

# Elections Rules and Procedures World Triathlon

These rules are introduced following the resolution approved by World Triathlon Congress in 2021 and are created by a working group integrated by members of the Legal & Constitution Committee and the Credentials Committee and a representative from the Danish NF.

It is in the interest of World Triathlon, the Members (National Federations), their respective delegates and the candidates standing for election, that respect for "universal fundamental ethical principles", one of the foundations of Olympism and the Sports Movement should prevail.

It is also essential that equality be observed between the Candidates and an atmosphere of mutual respect prevail amongst them. Notwithstanding the confidence that the candidates enjoy, there is also a need to ensure a degree of harmonisation in the conduct of the elections and the applicable procedures.

Therefore, these Election Rules and Procedures (hereinafter Rules) are issued to govern the elections for all positions to be elected in World Triathlon.

## 1 Positions to be elected by Congress

- 1.1 All elective positions reinstated in Art 30.12 of the Constitution are open for nomination in the first year of each Olympiad or subsequent years.
- 1.2 The Constitution includes the rules for candidates to a position including the gender and continental requirements, that will prevail over these rules.

## 2 Call for Candidates

- 2.1 The Secretary General will send, within the Call for Congress, a notification to the Members at least a hundred (100) days call for Members to nominate candidates for election or appointment, including the relevant date deadlines and information about the Rules.

## 3 Credentials Committee

- 3.1 The Credentials committee will be responsible for guaranteeing that these rules are applied.
- 3.2 Role:

The role of the committee which oversees the elections, includes:

- a. Supervising the administrative process relating to the election of Officials;
- b. Monitoring compliance with these Rules;
- c. Ensuring the correct application of the Rules;
- d. Issuing instructions to the Secretary General for the application of these rules.

## 4 Nominations process candidates

- 4.1 Each Member in good standing is entitled to nominate one (1) candidate for each position eligible for election. Candidates must be a member of the Member that nominates them.
  - 4.2 Nominations must be received by the Secretary General at least forty-five (45) calendar days ahead of the Congress, except for the President that will be at least eighty-five (85) calendar days ahead of the Congress.
  - 4.3 The candidate application pack must include:
    - a. signed Official Candidate acceptance form from their Member;
    - b. signed declaration to obey the Election Rules;
    - c. signed acknowledgement of Duties and Responsibilities for the chosen position (president, vice-president, ordinary board member or committee member);
    - d. personal Records and Goals of the candidate for the position for which they are a candidate;
    - e. signed Declaration of Eligibility form.
- \* Only complete applications packs will be considered by the Credentials Committee. If the application pack is incomplete applicants will be given three (3) days to complete it.
- 4.4 Candidate applications shall be acknowledged by the Secretary General.

## 5 Eligibility

- 5.1 A person seeking election or applying to be in an elected position (Applicant), or to remain in office, shall be Eligible.
- 5.2 No Official shall hold a position as a voting member in more than one (1) of the following bodies: Executive Board, Committees and Tribunal.
- 5.3 To be eligible, every candidate including those holding current positions shall be accepted by the Credentials Committee. This decision can be appealed to the Tribunal within the next forty-eight (48) hours of its communication to candidates.
- 5.4 Candidates may not campaign or communicate as a candidate before their approval as candidate.
- 5.5 An applicant or person currently holding an elected position will be Ineligible if:
  - a. Other Position: A staff member must resign as staff member before accepting the position;
  - b. Under age: the person is under eighteen (18) years old;
  - c. Removal: the person was removed from Office by Congress in accordance with this Constitution;
  - d. Breach of one or more Codes: the person is serving a period of ineligibility (including (provisional) suspension) for breach of the Codes;
  - e. Anti-Doping Rule Violation: the person is found by a Relevant Authority to have committed an anti-doping rule violation at any time, including any person who has served any period of ineligibility for that violation;
  - f. Full Civil Rights: the person is deprived of his or her civil rights by proper application

- of the law;
- g. Property Order: the person is subject to an order by a Relevant Authority that the person is lacking in competence to manage their own affairs;
  - h. Bankrupt: the person is declared bankrupt;
  - i. Conviction: the person has been convicted with (suspended) prison sentence by a Relevant Authority for fraud, embezzlement or a criminal offence of which dishonesty is an element of the crime.
  - j. Disqualified Director: the person is prohibited by a Relevant Authority from being a director or promoter of or being concerned or taking part in the management of a company for breach or non-compliance with any law applicable to that person;
  - k. Other circumstances: the person is otherwise prohibited from holding such position, or any similar position, under any other circumstances as provided by law;

## **6 Eligibility check**

- 6.1 The Credentials Committee determines whether or not each nominated candidate is eligible for election according to the Constitution.
- 6.2 A decision of the Credentials Committee may be appealed to the Tribunal.

## **7 Clarification of who is a candidate**

- 7.1 A candidate is identified as such when they are eligible for election according to the Constitution and these Rules, by the Credentials Committee.
- 7.2 A candidate may not start campaigning publicly before being declared a candidate.
- 7.3 An individual will be regarded as a candidate and subject to relevant rules if they state their intention in public to be a candidate or campaign in such a way that gives the appearance of being a candidate, even if they have not been nominated.

## **8 Publishing list of candidates**

- 8.1 The list of candidates for election shall be published on the website once the eligibility check has been completed by the Credentials Committee, at least thirty (30) days ahead of the Congress.
- 8.2 The candidates for election for president shall be published on the World Triathlon website once the eligibility check has been completed by the Credentials Committee, at least seventy-five (75) days ahead of the Congress.
- 8.3 The list of candidates with the nominating Member and respective personal records and goals shall be included in the Congress agenda (thirty (30) days prior to Congress) and published, with the information submitted by the candidates.

## **9 Rules for candidates**

- 9.1 These Rules apply to a candidate for election, as do the Code of Ethics and the Constitution.

## **10 Presentations by candidates**

- 10.1 Each candidate for President and Vice President and Ordinary Board member shall be provided with an equal opportunity to make a presentation to the Members at the Congress. The presentation must focus on the credentials of the candidate and the vision and objectives for their term if elected. The presentation shall last no more than an agreed duration time frame (see Rules of Congress Procedure) and may include video presentations and multi-media.
- 10.2 Candidates for other positions shall have an opportunity to be presented to the voting constituents at an appropriate forum for the elections, the guidelines for such presentation to be determined by the Executive Board.
- 10.3 All presentations have to follow the TRI Constitution and these rules of elections.
- 10.4 Except with the permission of the Credentials Committee, no debate or public meeting (held virtually or in person) of any kind may be organised to promote a candidature for President. Candidates are free to take part on the approved debates.
- 10.5 Concealed promotion of a candidature in the form of technical meetings or other events is not permitted.

## **11 Public Declarations**

- 11.1 This rule does not prevent private expressions of opinion or intentions.
- 11.2 Members (except for the candidates National Federation) and Associate members, their delegates, attendees and observers, committee and commission members, other organisations, or other partners shall:
  - a. not announce to the public in any form whatsoever their intention to vote for a particular candidate; and
  - b. refrain from making any public declaration, and shall not in any way, support a candidature to the public.

## **12 Voting process**

- 12.1 The order in which positions will be elected is specified in the Constitution.
- 12.2 Only Members in good standing are eligible to vote.
- 12.3 It is suggested that ballot papers should list the names of candidates in alphabetical order.

## **13 Chair announces result**

- 13.1 The Chair of Congress will announce the result of the election and the number of valid votes cast for each candidate.
- 13.2 The number of votes polled for each candidate shall be published.

## **14 Ballot papers kept sealed then destroyed**

14.1 The signed scrutineers' result sheets will be preserved.

## **15 Matters not covered dealt with by Credentials committee**

15.1 Any matters not provided for in these Rules shall be dealt with by the Credentials Committee.

## **16 Rules for candidates**

16.1 Candidates and their Member must abide the Code of Ethics, the Constitution and the Election Rules and Procedures.

16.2 Candidates and their Member may not carry out any electoral campaigning prior to the start of the electoral period.

16.3 Candidates and their Member must conduct their campaigns with honesty, dignity, moderation and respect for their opponents, limiting expenditure to a proportionate level.

16.4 Candidates and their Member may not directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, or any concealed benefit or service of any nature, related with any World Triathlon activity or election or appointment to Office.

16.5 Candidates and their Member may under no circumstances and under no pretext give presents or offer donations or gifts or grant advantages or benefits of whatever nature to or at the request of any party who will vote in, or who may otherwise influence, an election.

16.6 Candidates and their Member may not enter into any promise or undertaking to personally act (whether as a candidate or following election), for the direct or indirect benefit of a specific member or individual.

16.7 Candidates and their Member should not accept paid travel, expenses, air tickets or accommodation from other candidates, their representatives, other Members, Associated members or other associated organisations to attend meetings and activities directly related to a candidate's elections.

16.8 Candidates and their Member may not enter into any form of undertaking with any individual or organisation that is likely to affect the candidate's freedom of decision or action if elected.

16.9 Candidates and their Member for election have the right to promote their candidacies subject to the provisions set out in the Rules.

16.10 Candidates and their Member may make declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the Rules.

16.11 Candidates and their Member may not make payments, directly or indirectly, to journalists or other persons affiliated to the media in order to promote their candidacies.

16.12 Candidates and their Member may not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or

reputation of another candidate or that of World Triathlon.

- 16.13 Candidates and their Member may not engage in any act, collaboration or collusion by or between candidates with the intent to defraud or manipulate the result of the vote.
- 16.14 Candidates and their Member may not request support or service from World Triathlon or from external advisors who are working with World Triathlon in connection with their candidacies.
- 16.15 World Triathlon resources may not be used to fund travel and campaign activities by candidates who currently occupy elected or appointed positions.
- 16.16 Candidates who hold official positions within World Triathlon, including Staff, are permitted to remain in office during the election campaign.
- 16.17 Candidates occupying an elected position must declare to the Credentials Committee and have approved their travel activities and meetings, and announce their agenda.
- 16.18 Concealed promotion of a candidature in the form of technical meetings or other events is not permitted.

## **17 World Triathlon Staff (Staff)**

- 17.1 The Staff shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times. A candidate shall respect this duty at all times.
- 17.2 Staff shall limit their relations and communication with candidates strictly to the performance of their duties.
- 17.3 Staff shall not provide any support or service to a candidature. The Credentials Committee may issue guidance to the Staff which must be complied with.
- 17.4 The above rules also apply to the staff of the Continental Confederations.

## **18 Protests**

- 18.1 If the result of the election is challenged, any protest should be made in writing and presented to the chair of the Credentials Committee before the closing of the respective meeting of the Congress. The protest will be handled in accordance with these Rules and the Constitution.

## **19 Handling violations of rules**

- 19.1 Any interested party should bring any breach of these Rules to the attention of the Credentials Committee (in writing or by email addressed to chair of the Credentials Committee or to the Secretary General) within twenty-four (24) hours following discovery of the circumstances but no later than the close of the voting.
- 19.2 The Credentials Committee may extend this time limit if there is good reason to do so.

- 19.3 The Credentials Committee shall investigate an alleged breach of these Rules brought to its attention and will give the relevant candidate the opportunity to respond within such time frame as the Committee considers appropriate.
- 19.4 The Committee may determine its own procedures. Candidates are required to attend a meeting of Credentials Committee upon reasonable notice to do so.
- 19.5 If the Credentials Committee concludes there has been a minor or technical breach of these Rules, it may in its discretion:
- a. make written observations to the candidate, which shall be made public by the Committee; or
  - b. issue a warning to the candidate, which shall be made public by the Committee; or
  - c. temporary suspend the candidate from campaigning.
- 19.6 If the Credentials Committee concludes there has been a breach of the Rules which is not minor nor technical, the case will be immediately referred to the Tribunal.
- 19.7 The Credentials committee can forward any breach to the Tribunal and give a candidate a provisional suspension.
- 19.8 The National Federation (Member), the Continental Confederation (Associate member) and the officials of the National Federation or Continental Confederation of the candidate may also be referred to the Tribunal if they assist their candidate in contravention of these rules. This also applies to other Members, Associate members and affiliated members if they assist a candidate in contravention of these Rules.
- 19.9 A complaint about a breach of these rules must be made to the chair of the Credentials committee within twenty-four (24) hours of the facts or twenty-four (24) hours of becoming aware of them but no later than the close of the voting.