



# STATUTES

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## **Asian Taekwondo Union**

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Effective as of January 19, 2026

<b>PART I:</b>	<b>GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>5</b>
ARTICLE 1	NAME, LEGAL STATUES, RECOGNITION AND HEADQUATERS	5
ARTICLE 2	OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AUTONOMY, PRACTICES AND COOPERATION	5
ARTICLE 3	OFFICIAL AND OPERATING LANGUAGES	7
<b>PART II:</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>8</b>
ARTICLE 4	STRUCTURE	8
ARTICLE 5	GENERAL ASSEMBLY	9
ARTICLE 6	COUNCIL	13
ARTICLE 7	MANAGEMENT	17
<b>PART III:</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>19</b>
ARTICLE 8	MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS	19
ARTICLE 9	CONTINENTAL UNIONS	22
ARTICLE 10	AUTHORITY	22
<b>PART IV:</b>	<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>22</b>
ARTICLE 11	PROMOTED EVENTS	22
ARTICLE 12	EDUCATION COURSES	24
<b>PART V:</b>	<b>FINANCIAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>24</b>
ARTICLE 13	FINANCES	24
<b>PART VI:</b>	<b>WRONGDOING, DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, APPEALS</b>	<b>24</b>
ARTICLE 14	REPORTING WRONGDOING	24
ARTICLE 15	DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS	25
ARTICLE 16	APPEALS	25
<b>PART VII:</b>	<b>OTHER PROVISIONS</b>	<b>26</b>
ARTICLE 17	VIRTUAL MEETINGS	26
ARTICLE 18	INDEMNITY	26
ARTICLE 19	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	26
ARTICLE 20	MEDIA AND COMMERCIAL RIGHTS	27
ARTICLE 21	DISSOLUTION	27
ARTICLE 22	MODIFICATIONS	27

<b>ARTICLE 23</b>	<b>INTERPRETATION</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>ARTICLE 24</b>	<b>ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>28</b>
<b><u>ADDENDUM I: PERMANENT COMMITTEES</u></b>		<b>29</b>

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## **Preamble**

Asian Taekwondo Union (hereinafter referred to as the “ATU”) is a non-profit making organization which is subject to the laws and regulations of the country on whose territory its head office is located. ATU is a Continental Union (hereinafter referred to as the “CU”) of World Taekwondo (hereinafter referred to as the “World Taekwondo” or “WT”). Member National Associations (hereinafter referred to as the “MNAs”) shall be formed under the auspices of the WT Statutes and in conformity with the principles thereof.

The functioning of ATU is regulated by these Statutes.

## **PART I: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1 Name, Legal Status, Recognition and Headquarters**

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- 1.1. Name and Legal Status: ATU is a CU of World Taekwondo established as an international non-governmental not-for-profit organization chartered within Asia to promote the interests of WT. ATU shall possess legal personality as approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the Council and have the capacity to contract, to acquire and dispose of real property, and to institute and defend in legal proceedings.
- 1.2. Recognition: ATU is recognized by WT as the entity tasked to support WT's activities in the continent in compliance with these Statutes and WT goals. ATU shall comply with WT's interests and initiatives.
- 1.3. Headquarters: The ATU Headquarters at any given time shall be located as decided by the ATU Management and reported to the GA according to the ATU Statutes. The ATU management will consider the location where the legal entity can best accommodate the legal and financial operations of ATU. Location of the headquarters shall be in a nation with optimal legal, economic and tax policies as approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the Council. Additionally, the headquarters may receive operational and facility support from the local government or private entities in the city or country where it is located.

### **Article 2 Objectives, Principles, Autonomy, Practices and Cooperation**

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- 2.1. Objective: The mandate of ATU is to promote the practice of Taekwondo in accordance with the objectives envisioned by WT for the continent. In coordination with WT, the objectives of ATU are the following:
  - 2.1.1. Assist WT in managing the practice of Taekwondo as an Olympic, Paralympic and virtual sport, all other kind of Taekwondo practice, in all countries and areas within the continent;
  - 2.1.2. Publish and abide by the WT's rules, policies and practices governing membership in order to protect the integrity of Taekwondo and within these parameters grow and develop the practice of Taekwondo as an Olympic and Paralympic sport in the continent's nations and territories;
  - 2.1.3. Strengthen the bonds between MNAs, notify WT of any disputes between MNAs, and resolve such disputes if WT determines they fall outside its purview;
  - 2.1.4. Encourage and support MNAs to actively participate in WT and the ATU meetings and events; keeping WT apprised on all relevant matters within the continent;
  - 2.1.5. Organize, conduct and establish Taekwondo events and championships according to WT standards and ensure other regional events held by MNAs and/or recognized stakeholders meet the appropriate WT standards;
  - 2.1.6. Establish Para Taekwondo as part of the ATU operations, including the organization of the ATU Para Taekwondo Championships;

- 2.1.7. Promote, expand, and improve the practice of Taekwondo throughout the continent in light of its educational, cultural, humanitarian and sport values (the “Taekwondo Movement”);
- 2.1.8. Support and encourage the development of Taekwondo as a Sport for All;
- 2.1.9. Encourage peace and cooperation through participation in sports;
- 2.1.10. Engage in appropriate commercial activities that give direct benefits to the sport and ensure the sustainable development of ATU, so long as these activities do not conflict with the commercial activities of WT;
- 2.1.11. Operate development and recognition programs that support programs established by WT;
- 2.1.12. Strengthen and uphold WT’s Objectives and Principles by taking necessary measures to advance the interests of Taekwondo;
- 2.1.13. Implement and be part of the Global Membership System (“GMS”) in accordance with the GMS Bylaws.
- 2.1.14. Integrate and promote Virtual Taekwondo and, where appropriate, electronic sports as tools for digital engagement with the youth and inclusion for all ages and demographics.

- 2.2. Principles: The general and fundamental principles of WT’s Statutes, rules, and regulations as amended from time to time, apply, and no provision of these ATU Statutes shall conflict with or undermine those principles. ATU and MNAs, through their membership in WT, are committed to the following principles:
  - 2.2.1. Sport for All: Taekwondo is a sport for people of all ages and abilities, and a sport for all levels, recreational, competitive, and elite.
  - 2.2.2. Fair Play: ATU and MNAs shall take reasonable measures to ensure that competitions and participants (athletes, officials, and administrators) respect “fair play” and engage in the highest degree of sportsmanship and integrity.
  - 2.2.3. Harassment-Free Sport: Participants in Taekwondo at any level have a right to compete, work and operate in a harassment-free environment. ATU and MNAs shall take reasonable care to ensure there is no harassment, whether physical, psychological, or otherwise.
  - 2.2.4. Gender Equality: Taekwondo strives for equal representation of men and women. ATU and MNAs support the active participation of women in Taekwondo at all levels and promotes their representation in the ATU, competitions, and programs throughout the region. ATU aims to achieve equal gender representation on its Council and Committees by 2029.
  - 2.2.5. Sustainable Development: ATU and MNAs shall take a responsible approach to safeguarding the environment and managing resources in a sustainable way through its practices in hosting events and managing its operations.

2.2.6. Non-Discrimination and Ethics: ATU and MNAs shall not allow any inappropriate form of discrimination to affect its decisions or actions, be it discrimination based on race, color, creed, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical attributes, language, religion, disability, national, political, socio-economic status, or athletic ability, birth or other status. Anyone engaging with ATU and/or MNAs in any capacity or participating in their activities must act in a non-discriminatory and ethical manner.

2.2.7. Athlete-centered Approach: Recognizing athletes as the heart of our sport. ATU is committed to an athlete-centered approach that prioritizes the well-being, development, and empowerment of athletes at every level, and ensuring their voices are heard and respected.

### 2.3. Autonomy:

2.3.1. As required by Article 25 of the Olympic Charter, WT maintains its independence and autonomy in the administration of the sport of Taekwondo. In accordance with this, MNAs and CUs must manage their internal affairs with total independence from undue influence, such as political, religious or financial pressure, which may infringe their commitment to conform to the WT Statutes and ensure that no third party interferes in their operations.

2.3.2. Any external form of interference, undue influence, or attempt shall be reported to WT.

2.3.3. The ATU's governing documents must make provision for an election or internal appointment system that ensures compliance with this section by ATU.

2.3.4. WT may take appropriate action against ATU if not in compliance with this Section.

2.4. Best Practices: ATU shall integrate WT's best practices with regards to the governance and administration of the sport of Taekwondo ("Best Practices"). These include the following:

- Policy and sanctions against self-dealing by the ATU Officials and Management
- Transparency of accounting and accurate bookkeeping
- Social responsibility policies

2.4.1. ATU update and align its governing documents and other materials with WT's best practices, as amended from time to time, such as: Anti-Doping Rules, Anti-Discrimination Policy, Bylaws on Betting and Anti-Corruption, Conflict of Interest Policy, Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code, Code of Ethics, Election Bylaws, Finance Rules, Medical Code and Safety Rules, Safeguarding Policy, and Sustainability Policy, which are published on the WT Website.

2.5. Cooperation: ATU shall respect WT's relations with its independent affiliated organizations and assist in related operations as required by WT.

3.1. Official Language(s): The official languages of ATU are English and Korean.

3.1.1. The ATU Statutes and WT Competition Rules: ATU Statutes, the WT Competition Rules, and Interpretations or any amendments thereto shall be published in English. In case of a conflict among different versions, the English version shall prevail.

3.2. Operating Language: The operating language of ATU, including its Secretariat, the Council, the General Assembly, and Committees, is English.

3.2.1. Governing Documents: Unless otherwise specified herein, all ATU rules, regulations, and official guidelines, shall be published in English.

3.2.2. Proceedings: ATU meetings, minutes, correspondence, seminars, trainings, and announcements shall be conducted and published in English.

3.2.2.1. MNAs are responsible for translating the aforementioned materials into the language of their country. MNAs have the right to speak or write in their own language, but the content must be translated into English and provided by the MNAs.

## **PART II: ORGANIZATION**

### **Article 4 Structure**

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4.1. The structure and administration of ATU shall ensure: (i) participation, (ii) transparency, and (iii) compliance with the WT goals and directives.

4.2. ATU shall be governed by its:

- General Assembly (hereinafter from time to time referred to as “the GA”. See Article 5).
- Council (hereinafter from time to time referred to as “the Council”. See Article 6); and
- Management (hereinafter from time to time referred to as “the Management”. See Article 7)

4.2.1. The Management shall be comprised of the following:

- The President (Refer to Article 7.2)
- Secretary General (Refer to Article 7.3)
- Secretariat (Refer to Article 7.4).

4.3. Committees:

4.3.1. ATU may constitute Committees to advise, support and assist in performance of the functions of the Management. Any Committee constituted by ATU shall coordinate its functions with a corresponding committee of WT when deemed necessary by WT. See Addendum 1 for the list of Standing Committees.

4.3.1.1. Terms of Reference (TOR): TOR for each Committee, whether standing or ad-hoc, shall be provided separately and published on the ATU website. The Council or the President may entrust each Committee with execution of the matters under its jurisdiction and/or responsibility. The Management shall assign a liaison to each Committee.

4.3.1.2. **Meeting and Reporting:** Committees shall meet at least once per quarter and shall submit a progress report to the Management following each meeting. Committees shall also submit an annual report to the GA. Reports shall be published unless determined confidential by the Committee and Management. Meeting can be conducted either electronically or in person. The Committee Chairs may attend Council meetings and deliver reports to the Council and the GA.

4.3.1.3. **Composition and Term:** Committee members shall be selected based on published qualifications aligned with each Committee's mandate. Composition and Term shall be determined by the needs and circumstances of ATU.

4.3.2. **Ad-Hoc Committees:** The President may from time to time form special purpose ad-hoc committees. The Terms of Reference and resulting reports from the ad-hoc committees shall be presented to the Council.

## **Article 5 General Assembly**

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5.1. The GA is the general meeting of the Council and the representatives of MNAs. It is ATU's supreme decision-making body and its decisions are final.

5.1.1. **Ordinary General Assembly (the "OGA"):** Ordinary GA shall be held every year at the same location where Asian Taekwondo Championships or Asian Junior and Cadet Taekwondo Championships is to be held.

5.1.1.1. **Calling Notice:** The OGA Calling Notice shall be sent at least two (2) months before the date fixed for such meetings. The date, time, format, and location, along with the business to be transacted, shall be included in the OGA Calling Notice, published on the ATU website, and sent to the Council and MNAs. Accidental omission to give notice to any of the above shall not invalidate the proceedings of any OGA.

5.1.1.2. **Agenda and Meeting Book:** The draft Agenda for the OGA shall be sent to the Council and MNAs no later than one (1) month before the OGA. The Agenda and Meeting Book for the GA shall be sent to the Council and MNAs no later than two (2) weeks before the OGA.

5.1.1.3. **Matters that are not included in the final agenda of the OGA:** shall not be deliberated without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voters.

5.1.2. **Extraordinary General Assembly (the "EGA"):** The EGA may be convened whenever is deemed necessary by the President; or within three (3) months following the request of more than one-third (1/3) of the Council Members with clear reasons for the summons; or within three (3) months following the request of more than one-third (1/3) of Level I MNAs with clear reasons for the summons. The date, place, and agenda of the EGA shall be designated by the President.

5.1.2.1. **Calling Notice:** The EGA Calling Notice shall be sent at least one (1) month before the date fixed for such meetings. The date, time, format, and location, along with

the business to be transacted, shall be included in the EGA Calling Notice, published on the ATU website, and sent to the Council and MNAs. Accidental omission to give notice to any of the above shall not invalidate the proceedings of any EGA.

5.1.2.2. **Agenda and Documents:** The Agenda and Meeting Book of the EGA shall be sent to the Council and MNAs by no later than two (2) weeks before the EGA.

5.1.2.3. Matters not included in the EGA agenda shall not be deliberated without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voters.

5.2. **Quorum:** A quorum required for the GA shall consist of no less than one-third (1/3) of eligible voters (voting Council Members and Level I MNAs) participating in the meeting.

5.3. **Voting at the GA:** Unless otherwise provided herein, Council Members and voting MNA representatives are entitled to vote. Resolutions and other decisions are passed by a simple majority of eligible voters present in the meeting. Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. The Chair shall not vote except in the case of a tie. Decisions come into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the GA.

5.3.1. Except for election, which shall be by secret ballot, voting for items at the GA shall be conducted by open ballot in general. However, if one or more eligible voter request for a secret ballot, the GA shall vote on this matter, and a simple majority shall decide.

5.4. **Chair:** The President shall act as Chair at the GA except for Elections, which are chaired by the Chair of the ad-hoc Election Committee. The Chair is responsible for presiding over the GA and has the authority to take reasonably necessary measures to stop any disruptive conduct obstructing the efficient administration of the GA to ensure the rights of all members are respected.

5.4.1. If the President is unable to attend, the attending Vice President who received the most votes when elected shall preside over the GA.

5.5. The business of the GA shall be:

5.5.1. approve the minutes of the previous GA;

5.5.2. receive the report of the Council;

5.5.3. approve the annual Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report;

5.5.4. approve the budget prepared by the Management under supervision of the Finance Committee;

5.5.5. approve the operation report and operation plans of the Management as approved by the Council;

5.5.6. approve proposals for amendments to the Statutes in line with WT;

5.5.7. elect officials as described herein;

- 5.5.8. ratify expulsions of MNAs as decided by the Council with prior approval of WT;
- 5.5.9. discuss other matters of importance;
- 5.5.10. No decision of the GA shall contravene with those of WT.

5.6. Except for items listed above, the GA may refer matters under its jurisdiction and/or responsibility to the Management or the Council.

5.7. MNA Representation:

- 5.7.1. Representation:
  - 5.7.1.1. Each Level I MNA shall be entitled to appoint not more than two (2) delegates (preferably 1 male and 1 female) to every GA. Only one of the representatives shall be allowed to speak and to cast a vote (the “Voting Representative.”). If the President has eligibility to vote under another capacity (i.e., as a member of the ATU Council), then he or she may assign the right to act as Voting Representative to another individual within the MNA; such assignment is to be by proxy letter presented to the Management.
  - 5.7.1.2. Each Level II, Level III, Provisional and Associate MNA shall be entitled to appoint one (1) delegate to every GA and to speak but shall not have voting rights.
- 5.7.2. It is expected that the MNA Representative will be the President of the MNA. If a Level I MNA President is unable to attend, then he or she may assign the right to act as Voting Representative to another individual within the MNA; such assignment is to be by proxy letter presented to the Management.
- 5.7.3. Proxy Representatives must belong to the MNA that they represent and be appointed by the appropriate body of that MNA. In case of any dispute, the onus is on the Representative to prove the position in the MNA concerned to the satisfaction of the Management.

5.8. Elections of Officials: An electoral GA shall elect the following officials: (i) the President, (ii) the Vice Presidents, (iii) the Council Members, and (iv) an Auditor. The elections shall be held within six months before the WT election. ATU may request to organize its election in conjunction with the WT election but one (1) day before.

- 5.8.1. President: There shall be one (1) President elected by the GA. If the elected President of ATU holds another position in a MNA, that person must resign the other position(s) within one month of being elected as President.
- 5.8.2. Elected Vice Presidents: There shall be three (3) Vice Presidents elected at the GA, including the highest voted female Council member, who shall be promoted to Vice President. The two (2) elected Vice Presidents other than the highest voted female Council member shall be from a different MNA.
- 5.8.3. Elected Council Members: The GA shall elect eight (8) Council Members.

5.8.3.1. Promotion of Female Council Member to Vice President: The highest voted female Council Member shall be promoted to Vice President. In terms of term limit, hers shall count as a Council Member.

5.8.4. Auditor: One (1) Auditor shall be elected at the GA. The Auditor shall be invited to the Council Meetings and the General Assembly but shall not be included as a member of the Council, and therefore shall not count toward quorum or have voting rights.

5.8.5. Age limit for Elected Officials: The age limit to be a candidate for elected Council Member is less than seventy (70) years old on the day of election, except for members incumbent prior to the 2021 elections, for whom the age limit for candidacy is eighty (80). An official who has reached the age limit is not eligible to run.

5.8.6. Term of office for Elected Officials: The Term of Office for Elected Officials is four (4) years. For the purpose of this rule, a year means the period between two successive OGAs. Terms begin/end at the end of Asian Taekwondo Championships or Asian Junior and Cadet Taekwondo Championships held on the occasion of the GA in which elections take place.

5.8.7. Term limits of Elected Officials: Individuals can be elected a maximum of three terms per position within the Council and are eligible for elections to other roles within the Council with the same term limit.

5.8.8. Nominations: A candidate to become an Elected Official must be nominated by a Level I MNA of which the candidate holds the nationality or residence. Current officials are eligible for reelection to their current position or to any other position within the Council without this MNA nomination.

5.8.8.1. Applications: Candidate applications including forms of Code of Conduct and MNA-nomination letter shall be circulated to MNAs and Council and published on the ATU Website by no later than three (3) months prior to the election date. Candidates must submit the completed applications to the Management by no later than sixty (60) days prior to the election date. The Secretariat will receive the applications and prepare a package to be reviewed by the ad-hoc Election Committee. Applications will not be accepted from the floor of the GA.

5.8.8.2. A candidate can only apply for one elected position within the Council at a time.

5.8.9. Election Committee: An ad-hoc Election Committee shall be established for the purpose of managing the election process at the GA and ensure its fairness. The ad-hoc Election Committee shall have three (3) or more members appointed by the President. The ad-hoc Election Committee shall be established no later than four (4) months before the scheduled election date. The ad-hoc Election Committee shall screen and approve the candidate application documents and shall ensure that elections are conducted in compliance with these Statutes and the Election Bylaws.

5.8.9.1. The ad-hoc Election Committee shall screen the applications and determine the list of qualified candidates. Issues regarding qualifications of a candidate shall be resolved by the ad-hoc Election Committee. The final list of the candidates as approved by the ad-hoc Election Committee shall be circulated to the Council and MNAs, and published on the ATU Website, by no later than thirty (30) days before

the GA.

5.8.9.2. Matters concerning Council elections not covered by these Statutes are determined by the Election Bylaws.

5.8.10. Challenge of Elections: In the event that the validity of an election is challenged, the President shall be notified thereof and shall submit the case to the Council. If the Council determines the challenge to be valid, it must report this event to the GA where a re-examination, re-election, re-vote, or any other action as deemed necessary by the ATU Council shall occur. Only an eligible voter present at the GA may challenge the election.

5.9. E-voting: In the case of urgency, a resolution may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including telefax or electronic mail, by the President to the Council and/or the GA. Voting eligibility requirements and effect of decisions remain the same. For e-voting quorum purposes proof of receipt by at least one-third (1/3) of eligible voters shall constitute quorum. Ballots returned that are abstentions or invalid (blank or spoiled) votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. Unreturned ballots are not calculated in determining the quorum and the required majority. A simple majority of valid ballots decides. Results shall be announced on the ATU Website and reported to the GA at its next meeting.

5.10. Minutes: Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the GA are established under the authority of the Management. The minutes shall be distributed to each MNA and WT no later than three (3) months after the GA.

## Article 6      Council

6.1. Council Members shall attend Council and GA meetings and fulfill their duties and responsibilities as prescribed in these Statutes.

6.1.1. Only those people who demonstrate a high degree of ethics and integrity and pledge to observe the provisions of WT's Integrity Code without reservations are eligible to serve as Officials. Anyone with a criminal record in his/her country of residence or subjected to a disciplinary measure by a WT Sanctions Committee is not eligible if the offence is found by the Integrity Committee to be incompatible with their ability to fulfill their task.

6.1.2. Any member of the Council who fails to attend two (2) consecutive meetings without prior notice to the Management may be subject to removal as a Council Member.

6.1.3. If an elected official commits an action that undermines and/or disgraces ATU and/or WT, that official shall be removed by the Council upon recommendation of the Integrity Committee of ATU and/or the WT.

6.2. The Council shall consist of the following officials, some of whom are elected by the GA and others appointed by President.

President	1	Elected by the GA
Vice Presidents	5	<p>2 elected by the GA</p> <p>1 highest voted female among the elected Council Members</p> <p>2 appointed by the President</p>
Secretary General	1	Appointed by the President
Treasurer	1	Appointed by the President
Member	12	<p>7 (8 members shall be elected by the GA. The highest voted female Council Member is elevated to Vice President)</p> <p>2 Co-chairs of Athlete Committee (elected by athletes)</p> <p>3 appointed by the President</p>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	

6.2.1. Matters that are not decided during the Council elections shall be determined in accordance with the WT rules and regulations.

6.3. President: Refer to Article 7.2

6.4. Vice Presidents:

6.4.1. The duties of the Vice Presidents shall be to assist the President and to fulfill missions delegated by the President.

6.4.2. Vice Presidents are composed of Two (2) elected by the GA

- One (1) highest voted female among the elected Council Members
- Two (2) appointed by the President

6.5. Secretary General: Refer to Article 7.3.

6.6. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall chair the Finance Committee.

6.7. Members: There shall be twelve (12) Council Members: nine (9) elected and three (3) appointed by the President.

6.7.1. Elected Members: Refer to Article 5.8.

6.7.2. Appointed Officials:

- Appointments: Appointments shall be made taking into consideration an individual's expertise, qualifications, and diversity to ensure fair and diverse representation within the Council.
- Term: The term of office for Appointed Officials shall be two (2) years or the end of the

President's Term, whichever comes first. For the purpose of this rule, a year means the period between two successive OGAs.

- Removal: The President at his or her discretion is empowered to remove Appointed Officials.

6.7.3. Co-chairs of Athletes Committee: One (1) male and one (1) female co-chair who are elected by the Athletes Committee, which in turn is elected by active athletes.

6.8. Powers and Responsibilities: The Council shall have the power and responsibility to:

6.8.1. approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting;

6.8.2. approve the agenda of the GA;

6.8.3. approve the annual Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report to be presented to the GA;

6.8.4. approve the Budget prepared by the Management under supervision of the Finance Committee to be presented to the GA;

6.8.5. approve the Operating Report and Operation Plans of the Management to be presented to the GA;

6.8.6. approve proposals for amendments to the Statutes to be presented to the GA and previously approved by WT;

6.8.7. approve proposals for enactment or amendments to governing documents not covered in Article 5.5.6;

6.8.8. Select host cities of ATU promoted championships and events in accordance with WT requirements;

6.8.9. ratify expulsions proposed by the Management and previously approved by WT;

6.8.10. discuss and/or decide on the matters referred to the Council by the President.

6.8.11. decide on the delegation of matters under its jurisdictions to the President.

6.9. Fiduciary Duties: Council members participate in the Council as representatives of ATU and not as delegates of their MNA, organization, region or territory. Council members are required to abide by ATU rules, act in good faith and with due care, and avoid conflicts of interests. Council members are required to know, understand, and abide by WT's Integrity Code and Conflicts of Interest Policy.

6.10. Meetings: Ordinary Council Meetings shall be called by the President before an OGA. Extraordinary Council Meetings shall be called by the President before an EGA, or whenever the President deems necessary.

- 6.10.1. Quorum: One-third (1/3) of the Council Members shall constitute a quorum of a meeting.
- 6.10.2. Chair: The President shall act as Chair at the Council. The Chair is responsible for presiding over the Council meeting and has the authority to take reasonably necessary measures to stop any disruptive conduct obstructing the efficient administration of the Council meeting to ensure the rights of all members are respected. If the President is unable to attend, the attending Vice President who received the most votes when elected shall preside over the Council meeting.
- 6.11. Decision-making and Effect: Any decision of the Council comes into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the Council. Matters that are not included in the written agenda of the meeting shall not be deliberated without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of eligible voters present.
- 6.12. Voting: Unless otherwise provided herein, Council Members excluding Treasurer are entitled to vote. Resolutions and other decisions are passed by simple majority with the presence of at least one-third (1/3) of eligible voters in the meeting.
  - 6.12.1. Abstentions and invalid votes (blank or spoiled) count toward quorum but do not affect the majority calculation. The Chair votes only in the event of a tie.
  - 6.12.2. Guidelines on special situations, such as host city selections, shall be provided separately.
  - 6.12.3. Any decision of the Council comes into effect immediately unless otherwise decided by the Council.
- 6.13. E-Voting: In the case of urgency, a resolution may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including telefax or electronic mail, by the President to the Council. Voting eligibility requirements and effect of decisions remain the same. For e-voting quorum purposes proof of receipt by a simple majority of eligible voters shall constitute quorum.
  - 6.13.1. Ballots returned that are abstentions or invalid (blank or spoiled) votes are counted for quorum but are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. Unreturned ballots are not calculated in determining the quorum and the required majority. A simple majority of valid ballots decides. Results shall be announced on ATU Website and reported to the Council and GA at the next meetings.
- 6.14. Minutes: Minutes of all meetings and other proceedings of the Council meeting are established under the authority of the Secretary General. The minutes shall be distributed to each member no later than two (2) months after the Council meeting.
- 6.15. Replacement: If a Council Member resigns, is removed, or is otherwise unable to continue as an Official, the post shall not necessarily be filled by another individual of the same nationality. If an elected Council Member is to be replaced, unless otherwise provided for, the replacement shall be nominated by the President and approved by the Council. The term of office of a replacement Official will be the remaining period of his or her predecessor.
- 6.16. Honorary President: The President may appoint an Honorary President who has previously served as President of ATU, subject to confirmation by the GA. The Honorary President is

not a member of the Council and shall not have voting rights. The honorary President may be invited to attend Ordinary Council meetings and the GA. The term of the Honorary President shall be four (4) years or the end of the current President's term, whichever comes first and may be renewed by the President upon confirmation of the GA.

6.17. Honorary Vice Presidents: The President may appoint Honorary Vice Presidents who have served as Vice Presidents of ATU or based on their exceptional contribution to ATU. The term, unless otherwise agreed, shall be two (2) years or the end of the President's term, whichever comes first. They may be invited to attend Ordinary Council meetings and the GA. They shall not have voting rights.

## **Article 7 Management**

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7.1. The Management shall be comprised of the following Officials who are tasked with conducting the day-to-day operations of ATU:

- President
- Secretary General
- Office of the Secretariat

7.2. President:

7.2.1. The duties of the President include the following:

- 7.2.1.1. Lead and represent ATU;
- 7.2.1.2. Promote the interest of the WT in the continent;
- 7.2.1.3. Concurrently lead the GA and the Council as Chair and preside over the meetings and other activities;
- 7.2.1.4. Designate official duties to the Council members on ad-hoc basis for the betterment of the development of the sport of Taekwondo and ATU operations;
- 7.2.1.5. Appoint chairs and members of Committees and establish and appoint chairs and members of the ad-hoc committees. Appointments to Committees shall take effect upon being reported to the Council, unless otherwise specified in these Statutes relevant rules;
- 7.2.1.6. Emergency measures In the case of disputes over matters not specified in these Statutes, or matters requiring urgent resolution between two OGAs, the ATU President may take emergency measures, subject to subsequent submission to and approval by the next ATU Council Meeting and OGA, provided those measures do not contravene WT;
- 7.2.1.7. Advisors: The President may appoint advisors or special assistants to seek advice on matters of importance pertaining to the overall development of ATU or special matters.

7.2.2. Succession: If the President resigns or is incapacitated and thus unable to fulfill the duties of his office, the Vice President who received the most votes when elected shall serve as Acting President.

7.2.2.1. The Acting President shall not have the power of appointment. If there is less than 12 months remaining in the term of his predecessor, the Acting President will serve out the remainder of the term. If more than 12 months remain in the predecessor's term, the Acting President must call for an interim presidential election, to be held in accordance with Section 5 at the next scheduled GA. The winner of this interim election shall serve out the remainder of the term of the incapacitated President.

7.3. Secretary General:

7.3.1. The duties of the Secretary General include the following:

7.3.1.1. Plan, execute, and manage Secretariat affairs related to ATU organization and other general matters of the Secretariat;

7.3.1.2. Submit the Operations Report, Financial Report, and Operations Plan with Financial Budget to the Council and GA;

7.3.1.3. Together with or with the approval of ATU President, as the case may be, negotiate and sign all contracts between ATU and other organizations and companies. No contract or agreement entered by ATU shall interfere with WT goals for the continent.

7.4. Secretariat:

7.4.1. ATU shall have an Office of the Secretariat at the location of ATU Headquarters for the execution of the Secretariat affairs and duties of the President and Secretary General;

7.4.2. The Secretariat shall have the power to manage all areas affecting operations of ATU. These areas include but are not limited to: i) member relations and development, ii) sport and event management, iii) strategic planning, iv) administration, v) legal, vi) finance, vii) marketing and communications. To fulfill its duties, each department within the Secretariat shall collaborate with its corresponding Committees to conduct research, develop, and implement strategies and programs in each area. Operations of the Secretariat shall be conducted in strict compliance with WT objectives in the continent;

7.4.3. Accounts and Finances: The Secretariat shall manage ATU accounts and finances while ensuring that the annual financial statements ("Financial Statements") are prepared and audited as soon as possible upon the close of the financial year established by ATU, but no later than two (2) months after the close of the year unless specifically approved by the Council. Audit of Financial Statements shall be conducted by an independent, certified, professional accounting firm ("Independent Auditor"). The report of the Independent Auditor will be submitted to the Finance Committee for review. Upon review and comment by the Finance Committee, the report will be submitted to the Council and GA.

7.4.4. Personnel working at the Secretariat shall be appointed and dismissed by the President at the recommendation of the Secretary General. The President may also entrust the

Secretary General with the power to appoint and dismiss personnel. The President may appoint a Director General to manage daily operations of the office. ATU is an equal opportunity organization and does not discriminate against or segregate any person or group of persons on account of race, color, religion, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, physical handicap or medical condition.

## **PART III: MEMBERSHIP**

### **Article 8 Member National Associations**

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- 8.1. Definition of MNA: The sole governing body of Taekwondo for each nation or self-governing territory duly recognized by WT.
  - 8.1.1. In case more than one organization claims to represent a nation or self-governing territory, the dispute shall be resolved by WT.
  - 8.1.2. MNAs shall not be affiliated with any international Taekwondo organization that is not recognized by WT or is in conflict with WT. MNAs shall not participate in any Taekwondo events organized by such an organization.
  - 8.1.3. An executive board member of an MNA shall not concurrently hold an executive board position in another MNA or have an affiliation with an organization in conflict with WT, unless approved by WT.
- 8.2. Levels of Membership: ATU shall have as MNA members Full Members (Level I, Level II, and Level III), Associate Members, and Provisional Members.
  - 8.2.1. Full Membership: MNAs in countries or territories that have a National Olympic Committee (“NOC”) recognized by the IOC. Full members are further classified according to the following and the membership status shall be updated by two (2) months before the annual Ordinary GA.
    - 8.2.1.1. Level I Membership: MNAs that have fulfilled the Participation Requirement as prescribed in these Statutes. Level I MNAs shall have voting rights at the GA and shall have the right to participate in all official ATU events.
    - 8.2.1.2. Level II Membership: MNAs that have not fulfilled the Participation Requirement as prescribed in these Statutes. Level II MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but shall be permitted to participate in all official ATU events. Level II MNAs shall have their Level I membership status restored by the ATU two (2) months before the Ordinary GA, if they fulfill the Participation Requirement.
    - 8.2.1.3. Level III Membership: Level III MNAs are those remaining at Level II for a consecutive period of four years. Level III MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but shall be permitted to participate in all official ATU events. Furthermore, ATU may suspend the Level III MNAs in consultation with the pertinent NOC and WT and form interim board to activate the MNA Level III. MNAs shall have their Level I membership status restored by the ATU two (2) months before the Ordinary

GA, if they fulfill the Participation Requirement.

- 8.2.2. Associate Membership: MNAs in countries or territories that do not have a NOC recognized by the IOC. Associate MNAs are required to pay annual membership fees under the Tier 3 category. Associate MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but shall have the right to participate in all official ATU events.
- 8.2.3. Provisional Membership: MNAs that have fulfilled all application requirements as prescribed in these Statutes, and which have received confirmation from the Council, shall have Provisional Memberships. Provisional MNAs shall not have voting rights at the GA but they shall have the right to participate in all official ATU events. Provisional MNAs are not required to pay annual membership fees. Provisional MNAs will become Level I MNAs or Associate MNAs after their applications have been approved by the GA upon recommendation of the Council.
- 8.3. Becoming a MNA: National Taekwondo associations applying for ATU membership are required to present duly completed application documents and proof of payment of the USD 500 application fee to the ATU Secretary General. Admittance into WT shall be subject to approval of the Council and GA.

8.4. Membership Requirements:

- 8.4.1. Conformity to WT Statutes and related rules: All Members shall constitute and maintain their respective constitutional documents in strict conformity with the principles of WT so as not to contravene any of its rules and regulations. Each Member's constitutional document shall include the following statement:

“As a member of World Taekwondo, [MEMBER NAME] agrees to observe the Statutes, bylaws, codes, and rules of World Taekwondo. In case of a conflict or dissonance between the [MEMBER NAME] rules and the WT rules, the latter shall prevail.”
- 8.4.2. Reporting: MNAs are required to:
  - 8.4.2.1. Complete and submit the MNA Information and Integrity and Compliance Pledge included in the biennial MNA Survey, and notify the ATU of any updates required for the MNA information on the ATU website;
  - 8.4.2.2. Submit the completed MNA Election Form, along with the MNA Information and Integrity and Compliance Pledge, within 10 days of elections;
  - 8.4.2.3. Complete the biennial MNA Survey conducted by WT;
  - 8.4.2.4. Submit a report of activities to the ATU upon ATU's request;
  - 8.4.2.5. Submit a report on the use of funds or value-in kind provided by ATU.
- 8.4.3. Participation in events: MNAs shall send competitors to ATU-promoted Championships and a delegate to the GA.
  - 8.4.3.1. To maintain Level I membership, MNAs are required to dispatch a minimum of one (1) competitor to the latest edition held at least two months prior to the GA, of

any of the following events listed below:

ATU-Promoted Championships:

- Asian Taekwondo Championships,
- Asian Taekwondo Poomsae Championships,
- Asian Junior Taekwondo Championships,
- Asian Junior Taekwondo Poomsae Championships,
- Asian Cadet Taekwondo Championships,
- Asian Cadet Taekwondo Poomsae Championships,
- Asian Para Taekwondo Championships,
- Asian Para Taekwondo Poomsae Championships,
- WT President's Cup-Asian Region,
- Asian Taekwondo Open Championships,
- Asian Taekwondo Club Championships, or

ATU Continental Multi-sport Games:

- Asian Games

8.4.3.2. For the purpose of this rule, a year is calculated between two OGAs.

8.4.3.3. MNAs who fail to participate in ATU-promoted Championships and the GA as provided above without justifiable reasons, such as but not limited to natural calamities, shall be demoted to Level II.

8.4.3.4. Annual Membership Fees: Each MNA is required to pay a membership fee by the end of February every year. MNAs that fail to pay membership fees may be subject to disciplinary actions.

8.4.3.4.1. As the default rule, unless otherwise provided herein, all MNAs are to be categorized under Tier 1. The WT Management may designate specific MNAs as Tier 2 or Tier 3, as necessary. The fee applicable to each Tier shall be determined by ATU Management. The fees are as follows:

- Tier 1: US\$500;
- Tier 2: US\$300;
- Tier 3: US\$200.

8.4.3.4.2. Global Membership System (“GMS”): MNAs shall implement and be part of the GMS in accordance with the GMS Bylaws.

8.4.4. Para Taekwondo: MNAs shall incorporate Para Taekwondo under the umbrella of their organization in order to provide para-athletes with a pathway to international competition and the Paralympic Games.

8.5. Suspension of membership: A MNA may be subject to suspension of its ATU membership upon decision by the WT Council.

## **Article 9                    Continental Unions**

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- 9.1. Submit the annual Operations Report, Financial Report, and Operations Plan with Financial Budget;
  - 9.1.1. The annual Operations Report must include details of CU development activities conducted using the allocated WT Development Fund.
  - 9.1.2. The Financial Report must include the use of the WT Development Fund and be audited by an independent certified public accountant. WT shall have the right to call for an inspection of CU accounting books or designate an independent certified public accountant to audit the use of the funds.
  - 9.1.3. The Operations Plan with Financial Budget must include the expected development fund from WT and be faithfully prepared and submitted by CU.
  - 9.1.4. CUs shall plan and execute the WT Development Fund in accordance with the WT Development Fund Agreement.
  - 9.1.5. WT shall have the right to request additional documentation for funds provided to CU, and CUs shall agree and comply with this request as stipulated in the WT Development Fund Agreement.
  - 9.1.6. The allocation of the WT Development Fund shall be determined based on the integrity and transparency of the previous year's reports submitted by CU and validation of the Finance Committee.
- 9.2. Upon elections, within 10 days of the elections, submit to WT a completed CU Election Form and Integrity and Compliance Pledge.
- 9.3. Support WT inquiries and investigations into MNAs in their regions as requested by WT.

## **Article 10                    Authority**

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- 10.1. As an organization formed by the Members of WT to promote the interest of WT in the continent, ATU derives its authority from promoting WT's interest in the region. Recognition by WT shall be granted to and withdrawn from ATU per decision of the WT Council in the interest of the sport of Taekwondo and the interests of WT.
- 10.2. ATU shall invite WT Council Members who are from the ATU region as observers to the ATU events and meetings. They shall be entitled to speak but not entitled to vote.

## **PART IV: EVENTS**

## **Article 11                    Promoted Events**

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- 11.1. The following are ATU-promoted championships held under the auspices of ATU and organized by a host selected by ATU.
  - 11.1.1. Asian Taekwondo Championships
  - 11.1.2. Asian Taekwondo Poomsae Championships
  - 11.1.3. Asian Junior Taekwondo Championships
  - 11.1.4. Asian Junior Taekwondo Poomsae Championships
  - 11.1.5. Asian Cadet Taekwondo Championships
  - 11.1.6. Asian Cadet Taekwondo Poomsae Championships
  - 11.1.7. Asian Para Taekwondo Championships
  - 11.1.8. Asian Para Taekwondo Poomsae Championships
  - 11.1.9. WT President's Cup-Asian Region
  - 11.1.10. Asian Taekwondo Open Championships
  - 11.1.11. Asian Taekwondo Club Championships
- 11.2. Host City Selection: Any prospective organizer wishing to apply to host an ATU promoted championship must ensure the security of all participants and guarantee that all teams and athletes can compete without discrimination. They must submit clear, specific, and written guarantees from the highest government authorities of the host country to ensure that all eligible teams and delegations can participate without any form of discrimination, in accordance with the fundamental principles and rules governing the Olympic Movement. In addition, the bidding organization must strictly adhere to the Event Operation Rules.
  - 11.2.1. The application to host the ATU-promoted championship shall be done by submitting the appropriate Host City Application and required documents as approved by the Games Committee, to the Management in accordance with the procedure provided in the application.
  - 11.2.2. ATU shall review the application bid and may conduct an inspection of the prospective Host City facilities. Management will submit an evaluation report to the Council for their review. Selected bidders shall be invited to present their bids to the Council for decision on the winning bid.
  - 11.2.3. The winning bidder shall enter into a Host City Contract with the ATU with prescribed terms and conditions.
- 11.3. Calendar: The dates and locations of promoted and recognized events shall be subject to the approval of WT. Members shall submit proposed event dates to WT. Once it is determined by WT that there is no conflict, ATU shall publish the list of all events on ATU Website. Unless otherwise approved by WT, and only in case of compelling reason, the events shall be held in accordance with guidelines established by WT. A report on the results of all completed events shall be submitted to the WT within set deadline of pertinent event.
- 11.4. ATU Championships: Asian Taekwondo Championships and Asian Junior and Cadet Taekwondo Championships shall be held every two (2) years. They shall not be held in the same year except for the case where the ATU Council decides otherwise. Asian Para Taekwondo Championships, WT President's Cup-Asian Region, Asian Taekwondo Open Championships, and Asian Taekwondo Club Championships may be held on a regular basis, upon the decision of the ATU Council.

11.5. Other Events: ATU may organize additional events not sanctioned by WT but still subject to its rules and regulations of WT. A list of those events shall appear in ATU Website.

11.6. Competition Rules and Interpretation: All championships promoted or recognized by ATU and its Members shall observe the WT Competition Rules and Interpretation.

## **Article 12 Education Courses**

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12.1. Certification Courses: WT conducts Certification Courses and Refresher Courses for International Referees, International Coaches, International Classifiers, Examiners, Technical Delegates and Educators.

12.2. ATU shall assist WT in promoting and coordinating the WT courses.

12.3. ATU may organize optional educational programs for its Members, subject to prior approval by WT.

## **PART V: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

## **Article 13 Finances**

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13.1. Income Sources: The Income of ATU shall be derived from the following sources: WT-CU development funds; revenue share from WT certification courses; membership fees; operating income; donations and subsidies; and other sources.

13.2. WT-CU Development Funds: ATU has the right to apply for the WT-CU Development Funds in accordance with WT guidelines.

13.3. Financial Year: The financial year of ATU shall start on January 1<sup>st</sup> and end on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

13.4. Finance Rules: ATU shall have rules for allowances and benefits following those of WT and shall have a clear policy for how it determines the allocation of resources to MNAs for development objectives.

13.5. Auditing of Use of Funds: ATU and its Member may be audited by WT regarding the use of funds or in-kind contributions provided by WT. For this purpose, their accounts must be available at all times to the auditors appointed by WT. WT may demand return of misused or unused funds.

## **PART VI: WRONGDOING, DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, APPEALS**

## **Article 14 Reporting Wrongdoing**

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- 14.1. ATU and its Members shall strive to strengthen the integrity of our sport by ensuring that the proper mechanisms established by WT for reporting, identifying, and resolving issues of wrongdoing. Wrongdoing in sport refers to an act (or omission, when there is a failure to fulfill an obligation) that breaches national or international law, sport rules, or infringes on the integrity and ethics of sport. Examples of wrongdoing include but are not limited to: Corruption, fraud, bribery, abuse of position (including conflicts of interest), money-laundering, competition manipulation, doping, abuse, harassment, discrimination, and violence.
- 14.2. Commitment: ATU shall be committed to encourage communication and reporting of wrongdoing. In its commitment ATU will:
  - 14.1.1. Encourage open communication and the reporting of wrongdoing;
  - 14.1.2. Ensure that those responsible for implementing and operating reporting mechanisms have adequate resources and mandates;
  - 14.1.3. Support due process and impartiality in its reporting mechanisms;
  - 14.1.4. Safeguard confidentiality of the process;
  - 14.1.5. Ensure that any reprisals against reporting persons are redressed and those who retaliate against reporting are held to account (“Whistleblower Protection”);
  - 14.1.6. Ensure that wrongdoing identified is appropriately remediated and sanctioned;
  - 14.1.7. Support continuous evaluation and improvement of reporting mechanisms;
  - 14.1.8. Complaint Hotline: WT has partnered with the IOC to ensure that reports to this hotline remain confidential and free from any form of retaliation.  
IOC hotline: <https://ioc.integrityline.org>.

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## **Article 15      Disciplinary Actions**

- 15.1. Disciplinary Actions: ATU may investigate, fine, suspend and otherwise issue penalties against MNAs, individuals and/or participants for violations of ATU rules and regulation. Disciplinary actions shall be consulted with WT prior to implementation.

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## **Article 16      Appeals**

- 16.1. Unless otherwise provided WT shall hear appeals of WT disciplinary decisions under Article 4 of the WT Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code (DAAC). Such decisions are appealable to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne as provided by the DAAC.
- 16.2. WT may at its discretion hear appeals of decisions of WT member organizations when WT determines that there is a fundamental principle to protect or clarification of WT rules required. Such appeals should be filed under Article 3 of the DAAC.

## **PART VII: OTHER PROVISIONS**

### **Article 17      Virtual Meetings**

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- 17.1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Statutes, the President or an officer of Management designated by the President for such purpose may determine at any time, including, without limitation, after the calling of any meeting of ATU, that any meeting of ATU be held solely by means of remote communication or both at a physical location and by means of remote communication.
  - 17.1.1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Statutes, if it is decided after a meeting notice has been issued that participation in the meeting will or may be conducted via remote communication, additional notice regarding this change may be provided at any time in accordance with these Statutes and applicable laws.
  - 17.1.2. MNAs entitled to be present and to vote at the meeting that are not physically present at such a meeting but participate by means of remote communication shall be considered present in person for all purposes under these Statutes and may vote at such a meeting. Subject to any guidelines and procedures that ATU may adopt, any meeting at which MNAs are permitted to participate by means of remote communication shall be conducted in accordance with the following, unless otherwise permitted by applicable law or regulation.

### **Article 18      Indemnity**

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- 18.1. ATU shall fully indemnify and hold harmless the Council and members of its staff from and against any costs, expenses, liabilities and awards arising out of any action instituted in any jurisdiction at any time against ATU or any of the above such persons as direct result of the activities of such persons were they are/were acting within the scope of the ATU's responsibilities on behalf of the ATU.

### **Article 19      Intellectual Property**

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- 19.1. ATU acknowledges and agrees that, except where specifically set forth in a separate agreement, WT has ownership rights to any work, derivative work, components thereof, work-product formats related to the terms of WT's name, logo, education programs, and other intellectual property. To the extent ATU or any designee create any work, derivative work or improvements to WT's intellectual property, ATU, on behalf of itself and its designee, assigns all rights, title, and interest in such derivative work or improvements, free from any claims by ATU or third parties, including all intellectual property rights. All products resulting from the ATU's work as Member of WT and/or entity operating under the terms of WT shall remain the sole exclusive property of WT and will be deemed licensed to ATU for ATU's use in connection with its operations under the rules of WT.

19.2. Hosting ATU Promoted Championships: When an MNA hosts an ATU promoted event, the Organizing Committee shall first get the approval of ATU before signing any marketing contract with private entities. ATU shall ensure that any marketing contract entered by the Organizing Committee is in accordance with WT rules and regulations, including use of intellectual property. For such contracts, the following shall apply:

## **Article 20 Media and Commercial Rights**

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20.1. Media Rights: All television, radio, photographic, film, internet, telephone, and other media rights to WT related prompted events known of or unknown of today are the exclusive property of WT. These rights may not be sold or negotiated without the written agreement of WT, which may delegate its powers to negotiate the sale or use of these rights, but which shall retain the sole authority for the final decision.

20.2. ATU shall be allotted thirty percent (30%) of any fees for all media rights, advertisement income and royalties arranged by the Organizing Committee for using ATU emblem in connection with all ATU promoted championships.

20.3. Commercial Rights: All commercial rights to WT-Promoted events are the property of WT. WT may temporarily assign these rights via contract.

20.4. For arrangements by ATU for the Organizing Committee, those fees shall be divided in equal parts between ATU and the Organizing Committee.

## **Article 21 Dissolution**

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21.1. Dissolution: The dissolution of ATU can only be decided at the GA by the unanimous resolution of all the members that comprise the GA.

21.2. Residual Funds/Properties: Exclusive right over the use of any funds or ATU properties shall be given by the GA that has reached the resolution for the dissolution.

## **Article 22 Modifications**

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22.1. Amendments: ATU shall formulate drafts, amendments or repeals of these Statutes in consultation with relevant Commissions and Committees. Approval of the Council and GA shall be required for implementation.

22.2. Authority for Non-Substantive Changes: The Juridical Committee for governance rules is hereby granted the authority to approve non-substantive changes to the ATU Statutes, codes, and other regulations without requiring full approval from the General Assembly or other governing bodies.

22.2.1. Definition of Non-Substantive Changes: Non-substantive changes are defined as modifications that do not alter the meaning, intent, or application of the rules, statutes,

or regulations. These changes may include, but are not limited to:

- 22.2.1.1. Correction of typographical, grammatical, or formatting errors.
- 22.2.1.2. Clarifications to language that do not alter the operational or substantive content of the rule.
- 22.2.1.3. Reorganization of sections for improved readability or consistency.
- 22.2.2. Review and Reporting: All non-substantive changes approved by the relevant committee must be documented and reported to the General Assembly at its next meeting.
- 22.2.3. Dispute Resolution: In the event of a dispute regarding whether a change is non-substantive, the matter shall be referred to the ATU Council for final determination.

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## **Article 23      Interpretation**

- 23.1. Interpretation Authority: The authority for settling any dispute arising out of the interpretation of these Statutes shall reside with the President, who shall seek the advice of the Council or appropriate Committees before asking a final decision. Such interpretations are final.
- 23.2. Any discrepancy between Statutes, bylaws, rules, regulations and/or codes and those of WT, the latter shall prevail.

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## **Article 24      Enforcement**

- 24.1. Adoption: These Statutes come into force immediately, except as otherwise indicated in these Statutes.
  - 24.1.1. Council: The changes to the Council structure in 6.2, along with related amendments established during the e-vote in February 2025 shall come into effect upon the ATU elections at the 2025 Ordinary General Assembly.
  - 24.1.2. The terms of incumbent Council Members, including ex-officio members' rights, shall remain valid until the elections at the 2025 Ordinary General Assembly, subject to the implementation of the statutory changes adopted during the e-vote in February 2025.
  - 24.1.3. The revised voting rights for ex-officio members, as established during the e-vote in February 2025, shall take effect after the elections at the 2025 Ordinary General Assembly.

## **ADDENDUM I: PERMANENT COMMITTEES**

ATU shall have the following Committees:

### **(1) Technical Committee**

The Technical Committee (the Committee) includes the Chairs of the following Committees: Athletes, Cadet, Coaches, Games, Kyorugi, Medical, Para Taekwondo, Poomsae, and Youth. The Chair is appointed separately. The Vice Chair is appointed from among the members. The Committee studies the organization and management of Taekwondo competitions; evaluates the safety and performance of equipment; considers ways to improve techniques used in Taekwondo competitions; analyzes issues related to the effective management of international referees; and may recommend amendments to WT.

### **(2) Advisory Committee**

The Advisory Committee consists of members aged over fifty (50) or experienced in Taekwondo activities for more than twenty (20) years. The Committee provides advice on significant matters related to the overall development of ATU or other specific issues.

### **(3) Athletes Committee**

The Athletes Committee represents athletes within the Taekwondo Movement and upholds the rights and responsibilities of the athletes in accordance with the ATU Athletes' Declaration. The Committee shall engage with ATU's Commissions, Committees, and Member National Associations, to help develop athlete-centered programs, and conduct educational training for and on behalf of athletes. The Committee shall be elected in accordance with a procedure determined by the Ad-hoc Election Committee established under Article 5.8.8 of the Statutes. Elected members shall have a four-year term. The Committee members shall elect from among themselves two Co-Chairs (one male and one female).

### **(4) Cadet Committee**

The Cadet Committee deals with the issues related to the practice, promotion, and development of Taekwondo among cadets. The Committee is also tasked with studying various affairs related to Cadet Taekwondo Competitions.

### **(5) Coaches Committee**

The Coaches Committee represents coaches within the Taekwondo Movement; upholds the rights and obligations of coaches; and studies and recommends methods and measures to improve Taekwondo competitions to ATU.

**(6) Collegiate Committee**

The Collegiate Committee deals with the issues related to the practice, promotion, and development of Taekwondo among collegians. The Committee is also tasked with studying various affairs related to Collegiate Taekwondo Competitions.

**(7) Cultural Exchanges and Cooperation Committee**

The Cultural Exchanges and Cooperation Committee promotes mutual understanding and friendship among MNAs through Taekwondo; facilitates cultural exchange programs and international cooperation initiatives; and explores opportunities to enhance the cultural value and diplomatic role of Taekwondo as a unifying sport within the Asian region.

**(8) Education Committee**

The Education Committee oversees certification courses and non-certification education programs in line with WT; studies and develops methods for cultivation of competent educators, administrators, athletes, coaches, referees, and general Taekwondo practitioners with an emphasis on online education; and supports WT programs and activities related to education.

**(9) Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee advises the GA, Council, President, and Secretary General on matters related to the ATU's financial management in order to safeguard continuity and strengthen the transparency and good governance of ATU and the Taekwondo Movement. The Auditor shall be the Chair and the Committee shall review and pre-approve financial information, including proposed budget, to be able to provide advice and recommendations with respect to making significant financial decisions. The Committee shall ensure that the CU has efficient and transparent budgeting and financial control processes, and that the financial policies and procedures approved by the Council are respected. The Committee shall review the qualifications of at least three (3) certified independent professional accounting firms, advise the President on the appointment or reappointment of one as the CU's external auditor, and monitor the effectiveness of WT's budgeting and financial functions within the continent. A summary of the process of vetting and selection of the external auditor shall be presented to the Council. The Committee shall review the CU's completed financial statements, which are prepared with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and applicable law and review significant reporting judgments, before these are submitted to the Council and GA for approval.

**(10) Games Committee**

The Games Committee deals with studying the requirements for further improvements of the organization and management of competitions promoted by ATU or competitions delegated by WT.

**(11) Integrity Committee**

The Integrity Committee is the guardian of the ethical principles of the Taekwondo Movement as set out in the Statutes and the Integrity Code. A majority of its members shall be otherwise independent from ATU. The Committee conducts investigations into breaches of ethics and integrity, including safeguarding-related cases, submitted to it by ATU and, where necessary, makes recommendations for measures or sanctions to the Council. The Committee recommends amendments to the Integrity Code, and other integrity-based Rules except those related to anti-doping. The Committee is empowered to initiate integrity-related investigations based on its own determination.

**(12) Juridical Committee**

The Juridical Committee provides essential legal advice throughout the election process, ensuring adherence to the ATU Election Bylaws. It also drafts and amends the ATU Statutes, by-laws, and codes, and approves non-substantive changes to ATU Statutes and governance rules as per Statutes Article 21. Additionally, the Committee offers assessments and recommendations on complaints, investigations, disciplinary actions, and appeals in accordance with ATU's Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code, and provides legal opinions to the Council or ATU on matters related to their respective areas of competence.

**(13) Kyorugi Committee**

The Kyorugi Committee reviews the organization and management of Kyorugi competitions and studies ways to improve the competitions and increase the consistent application of the WT Kyorugi Competition Rules; researching methods of effective management of and conducting training sessions for International Referees for competitions promoted by ATU.

**(14) Marketing Committee**

The Marketing Committee reviews and studies possible sources of financing and revenue for ATU. The Committee is to monitor the implementation of ATU's marketing and related programs and is also to seek means of maximizing the potential benefits to the Taekwondo Movement available through association with marketing partners.

**(15) Media Committee**

The Media Committee is responsible for preparing and implementing the overall ATU strategy for future broadcast rights negotiations. The Committee deals in particular with the development of the visibility and brand image of ATU; collaboration with the media (written press, radio, TV, Internet, etc.) and its development working conditions of the media during competitions organized by ATU; ATU publications; management of public relations activities; contracts with the authorities, other sport federation, sponsors and the sport industry.

(16) Medical Committee

The Medical Committee studies medical affairs related to Taekwondo competitions and establishes necessary guidelines. The Committee supports the protection of the athletes' health.

(17) Para Taekwondo Committee

The Para Taekwondo Committee studies the structure, organization, and management of Para Taekwondo Competitions (Kyorugi & Poomsae) and the development of competition formats for athletes of all impairments. The Committee serves to expand, promote, and improve the continent's practice of Taekwondo for persons with impairment while safeguarding the best interests of the athletes.

The Para Taekwondo Classification Committee is tasked with ensuring that ATU is compliant with the IPC Classification Code and its best practices.

(18) Poomsae Committee

The Poomsae Committee reviews the organization and management of Poomsae competitions, studies ways to improve the competitions, and ensures the consistent application of the WT Poomsae Competition Rules. It also researches methods for the effective management of and conducts training sessions for International Referees in competitions promoted by ATU.

(19) Research and Development Committee

The Research and Development Committee oversees ATU's overall development programs. The Committee serves as a professional body that conducts research on education, promotion and marketing, health, adult Taekwondo, and global trends to support the strategic development of Taekwondo. It also focuses on capacity building at all levels; recommends standards for national and continental members and regional training centers; develops guidelines for ATU development programs, including funding, equipment aid, participation aid, and scholarships; monitors program implementation; and explores collaboration with institutions and organizations that possess financial resources for sports development.

(20) Virtual Taekwondo and AI Committee

The Virtual Taekwondo and AI Committee reviews and supports the strategic development and promotion of Virtual Taekwondo and studies the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies relevant to Taekwondo in training and competition.

(21) Youth Committee

The Youth Committee deals with the issues related to the practice, promotion, and development of Taekwondo among Youth. The committee is also tasked with studying various affairs related to Junior Taekwondo Competitions.