



LONG DRIVE FEDERATION

BY-LAWS

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Article I. NAME & LEGAL STATUS

Section 1.01 The Long Drive Federation was founded in 2016 to improve, promote and encourage Long Drive competitions throughout the World in conformity with the Olympic principles.

Section 1.02 The name of the Federation shall be Long Drive Federation (LDF) and is referred to in this Constitution and associated Bylaws as "the Federation" and "LDF."

Section 1.03 The LDF is the controlling body for the sport of Long Drive around the World.

Section 1.04 The LDF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization registered as a sports federation under the United States laws.

Article II. OBJECTIVES

Section 2.01 The LDF has the following objectives:

- (a) develop Long Drive Tournaments on all the Continents.
- (b) create and interpret Long Drive Federation Constitution and By-Laws.
- (c) promote and sanction international Long Drive competitions.
- (d) arrange dates, events, and venues for World Championships.
- (e) confirm and maintain world records.
- (f) establish and maintain rules for Long Drive.
- (g) represent Long Drive on / to other international sports bodies.
- (h) preserve the integrity of Long Drive Athletes and competitions.
- (i) maintain alliances with Long Drive organizations including Continental Federations, Professional Leagues and organizations representing other forms of Long Drive.
- (j) The sport of Long Drive transcends all political, ideological, and cultural barriers and will therefore not acknowledge or accept any form of discrimination in our sport against its members and/or individuals.

Article III. MEMBERSHIPS

Section 3.01 Membership categories shall be divided in four groups.

Section 3.02 Federation Member

- (a) Federation Membership is available to one National Long Drive Federation or Association per country that is controlling the Long Drive Sport in that specific country.
- (b) Membership may be conferred by the Membership committee following the policy and criteria set by the General Assembly (known as GA).
- (c) The Federation member has one vote in the GA.
- (d) Failure of a Federation Member to meet their membership obligations, as set out in the Constitution Bylaw, without reasonable cause, and following due process, shall cause the GA to consider a resolution to refuse to continue the membership of that Full Member.

Section 3.03 Associate Member

- (a) Associate Member can be individuals, institutions or companies wishing to contribute substantially to Long Drive in promoting International or national sport.
- (b) They can participate in the different committees of the Federation.

Section 3.04 Honorary Member

- (a) Honorary Member can be natural persons or legal entities that have contributed meritoriously to the Long Drive sport.
- (b) They can participate in the different committees of the Federation.

Section 3.05 Athlete Member

- (a) Professional or Amateur long drive players that may or may not play for a remuneration, prizes and sponsorship.
- (b) They can participate in the different committees of the Federation.

Article IV. AFFILIATION

Section 4.01 A National Federation wishing to become a Member of the LDF shall:

- (a) Make a written application sent via mail or email.
- (b) Submit with its application:
 - (i) *A copy of its Statutes in English (nonprofit)*
 - (ii) *A list of their executive board members*
 - (iii) *Information on the number of clubs and Members*
 - (iv) *Regulations of the Long Drive sport, Competition Rules and sanctioned tournaments.*
 - (v) *The payment of the membership fee to the LDF, the amount of which has been fixed by the General Assembly.*
- (c) The Executive board can grant a temporary federation membership (up to 1 year) for the applicant to compose his organization.

Article V. MEMBERSHIP FEES

Section 5.01 The fiscal year for LDF will be from January 1st to December 31st.

Section 5.02 The General Assembly shall decide the amount of the membership subscription fee paid by every Member category and the currency in which it shall be paid.

Section 5.03 The annual subscription fee is to be paid to the Treasurer of the LDF no later than the January 31st.

Section 5.04 National Federations whose membership fees are unpaid shall not be eligible to attend the General Assembly nor take part in LDF championships and any other international competition until all outstanding fees have been paid.

Section 5.05 Athlete members whose fees are unpaid shall not be eligible to be part of any committee nor take part in LDF championships or any other international competition where the LDF participates until all outstanding fees have been paid.

Article VI. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 6.01 The Executive Board will consist of seven to thirteen of the following elected officials:

- (a) President.
- (b) Two Vice-Presidents: Senior and Junior
- (c) Secretary General
- (d) Treasurer
- (e) 2 Board Members representing each continent non represented above.

Section 6.02 The Executive Board shall be governed by the majority vote. During the interim between two General Assembly Sessions, they shall manage all matters.

Section 6.03 The term for the Executive Board is 4 years with a maximum of two terms per person.

Section 6.04 All members of the Executive Board are elected by the Session of the General Assembly, in a secret ballot, by a majority of the votes cast.

Section 6.05 The President

- (a) The President shall be the duty of conducts all meetings.

- (b) The President shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors as well as the General Assembly.
- (c) The President presents the Strategic Plan for the following 4 Years and the annual report in the general Assembly.
- (d) The President may delegate another officer of LDF to represent the Federation at remarkable events or meetings.

Section 6.06 The Vice Presidents

- (a) Each Vice President will fulfill the functions of advising the President and will oversee the chairpersons of different committees.
- (b) In the absence of the President, the Senior, then Junior Vice President shall fulfill the duties of the President.

Section 6.07 The Secretary General

- (a) The Secretary General shall keep all records, prepare, distribute, and collect all ballots, keep records at all business meetings either in person or substitute, and perform all other functions of this Office normally a part of this Office.
- (b) The Secretary General shall notify the General Assembly (all delegates) of the recommended actions of the Executive Board and request their comments. 30 days from the date of such notification, the Secretary General will place the proposed amendment(s), along with any comments, to a vote of the General Assembly. Only amendments received by the Secretary General will be considered.

Section 6.08 Treasurer

- (a) The Treasurer will present a financial report at business meetings, collect all monies, provide suitable banking and perform all other functions associated with this Office.
- (b) In economic matters the Treasurer will sign with the President all the necessary documents for the LDF.

Section 6.09 Board Members

- (a) The 2 to 8 board members are responsible to audit the accounts at least once every year. Unexpected audits are allowed. They shall deliver an auditor's report to the President and the General Assembly.

Section 6.10 Vacancies

- (a) In the case of death or resignation of a Member of the Board of Directors, the Board may fill vacancies for the remaining period until the next General Assembly.

Article VII. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section 7.01 The General Assembly is the governing body of the LDF.

Section 7.02 The ordinary General Assembly meets once a year.

Section 7.03 An Extraordinary General Assembly can be summoned by the Executive Board at any time.

Section 7.04 The General Assembly shall be held under the chairmanship of the President of the LDF or, in the absence of the President, the Senior Vice President, followed by the Junior Vice President.

Section 7.05 The General Assembly shall deal exclusively with items in the agenda.

Section 7.06 The agenda must include:

- (a) Opening of the General Assembly
- (b) Roll call of delegates and establishing of the quorum
- (c) Appointment of two scrutineers for the period of the General Assembly
- (d) The President's report
- (e) The Permanent Committees reports
- (f) Financial report
- (g) Auditor's report
- (h) Discussion of Reports
- (i) Board of Directors discharge
- (j) Welcome to new members
- (k) Decision on Membership fee for the next year
- (l) Decision of the Budget for the next year
- (m) Discussion on decisions for eventual changes in the Constitution
- (n) Discussion on decisions for eventual changes in the Tournament Rules
- (o) Discussion on proposals and respective decisions
- (p) Elections according to the Constitution
- (q) General Information
- (r) Closing of the General Assembly

Section 7.07 The General Assembly decisions are final and can only be changed by the vote of a following General Assembly. Amendments to the LDF Constitution or decision of Dissolution of LDF shall require three-fourths majority of the votes cast "for" or "against"; whereas changes to the International Tournament Rules, other Rules, Regulations and Matters shall be decided by simple majority of the votes cast "for" or "against".

Section 7.08 The Chairman of the General Assembly decides the number and the duration of the speeches allowed to the delegates.

Section 7.09 At least thirty (30) days before the opening of the General Assembly, each National Federation or Association shall forward to the Secretary of the LDF the names of its delegates, the proposals, candidates for the Board of Directors and the committees, and other relevant topics to be considered in the General Assembly.

Article VIII. THE PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Section 8.01 There shall be the following permanent committees:

- (a) the Rules Committee
- (b) the Athletes Committee
- (c) the Youth & Growth Committee
- (d) the Ethics Committee
- (e) the Women in Sport Committee
- (f) the Medical and Anti-Doping Committee
- (g) the Adaptive Committee
- (h) The Permanent Committees shall have one Chairmen and minimum two other members, all elected by the General Assembly.

Section 8.02 The Chairman shall submit a report for adoption at every General Assembly meeting.

Section 8.03 Member federations can only have one member on each committee. The term of office is four years.

Article IX. DOPING

Section 9.01 LDF valid Anti-doping rules must follow WADA Code.

Section 9.02 LDF Medical and Anti-Doping Commission is established to fight against doping in sport.

Article X. INSURANCE

Section 10.01 Every member (associated, co-operating) of the LDF must have sufficient insurance for all their participants.

Section 10.02 Every federation that organizes an event must secure adequate insurance.

Article XI. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Section 11.01 The official language of the LDF is English.

Section 11.02 Each National Federation is responsible for the translation of the Constitution and other documents into their native language.

Article XII. OFFICIAL SPONSORS

Section 12.01 Any official sponsors to the LDF must be in agreement with the Rules of the International Olympic Committee (I.O.C.)

Article XIII. OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Section 13.01 The Executive Board shall be responsible for the publication of all information in the LDF website.

Article XIV. EMBLEM AND FLAG

Section 14.01 The official emblem of LDF is adopted by the General Assembly, belongs to LDF, and shall be covered by United States and international copyright law.

Section 14.02 The LDF flag shall be white in color with the emblem centered.

Article XV. COURT OF ARBITRATION

Section 15.01 Disciplinary measures shall be taken by the Board of Directors at first instance and to the General Assembly as second-instance in agreement with the LDF Constitution.

Section 15.02 In sports competitions held by the LDF disciplinary measures shall be taken according to the LDF Tournament Rules.

Section 15.03 Disciplinary measures the LDF, enforce are:

- (a) warning
- (b) censure
- (c) suspension of the individual or team from the Tournament or event.
- (d) suspension from the Long Drive Federation for a period to be determined by the Executive Board.
- (e) Expulsion from the LDF.

Section 15.04 These measures shall be applied to Federations or individuals whose behavior has proven to be in violation of the LDF Constitution, the LDF Tournament Rules, or those who do not fulfill their obligations towards the LDF.

Section 15.05 Disciplinary measures shall be taken and in writing announced by the board of directors within 90 days from notice of the occurrence.

Section 15.06 Appeals must be received within 90 days from the notification. The cost is determined by the General Assembly and will cover the cost of the trial at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

Section 15.07 The protest cost to be paid in advance of trial.

Section 15.08 Court of Arbitration for sport. All appeals against measures and decisions taken according will be taken to the LDF Board of Directors as appellation chamber. Appeals against decisions taken by this chamber shall be taken to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland exclusively and dealt with in accordance with the rules of the CAS code-related arbitration.

Article XVI. RULES & GUIDES

Section 16.01 The Tournament Rules of the LDF is an annex of the LDF Constitution.

Section 16.02 The guides for Organizers published by the LDF is an annex of the LDF Constitution.

Article XVII. DISSOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION

Section 17.01 In the event of LDF being dissolved for any reason, the assets of the Federation shall be divided equally among those Member Associations at the time of such occurrence.

Section 17.02 Money due to the Federation, but not paid by any Member Association, shall be deducted from its share before any distribution is made.

Article XVIII. MATTERS NOT COVERED BY THE STATUTES

Section 18.01 All matters not specifically covered by the LDF constitution shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

Section 18.02 All matters not specifically covered by the LDF Tournament Rules, shall be decided by the Rules Committee and be subject to ratification by the Executive Board.

FOUNDERS MEMBERS

The undersigned, founding members of the Long Drive Federation declare that they have read and agree with the provisions of the LDF Constitution 2022 and therefore commit to support it and be part of its governing body to meet the proposed objectives in the constitution.

Luis Kuronya / URUGUAY

Jeff Gilder / USA

Stephen Van Zyl / SOUTH AFRICA

Luis Muñoz De Cote / MEXICO

Asmus Lembke / GERMANY

Fareen Samji / CANADA

Ken Takahashi / JAPAN

Shine Liu / CHINA

Campbell MacMillan / ZYMBABWE