congress, which shall decide whether the suspension is lifted, prolonged or the affiliation dismissed. A suspended national federation has the same rights as an associated member.



When taking its decision, the World Congress shall take into consideration the following points:

1. Length of time the member has been affiliated.
2. Extent of its basketball activity in the country.
3. Extent of its international activity at competitions, congresses and meetings.
4. International standing of the country.
5. Payment of fees.

If a national federation affiliated to FIBA is disbanded according to the procedure set out in its own statutes and regulations, a new national federation may only be recognised if it has previously been accepted by the highest sports authority of the country in question and if the disbanded federation was in good financial standing with FIBA at the time of its disbandment. Should this not be the case, the new federation shall take over all the financial obligations of the former federation towards FIBA and towards the appropriate Zone Commission.

Article 7

National federations shall be held liable for all financial obligations of their clubs towards FIBA.

A national federation which has not paid its fees or arrears for a period of three (3) years shall lose its rights as an affiliated member of FIBA and become an associated member. The Central Board and Zone Commissions must be informed.

An associated member shall not be entitled to vote at the World Congress or at the Congress of the Zone to which it belongs. Its teams and officials may not participate in official FIBA competitions or activities.

If a Zone Commission allows an associated national federation to participate in an official international competition, this national federation shall be reinstated with full rights as an affiliated member of FIBA. The Zone Commissions shall be liable for an associated national federation's debts with FIBA as soon as they allow that national federation to participate in main official competitions of the Zone Commission.



Chapter Two

Divisions of FIBA

Article 8

The divisions of FIBA shall be:

- a) The Congress.
- b) The Central Board.
- c) The Secretariat of FIBA, acting through the Secretary General.
- d) The International Permanent Commissions:
 - Technical Commission.
 - Commission for International Competitions.
 - Commission for Women's Basketball.
 - Commission for Youth Basketball.
 - Commission for Legal Matters.
 - Appeals' Commission.
- e) The Finance Council.
- f) The Medical Council.
- g) The Council for Basketball for Persons with a Disability.
- h) The Media Council.
- i) The Zone Commissions.
- j) The bodies officially recognised by the Central Board.

Article 9

The Congress may grant the title of Honorary President or Honorary Member to any person having rendered outstanding service to the Federation. Nominations for such positions shall be made by the Central Board. An Honorary President or an Honorary Member shall be permitted to attend the Central Board and the Congress meetings with the right to join in discussions, but not to vote.

First Division - The Congress

Article 10

The Congress shall be the supreme authority of FIBA and shall hold sovereign powers within its terms of reference under these General Statutes. It shall consist of:

- a) A maximum of two (2) delegates per affiliated national federation with the right to one (1) vote, which shall be granted to the first delegate if both are present.



- b) The President.
- c) Members of the Central Board, who will have consultative powers only, unless they officially represent an affiliated federation.
- d) The Presidents of the divisions of FIBA listed in Article 8 d)-j) who shall have consultative powers only, unless they officially represent an affiliated federation.

Participation forms for delegates and members of the Central Board must reach the Secretariat of FIBA at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the opening of Congress.

Article 11

Affiliated national federations may only be represented in person by their delegates, who must present a document signed by the President of that national federation proving that they are delegates of that federation. A delegate may represent one (1) federation only.

Representation by letter or proxy is not permitted.

Article 12

The President of FIBA shall preside over Congress. During Congress, he shall not vote, except in the event of a tie when he will have the casting vote.

The President shall be elected for one (1) single four (4) year term of office only. He shall be elected in turn from the Zones, in the following order:

1. Asia (2002-2006)
2. Oceania (2006-2010)
3. Europe (2010-2014)
4. The Americas (2014-2018)
5. Africa (2018-2022)

The President of FIBA may not hold office within a Zone Commission or a national federation.

Should the President be temporarily indisposed, he shall be replaced during sessions of Congress or meetings of the Central Board by the first Vice-President of FIBA. In the event of permanent indisposition, the Zone Commission concerned shall propose a new candidate who shall replace him until the next session of Congress.



Article 13

The Congress shall have the duties assigned to it in these General Statutes. In particular, it shall have the power to:

- a) Approve the agenda.
- b) Adopt and modify these General Statutes.
- c) Elect the President of FIBA.
- d) Elect the Treasurer of FIBA.
- e) Ratify the composition of the Central Board and the nomination of the five (5) Vice-Presidents.
- f) Examine and approve all reports, including the activity report of the Central Board, and other items on the agenda.
- g) Grant the title of Honorary President or Honorary Member.
- h) Ratify the decisions of the Central Board under Article 21 d) (suspension of members).
- i) Decide on the exclusion of members.
- j) Declare the disbandment of FIBA.

Article 14

The Congress shall meet once every four (4) years.

Upon the request of one-fifth of the affiliated national federations or upon the request of the Central Board, an extraordinary session of Congress shall be held within three (3) months of receipt of such a request by the Secretariat of FIBA.

The date, place and agenda for the Congress shall be established by the Secretary General and must be sent to the affiliated national federations at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the Congress. Extraordinary sessions of Congress shall always be held in the same city as the headquarters of FIBA.

The Secretary General is responsible for ensuring that details of the decisions taken are correctly documented.

Article 15

Only matters proposed by the President of FIBA, the Secretary General, the Central Board or the affiliated national federations may be put on the agenda for the session of Congress, provided that these matters fall within the latter's competence. Proposals shall be submitted to the Secretariat of FIBA at least ninety (90) days prior to the opening of Congress. The final agenda shall be established by the Secretary General and included in the letter of invitation to Congress.



In the case of an extraordinary session of Congress, the items to be included on the agenda shall be specified in the request for such a session. However, only such matters that fall within the powers of the Congress shall be placed on the agenda.

Article 16

The decisions of Congress shall be taken in accordance with the provisions under Article 63 and Article 65 of these General Statutes. They shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Unless otherwise specified, decisions of Congress shall enter into force the day after the closure of the session of Congress.

Second Division - The Central Board

Article 17

The Central Board shall have the powers delegated to it under these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations.

The term of office of the Central Board shall be the four (4) years between the ordinary sessions of Congress.

Article 18

The Central Board shall consist of the following members with the right to vote:

- a) The President of FIBA.
- b) The Secretary General of FIBA.
- c) The Treasurer of FIBA.
- d) Seventeen representatives from the Zone Commissions, namely: Africa (3), the Americas (4), Asia (3), Europe (4) and Oceania (3). There shall be at least one (1) female representative from each Zone Commission. If no female representative is designated, this position shall remain vacant. The representatives from the Zone Commissions shall be designated by their own organisation for the term of office provided for in Article 17. If a representative so designated is permanently indisposed, a substitute representative shall be designated by the regional organisation concerned for the remaining term of office.

The Zones are recommended to nominate first and foremost the President and the Secretary General of the Zone as their representatives.

Each member of the Central Board is automatically a member of the highest board of his Zone Commission.

- e) Each Zone Commission shall nominate a Vice-President of FIBA from among its representatives to the Central Board. The first Vice-President of FIBA shall be the Vice-President nominated by the Zone Commission which will provide the next President by rotation, as provided in Article 12.

In the case of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote.



Article 19

The following persons, if not otherwise designated in accordance with Article 18, shall attend the meetings of the Central Board:

- a) The Deputy Secretary General of FIBA appointed by the Central Board.
- b) The Secretaries General of the Zone Commissions.

They shall not enjoy voting rights.

Article 20

Membership of the Central Board is strictly personal. The number of Central Board members listed under Article 18 d) with the same nationality is limited to one (1).

Where the President and Secretary General of a Zone Commission have the same nationality, the above provision does not apply.

Representation by proxy is not permitted.

Article 21

The Central Board shall assume the functions determined by these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations, in particular the following:

- a) To supervise the practice of basketball worldwide.
- b) To supervise the Secretary General's management of FIBA's affairs.
- c) To accept or reject applications for membership from national federations.
- d) To decide on the suspension of affiliated members.
- e) To appoint the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General and to enter into contracts with them relating to their services and their duties on behalf of FIBA.
- f) To present activity reports and financial reports for the last financial period to Congress.
- g) To determine the financial policy and to approve the budget and the financial report as prepared by the Treasurer and the Finance Council, subject to ratification by Congress.
- h) To exercise overall control over the financial management of FIBA.
- i) To prepare the final text of the proposed amendments to these General Statutes to be submitted to Congress for approval. The final text of the proposed amendments, as prepared by the Central Board, shall be sent to the affiliated national federations together with the invitation to Congress.
- j) To adopt and modify the Official Basketball Rules.



- k) To adopt and modify the Internal Regulations. Such regulations shall be adopted by an absolute majority of members of the Central Board.
- l) To assign the organisation of World Championships and other world competitions.
- m) To appoint, in accordance with Article 28, the presidents and members of the following commissions:
 - 1. Technical Commission.
 - 2. Commission for International Competitions.
 - 3. Commission for Women's Basketball.
 - 4. Commission for Youth Basketball.
 - 5. Commission for Legal Matters.
 - 6. Appeals' Commission.
- n) To appoint, in accordance with Article 36, the presidents and members of the following councils:
 - 1. Finance Council.
 - 2. Medical Council.
 - 3. Council for Basketball for Persons with a Disability.
 - 4. Media Council.
- o) To approve the General Statutes of the Zone Commissions and the regional organisations.
- p) To approve the statutes and regulations of organisations officially recognised by the Congress.
- q) To grant the title of Secretary General Emeritus.

Article 22

The Treasurer, in his capacity as a member of the Central Board, shall have the following duties:

- a) To control the financial administration of FIBA.
- b) To supervise the current account of income and expenditure.
- c) To examine the periodic financial reports prepared by the Secretariat of FIBA.
- d) To draw up the four (4) year budget, together with the Finance Council.
- e) To ensure the proper implementation of the budget.
- f) To present the complete statements of account to Congress.



Article 23

The Central Board shall hold ordinary sessions twice yearly. If necessary, the President and the Secretary General may call additional meetings of the Central Board. In this case, members must be informed at least thirty (30) days prior to the extraordinary session.

A copy of the agenda and the working documents will be transmitted in such a manner so as to be in the hands of the Central Board members at least seven (7) days before a meeting commences.

The Secretary General shall invite other persons, in particular the Presidents of the Commissions and Councils, to attend meetings of the Central Board when matters within the competence of their Commission or Council are to be discussed. They shall have consultative powers only.

At the request of the President and Secretary General, the Central Board may also vote by correspondence.

Third Division - The Secretariat of FIBA

Article 24

The Secretariat of FIBA shall consist of:

- The Secretary General.
- The Deputy Secretary General.
- The staff of the Secretariat.

All the members of the Secretariat shall remain in office until their contracts expire. Their contracts shall be in accordance with the legislation of the country of the Secretariat's headquarters.

The Secretary General shall manage the Secretariat of FIBA and assume all responsibility for it. He may not hold an official position within a national federation or a Zone Commission unless expressly consented to by the Central Board and approved by the appropriate Zone Commission.

Article 25

The Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General are the sole legal representatives of FIBA. They shall represent FIBA individually.

The Secretary General shall be appointed by the Central Board and shall remain in office until the expiration of his term of office, as determined by a contract containing adequate provisions to ensure full-time activity.



The Secretary General, personally or through his advisors, shall be responsible for the study and implementation of measures concerning the promotion, supervision and direction of basketball worldwide, including such projects of technical and medical assistance that FIBA may be able to provide for national federations or groups of national federations. In particular, the Secretary General shall have the following duties:

- a) To ensure the implementation of all decisions taken by Congress and the Central Board.
- b) To be responsible for all international and Olympic competitions and for the implementation of the aims set out in Article 5 of these General Statutes.
- c) To ensure, as necessary, compliance with the regulations established by the IOC regarding doping control and gender verification.
- d) To convene and prepare the sessions of Congress and meetings of the Central Board.
- e) To maintain the archives.
- f) To publish and send the Internal Regulations to the members of the Central Board, the members of the Commissions and Councils and the affiliated national federations and officially recognised bodies.
- g) To draft and circulate official communications of FIBA.
- h) To ensure the receipt of annual fees from members, as well as contributions, royalties and dues, emoluments and fines imposed by the competent divisions of FIBA.
- i) To administer FIBA's finances.
- j) To study the means of ensuring the financial resources of FIBA and submit a report to the Central Board accordingly.
- k) To ensure the enforcement of these General Statutes and all FIBA regulations.
- l) To impose the sanctions, in accordance with the Basic Principles governing the Application of Penalties, provided for in these General Statutes, the Internal Regulations and the Official Basketball Rules.
- m) To take decisions in cases where his jurisdiction is provided for in specific clauses.

Article 26

The Deputy Secretary General shall be appointed by the Central Board in consultation with the Secretary General.



The Deputy Secretary General shall exercise all duties delegated to him by the Secretary General. Should the Secretary General be temporarily indisposed, the Deputy Secretary General shall replace him for the duration of his absence. Should the Secretary General be permanently indisposed, the Deputy Secretary General shall automatically act as his substitute in all matters until the next meeting of the Central Board.

He may not hold an official position within a national federation or a Zone Commission unless expressly consented to by the Central Board and approved by the appropriate Zone Commission.

Article 27

The Central Board may grant the title of Secretary General Emeritus to a person that has performed the duty of Secretary General of FIBA over more than 10 years and has rendered meritorious services to the Federation. The Secretary General Emeritus shall be invited to attend all meetings of FIBA as well as all main official competitions. He shall exercise all duties delegated to him by the Secretary General.

Fourth Division - The Permanent International Commissions

Article 28

The Permanent International Commissions shall have a four (4) year term of office identical to that of the Central Board. They shall consist of their President and at least six (6) members unless the Central Board decides otherwise. The Secretary General shall put forward a list of candidates to the Central Board for appointment to the Commissions. In presenting the list, he shall take into consideration the expertise of the candidates in the area of competence of the respective Commission.

Each Commission shall have a Vice-President, appointed by the Central Board, from the members of the Commission. He shall automatically replace the President in the case of absence, resignation or permanent indisposition of the latter.

The Secretary General shall be an ex-officio member of all the Commissions, with voting rights.

Membership of the Permanent International Commissions is strictly personal.

Representation by proxy is not permitted.

Article 29

The Permanent International Commissions shall meet whenever necessary, but at least once a year, at the invitation of their President, in consultation with the Secretary General.



A copy of the agenda and the working documents will be transmitted in such a manner so as to be in the hands of the Commission members at least seven (7) days before a meeting commences.

Members of Commissions who do not take an active part, do not wish to or are no longer able to take part in the work of their Commission may be replaced upon the decision of the Central Board.

The Permanent International Commissions shall act in a consultative capacity only and shall not exercise executive authority. However, Presidents and members of the Commissions may be called upon by the Secretary General to exercise executive duties. In such cases, they shall not act as representatives of their Commissions but as representatives of the Secretary General.

I. The Technical Commission

Article 30

The Technical Commission shall have the following duties:

- a) To draw up the text of the Official Basketball Rules, draft amendments to these rules for adoption by Central Board, give an official interpretation of the rules and solve doubtful cases or cases not clearly covered by the rules themselves.
- b) To be responsible for the training, examination and qualification of international referees, as well as for preparing them for main international competitions for men's and women's basketball. Moreover, the Technical Commission is the competent body for all matters concerning the practical application of the Official Basketball Rules.

II. The Commission for International Competitions

Article 31

The Commission for International Competitions shall have the following duties:

- a) To study the regulations governing all international competitions, as well as the regulations established by other divisions of FIBA for international competitions.
- b) To prepare draft systems of competition for Olympic basketball tournaments for men and women.
- c) To prepare draft systems of competition for all World Championships of FIBA.
- d) To prepare draft systems for new FIBA world competitions.
- e) To study the world calendar for FIBA competitions.

All drafts drawn up by the Commission must be submitted to the Central Board for approval.



III. The Commission for Women's Basketball

Article 32

The Commission for Women's Basketball shall have the following duties:

- a) To deal with all matters regarding women's basketball.
- b) To propose to the Central Board any measures deemed necessary to promote the development of women's basketball.
- c) To propose to the Commission for International Competitions any measures affecting the official international competitions for women.

IV. The Commission for Youth Basketball

Article 33

The Commission for Youth Basketball shall have the following duties:

- a) To study all issues relating to youth basketball from mini-basketball to the young people's category.
- b) To propose to the Central Board any measures deemed necessary to promote the development of Mini-Basketball and Passerelle as well as to ensure the transition to the youth categories and the development of youth activities worldwide.
- c) To propose to the Commission for International Competitions any measures affecting the official international competitions for youth categories.

V. The Commission for Legal Matters

Article 34

The Commission for Legal Matters shall have the following duties:

- a) To provide independent advice on all legal matters concerning the practice of basketball worldwide.
- b) To study the legal implications of all proposed amendments to the General Statutes of FIBA.
- c) To draft the official text of the Internal Regulations, together with the other bodies concerned, and to finalise this text before submitting it to the Central Board for approval.
- d) To advise the Secretary General and the Central Board on matters pertaining to the interpretation of the current General Statutes, Internal Regulations and all other legal matters, in particular eligibility.



VI. The Appeals' Commission

Article 35

The Appeals Commission shall have the following duties:

- a) To hear and decide on appeals filed by an affected party against decisions of FIBA, including its organs and disciplinary bodies, unless such an appeal is expressly excluded in these General Statutes or the Internal Regulations.
- b) To act as an arbitration panel for disputes within the world of basketball provided that FIBA, its respective divisions or disciplinary bodies are not directly involved in such a dispute.
- c) To prepare in consultation with the Commission for Legal Matters the Regulations governing Appeals for approval by the Central Board.
- d) To consult with and to suggest to the Commission for Legal Matters any amendments to these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations.

Fifth Division - The Councils

Article 36

The structure and term of office of the Councils shall be determined by the Central Board. The members of the Councils shall be appointed by the Central Board at the proposal of the Secretary General, unless stipulated otherwise herein.

The Councils shall have the same working procedure as the Permanent International Commissions.

I. The Finance Council

Article 37

The Finance Council shall have the following duties:

- a) To examine, together with the Treasurer, the FIBA draft budget for submission to the Central Board for approval.
- b) To prepare, together with the Treasurer, an overall financial report to be submitted to the Central Board for approval.

II. The Medical Council

Article 38

The Medical Council of FIBA shall give advice and information on matters of a strictly medical nature. It shall advise the Secretary General, upon request, on all matters within its field of competence.



It shall establish rules on doping for approval by the Central Board. Except when other provisions specific to basketball exist, the rules shall be consistent with the provisions of the IOC Medical Code / WADA Anti-Doping Code.

During the main official competitions of FIBA, a meeting of doctors and team officials from the participating teams shall be held. A report shall be sent to the President of the Medical Council for submission to the Secretary General.

Article 39

The Council shall consist of:

- a) The President of the Council.
- b) The Presidents of the Medical Commissions of the Zone Commissions, i.e. Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania.
- c) Any other experts deemed necessary by the Central Board.

The President of the Medical Council shall be appointed by the Central Board.

The representatives of the Zone Commissions shall be designated by their own organisations.

In addition, all doctors of medicine who are recognised by their national federations may be members of the Medical Council by correspondence.

The Council shall reserve the right to consult other experts if necessary.

III. The Council for Basketball for Persons with a Disability

Article 40

The principal task of the Council for Basketball for Persons with a Disability shall be to develop basketball throughout the world for persons with a disability.

Article 41

The Council shall co-operate with other international sports organisations for persons with a disability.

In particular, the Council shall provide assistance in organising international competitions and in organising clinics for basketball for persons with a disability, for players, referees, coaches and classifiers.



IV. The Media Council

Article 42

The Media Council shall have the following duties:

- a) To advise the Secretary General and FIBA Commissions in matters concerning public relations and co-operation with the media.
- b) To advise the organising committees of official FIBA competitions regarding conditions designed to ensure that the media can work efficiently.
- c) To prepare and carry out accreditation procedures for representatives of the media and supervise media organisation.
- d) To analyse media impact before, during and after official FIBA competitions or major FIBA events and to submit regular reports to the Secretary General of FIBA.
- e) To co-operate with international media organisations.

V. Other structures

Article 43

On the recommendation of the Secretary General, the Central Board may appoint other councils or expert groups. Councils or groups thus appointed shall be of a temporary nature until a decision by Congress gives them permanent status or until they cease to exist, their task being completed.

Sixth Division - The Zone Commissions

Article 44

In order to promote the co-ordination of basketball worldwide, Congress may establish Zone Commissions.

On behalf of FIBA, the Zone Commissions shall promote, supervise and direct the sport of basketball within their regions in strict compliance with FIBA policy as established by Congress and the Central Board. The Zone Commissions shall not be authorised to represent FIBA before third parties.

The following Zone Commissions have been approved by Congress: FIBA-Africa, FIBA-Americas, FIBA-Asia, FIBA-Europe, FIBA-Oceania.

A national federation may belong to one (1) Zone only. Once a national federation is affiliated to FIBA, it shall automatically become a member of the relevant Zone Commission.



The national federations affiliated to FIBA are grouped as per the annex to these General Statutes.

Article 45

The Zone Commissions shall have the following duties:

- a) To promote the practice of basketball in the territory under their jurisdiction and to organise continental or Zone competitions in a permanent and regular manner, in strict compliance with the administrative and technical regulations of FIBA.
- b) To enforce and secure the strict enforcement of these General Statutes and all other regulations of FIBA.
- c) To impose such sanctions on members and entities under their jurisdiction as fall within their mandate and regulations.
- d) To inform the Secretariat of FIBA of any event or competition organised by them and, if necessary, obtain such authorisation as may be required by the regulations. To inform the Secretariat of FIBA of the results of all international competitions held on the territory under their jurisdiction. To keep the International Commissions concerned informed of such events and to present relevant activity reports to Congress.
- e) To submit to the Secretariat of FIBA for its approval all international transfers of players within a Zone Commission and from one Zone Commission to another.
- f) To inform the Secretariat of FIBA of all doping cases.
- g) To present to the Central Board any information deemed useful in the interests of world basketball.
- h) To designate members to the Central Board as provided for under Article 18 of these General Statutes. Their term of office in the Zone Commission shall be the same as that of the Central Board members. Their designation or election shall therefore take place in the same year and prior to the World Congress.

Article 46

Each Zone Commission shall be organised in the manner most appropriate to the conditions prevailing in its own territory. It shall establish its own regulations in accordance with the general provisions of these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations. These regulations shall be submitted to the Central Board for approval. The mandate of the organisations of FIBA shall apply mutatis mutandis to the corresponding organisations of the Zone Commissions. The Zones shall be required to establish an Appeals' Commission in strict compliance with the regulations determined by the Central Board. Decisions of the Zone Commissions shall be enforced by their affiliated national federations and shall not conflict with those of FIBA.



Only national federations affiliated to FIBA may become members of the Zone Commission of their region. The establishment of a Zone Commission shall in no respect affect the direct affiliation of each national federation to FIBA.

Each Zone Commission shall elect its own President. The Presidents of the Zone Commissions shall be elected for a term of office identical to that of the members of the Central Board.

Article 47

In order to ensure the functioning of the Zone Commissions, the Zones shall receive an annual subsidy from FIBA, to be decided by the Central Board. The Central Board shall decide which conditions are to be met to receive such a subsidy and, if necessary, stipulate these in contractual form.

The Zone Commissions shall send detailed reports on their activities to the Secretariat of FIBA. FIBA, upon decision of the Central Board, shall reserve the right to withdraw its annual subsidy if the activities of the Zone concerned are not satisfactory.

Seventh Division - Organisations officially recognised by FIBA

I. General Provisions

Article 48

With the object of promoting basketball, FIBA may officially recognise certain organisations.

The Central Board of FIBA is responsible for granting official recognition to such organisations.

The organisations thus recognised shall have the freedom of action necessary to fulfil their mandate, subject to the approval of their national federation, Zone Commission, or the Central Board of FIBA.

The General Assembly of each organisation shall determine the place of its headquarters, subject to approval by the Central Board of FIBA.

Such organisations shall not be entitled to represent FIBA before third parties.

Article 49

In order to ensure the functioning of these organisations, they may receive a subsidy from FIBA, to be decided by the Central Board. This decision is based on the approval of a four (4) year strategic programme, for which individual plans of action must also be presented on an annual basis to the Central Board for approval, and any other conditions the Central Board deems necessary.



These organisations shall send detailed reports on each of their activities at least twice a year to the Secretariat of FIBA. FIBA, at the decision of the Central Board, shall reserve the right to withdraw its annual subsidy if the activities of the organisation concerned are not satisfactory.

II. The World Association of Basketball Coaches

Article 50

The World Association of Basketball Coaches shall consist of national associations of basketball coaches as recognised by their respective national federations. It may have individual membership as well.

The national associations of basketball coaches recognised by their respective national federations may, if they wish, establish associations of coaches within the Zone to which they belong.

Article 51

The World Association of Basketball Coaches, the Zone associations of basketball coaches if any, and the national associations of basketball coaches shall comply with the spirit and letter of the statutes and regulations of their own national basketball federations, of their Zone, and of FIBA.

The statutes and regulations of the coaches' associations shall be approved by the appropriate competent authority, i.e. the national federation, Zone and/or FIBA.

The General Assembly of the World Association of Basketball Coaches shall elect the President of the Association and the members of its Board, one of them being the Secretary General of FIBA or his representative.

The headquarters and the administration of the World Association of Basketball Coaches shall be located at the FIBA Headquarters and the FIBA Secretary General shall be responsible for the management of its affairs.

Article 52

The World Association of Basketball Coaches shall have the following duties:

- a) To develop coaching methods.
- b) To take any appropriate measures to improve coaches' skills, particularly coaches for young players.
- c) To adopt the appropriate measures to promote generalisation and experience in the teaching of basketball.
- d) To organise courses and lectures for instructors, trainers, coaches and administrators, in co-operation with the national federations and Zone Commissions.



- e) To prepare documents for use in teaching and developing training techniques for players and coaches.
- f) To provide appropriate assistance for the production of coaching videos.
- g) To provide an active and permanent forum for coaches worldwide.

III. The International Wheelchair Basketball Federation

Article 53

The International Wheelchair Basketball Federation shall be composed of the national organisations governing wheelchair basketball in their respective countries.

Article 54

The International Wheelchair Basketball Federation and its national organisations shall comply with the spirit and letter of the General Statutes and Internal Regulations of FIBA.

The bye-laws and regulations of the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation shall be subject to approval by the Central Board.

IV. The International Centre for the Documentation and Research of Basketball: The Pedro Ferrándiz Foundation

Article 55

With the aim of promoting the scientific study of basketball in all its aspects, the International Basketball Federation recognises the benefits of the services of the International Centre for Documentation and Research of Basketball in Alcobendas, Spain, and encourages every national federation to contribute towards its development and to support its international activities with regard to research and documentation.

V. The FIBA Hall of Fame

Article 56

FIBA has established a Hall of Fame to honour those persons having contributed in an exceptional way to the development and promotion of basketball worldwide.

The Central Board shall lay down the necessary regulations and supervise the activities of the Hall of Fame.



Chapter Three

Financial Provisions

Article 57

FIBA is the sole holder of television, licensing and marketing rights for official competitions as defined in Section 1 of the Internal Regulations, with the exception of the Olympic Games. When entering into contracts relating to such television, licensing and marketing rights which affect the financial interests of the Zones, the interests of the Zones shall be respected.

At the decision of the Central Board, FIBA may assign these rights to a third party.

Article 58

The income of FIBA shall consist of:

- a) Fees from the affiliated federations, namely:
 - admission fees of new members.
 - annual fees.
 - progressive fees.
 - fees for international referees, commissioners and international players.
 - registration or participation fees for any event organised or authorised by FIBA.
 - fees for the organisation of events recognised by FIBA.
- b) Fines in accordance with the respective regulations.
- c) Income from the granting of licences for the use of FIBA rights, e.g. marketing and television rights.
- d) Donations, subsidies and miscellaneous returns.

Article 59

The budget period of FIBA shall cover four (4) years, starting 1st January, following the final round of the FIBA World Championship for Men.

The financial year of FIBA shall begin on 1st January and end on 31st December of the same year. Balance sheets shall be drawn up each year as of 31st December.

Article 60

Annual and progressive fees shall be paid by 1st January each year.



Article 61

Only available resources shall be a security against any liabilities of FIBA. The members of FIBA shall be free from any financial liability. The members of the Central Board and the Secretariat of FIBA shall be liable only for grossly negligent or illicit acts.



Chapter Four

Legal Provisions

The Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland

Article 62

Any dispute arising from these General Statutes or the Internal Regulations of FIBA which cannot be settled within FIBA shall be definitively settled by a tribunal constituted in accordance with the Statutes and Procedural Rules of the Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland. The parties concerned shall undertake to comply with the Statutes and Procedural Rules of this Court of Arbitration for Sport and to accept and enforce its decision in good faith.

The national federations affiliated to FIBA shall introduce in their own regulations such clauses that the provisions of the General Statutes and the Internal Regulations of FIBA, as well as the decisions of the Appeals' Commission and the Court of Arbitration for Sport, are legally binding for the national federations themselves, the regional federations if any, the clubs, players, managers and officials.



Chapter Five

General Provisions

Article 63

No quorum shall be required at the sessions of Congress, the Central Board or International Permanent Commissions (exception under Article 65).

Unless otherwise specified in these General Statutes or the Internal Regulations, decisions taken by vote shall be by a simple majority of the votes cast by a show of hands (abstentions do not count), unless 1/3 of the affiliated members with voting rights present request a vote by secret ballot.

Elections shall be held by secret ballot (unless there is only one (1) candidate) with the candidate receiving most votes being elected.

Communications under these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations may be given by any means reasonably calculated to give notice of their contents.

Article 64

The colours, flag and insignia of FIBA, and the use thereof, shall be approved by the Central Board.

The use of the flag and insignia of FIBA shall be restricted to main official competitions and meetings of FIBA unless written approval has been obtained from the Secretary General.

The use of the flag and insignia of FIBA is mandatory at all main official competitions.

Article 65

Congress shall declare the disbandment of FIBA:

- a) If requested by 4/5 of the affiliated national federations and if, at the session of Congress voting on disbandment, 4/5 of the affiliated members present, and with voting rights, then vote for disbandment. If however, at that session, fewer than 3/4 of the affiliated members are present, a second session of voting on disbandment shall be called, at which session a majority of 4/5 of the affiliated members present and with voting rights, irrespective of a quorum, shall be sufficient.
- b) If the number of affiliated federations is reduced to three (3) or fewer.



In the above cases, the National Olympic Committee of the country in which the headquarters are located shall be assigned the resources remaining after expenses caused by the operations for disbandment have been covered. These resources shall be used for the benefit of basketball, amateur sports, a youth organisation or other similar activities.

Article 66

An affiliated national federation may, at any time, resign from membership of FIBA. It shall notify the Central Board of this resignation by letter to the Secretary General. However, this resignation shall only become effective at the end of the financial year in which the letter is received.

Article 67

The official languages of FIBA shall be English, French, Spanish, Russian and German.

Working languages during all meetings of the Central Board and the Permanent International Commissions shall be according to the requirements of the participants.

Interpreting of languages other than the official languages of FIBA may be provided at international conferences if a large delegation speaking that language is taking part.

In case of dispute regarding the interpretation of these General Statutes or the Internal Regulations, the French text shall prevail.

Article 68

These General Statutes shall become effective at the time of their approval by the XVIIth Congress of FIBA held in Indianapolis, United States of America, in 2002 and may not be amended before the next ordinary or extraordinary Congress.

Strict observance of the provisions contained in these General Statutes, both in spirit and letter, is the primary condition for obtaining and maintaining affiliation to FIBA. The Secretary General shall do his utmost to ensure compliance by the affiliated national federations and shall be required to inform the Central Board of any flagrant violations of the spirit and letter of these General Statutes that he may find in the course of his duties.



ANNEX: List of affiliated national federations by Zone

AFRICA

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

AMERICAS

Antigua, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States of America, Uruguay, US Virgin Islands, Venezuela.

ASIA

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Gaza/Palestine, Hong Kong-China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kirgiziya, Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Union of Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syria, Chinese Taipei, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen Republic.

EUROPE

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, FYROM, Georgia, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Principality of Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Scotland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Wales, Yugoslavia.

OCEANIA

American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.