

THE AFRICAN CONFEDERATION OF EQUESTRIAN SPORT (ACES)

Rules and Regulations of ACES

Approved at SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, 12th November 2015
Ammended MOSCOW, RUSSIA, 17th November 2019

Articles

Article 1. Name

The name of the organization (hereinafter called “ACES”) is “THE AFRICAN CONFEDERATION OF EQUESTRIAN SPORT”. ACES is an international non-governmental not-for-profit entity, of unlimited duration, in the form of a trust, the “ACES Trust” as duly registered in Mauritius.

The Trustees at the time of the foundation are Loita as Corporate Trustee represented by Mrs Kim Gueho registered in Mauritius; Mrs K.E. Binks from Kenya; Mrs Fahima Sebiane and Mr Hesham Hattab from Egypt as trustees.

Article 2. Office

The administrative headquarters or office of ACES shall be decided by the ACES Board. The address of the office may be that of the NF of the President of the ACES Board from time to time; but the ACES Trust shall have a permanent registered address irrespective of the location of its office.

Article 3. Purpose

- To develop and promote equestrian sport in the Africa in close cooperation with its NFs, the FEI and the representative stakeholders organisations.
- To improve communications between all parties involved in equestrian sport.
- To advocate for equestrian interests in Africa with relevant bodies including the FEI and the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA).
- ACES recognizes the FEI as the sole authority and governing body for the FEI Equestrian Disciplines.
- ACES agrees not to become members or recognize or otherwise support any other international organisation with a similar purpose except those recognized by the FEI.

Article 4. Principles

1. The NFs have complete jurisdiction over all competitors, organisers and officials of their country.
2. The ACES shall not intervene in matters of equestrian sports which are within the national jurisdiction of NFs.
3. Participation in the activities of ACES will be at the expense of each member NF, unless otherwise decided by the Board or the GA.
4. The ACES will ensure that the needs of the different stakeholders in Africa equestrian are properly taken into account.
5. Nothing in these articles prevents a NF from maintaining a direct contact with the FEI.
6. ACES GA prevails and the Trustees cannot take any decision whatsoever that is not expressly approved by ACES Board and/or ACES GA, when applicable.

Article 5. Duration

The Trust and the Executive Trust Committee or ACES Board is constituted for an ~~and~~ undetermined duration.

Article 6. Membership

Members: All National Equestrian Federations, having membership of the FEI, of countries in the African Continent, defined as the continent of Africa and the outlying islands but not including those states or islands dependent of another European country may apply for membership of the ACES. The ACES will only accept one National Equestrian Federation for each member country.

Associate members: The GA can accept as associate members any representative stakeholder organisations from the African Continent. Such members have no voting rights at the GA but are invited to participate in the activities of the ACES.

Applications for membership: Applications for membership ~~are decided on must~~ **be approved** by the GA. Based on special reasons the Board may accept an

application for membership provisionally, which in such case should be confirmed at the next GA.

Honorary Membership: The General Assembly may, upon proposal of the Executive Board and prior Approval of the FEI, grant the status of honorary chair or honorary member of the Board of Directors to persons who have given meritorious service to Equestrian in relation to ACES.

Honorary chairs or honorary members of the Executive Board may attend and speak at General Assemblies and meetings of the Executive Board but shall have no vote.

Article 7. Financial

The Board shall prepare annual budgets for adoption by the GA. A yearly membership fee may be charged.

All FEI competitions held under ACES regulations, will incur an administrative fee charge as per Article 9.1.7.

Article 8. Exclusion, Suspension, Resignation

The GA may decide to suspend temporarily or to exclude a member not fulfilling its financial obligations towards the ACES or not respecting the principles laid down in these Rules and Regulations. Members suspended by the FEI will automatically be suspended by the ACES for the same period. A member that wants to resign has to inform the ACES at least six months before the next GA.

Article 9. GA

The GA is the supreme authority of the ACES. Each member NF present at the GA will have one vote at the GA. NFs provisionally affiliated may not vote until they have been accepted as members by the GA. The GA will be chaired by the President of the ACES or if he is unable to fulfil this task, by a Vice-President or a member of the Board chosen by the GA. In case of a voting tie the Board may decide. In case the tie remains, the chair may exercise a deciding vote.

9.1 Functions and Powers of the GA

1. To approve the minutes of the previous GA.
2. To approve the agenda and the supporting papers.
3. To approve changes to the Rules & Regulations.
4. To approve any other Rules of the ACES.
5. To elect the President, Vice-Presidents and other Board members.
6. To elect the Auditors.
7. To fix annual subscriptions if desired, and special levies on members.
8. To approve the Yearly Accounts.
9. To give discharge to the Board and the Auditors.
10. To approve the Annual Budget.
11. To approve the Annual Report of the Board.
12. To approve applications for membership of the ACES.
13. To take decisions on the expulsion or suspension of a member.
14. To decide on items put on the agenda by the Board.
15. To decide on items introduced at least four weeks before the GA by a member NF.
16. To decide the establishment of permanent and temporary Ad Hoc Committees.
17. To elect members of Permanent Committees.
18. The dissolution of the ACES.

9.2 Sessions

1. At least one GA should be held once a year.
2. The invitation together with the agenda and the supporting papers should be sent to all members at least four weeks prior to the date of the session. After this deadline supporting papers and points can only be added to the agenda if the GA accepts this by a majority of voting members.
3. A GA should be convened at the request of the Board.
4. Any proposition of a member introduced at least four weeks before the GA must be put on the Agenda.
5. Quorum of the GA shall be two-thirds of the members.

6. All decisions will be taken by a simple majority except in cases of exclusion of membership, change of ~~r~~Rules and ~~r~~Regulations and dissolution of ACES, in which case a two-thirds majority is required.
7. Elections shall be made by a secret ballot if one member NF so proposes. Contested elections shall always be voted by secret ballot.
8. The Board is responsible for proper minutes being taken at all sessions, to be approved by the next GA.
9. The Minutes shall be sent to member NFs not later than four weeks after the GA.

Article 10. Board

A Board composed of the President, two Vice-Presidents (who must be respectively one each from the two FEI Groups but from within the African Continent only), one Secretary General, one Treasurer and up to three members are responsible for the governance and the representation of the ACES. The President and the Vice Presidents must not be from the same NF. The President is responsible for ensuring that the purposes and principles of the ACES are observed, and for the general supervision of all its activities. The Board is competent for all matters that are not explicitly competences of the GA. The President or his appointed representative ~~can~~ **may** represent the ACES in relation to third parties. All candidates for a position on the Board should have the support of their NF. No NF may have more than one Board member, not counting the President or Vice Presidents. All memberships of the Board are honorary and carry no remuneration. The term of office of the President and Vice-Presidents shall be for four years, renewable once only. The term of office of Board members is for four years, renewable once only. In case of a vacancy on the Board before the end of the term, the next GA ~~has to~~ **must** elect a new board member to **serve a 4 year term from the year of election**. The President shall chair the meetings of the Board. If he is unable to do so a member of the Board chosen by the members, normally a Vice-President, shall chair the meeting. In the event of a tie in voting, the chair may exercise a deciding vote.

Article 11. Meetings

Meetings of the GA and Board may be in person, by email, ~~or~~ by telephone conference ~~or via clear online media connection~~. However, a quorum must be connected for the duration of any points of a Board Meeting or GA requiring a vote. It is strongly recommended that one Board meeting in person is held per year during the ~~period of~~ FEI GA ~~or an~~ EGA.

Article 12. The Secretary General

The President shall nominate a Secretary General, for approval by the Board. The appointment will be honorary unless otherwise resolved by the Board.

Article 13. Committees

Permanent Committees may be decided by the GA. The members of Permanent Committees are elected by the GA. Members of Permanent Committees are elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected once without an intervening period of at least two years. These positions are ~~also~~ honorary.

Temporary Ad Hoc Committees may be decided by the Board or the GA or the Board with the ultimate approval of the GA, for particular purposes. The members of Temporary Ad Hoc Committees are appointed by the Board. The duration of the mandate of members of Temporary Ad Hoc Committees is decided by the Board and must be explicitly mentioned in the nomination decision.

Representative stakeholder associations may send a representative as a member to the meetings of the Permanent Ad Hoc Committees. The meetings of the Committees are open. All NFs will be informed about the meetings and their agenda and have the right to send a representative.

Article 14. Official Language

English is the official language of the ACES.

Article 15. Financial Year

The financial year starts on the 1st July and ends on 30th June of the next year.

Article 16. Dissolution of the ACES

Except in case of dissolution ordered by a Court, the dissolution of the ACES can only be decided by the GA. The GA that decides to dissolve the ACES must appoint one or more liquidators and will decide to which trust or association, that has a similar purpose as the ACES, the assets of the trust after having settled all debts will be transferred.

Annex 1 – Definitions

“ACES” – Africa Confederation of Equestrian Sport

“FEI” – International Equestrian Federation

“GA” – General Assembly

“Agenda” – means the points to be discussed at the meeting

“Annual Budget” – means a summary of the income and expenditure of ACES for a 12-month period;

“Auditors” – means an independent accounting firm

“Board” – means the individuals representing ACES Board

“Corporate Trustee” – means a body corporate appointed or acting as trustee;

“Individual Trustee” – means an individual of full age who has the legal capacity to contract;

“NF” – National (Equestrian) Federation that are members of the FEI from the African continent only;

“Representative Stakeholder Organisations” – recognised associations of athletes, organisers, owners, officials, animal welfare or otherwise as accepted by the GA.

“Yearly Accounts” – means a comprehensive report of ACES activities throughout the preceding year.