

THE EUROPEAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

In force as of 22nd November 2014



CONTENTS ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

<u>Chapter</u>	Article	Page
	Contents	3
1 - OBJECTS		
5	1. Name	7
	2. Definitions	7
	3. Objects	9
	4. Preliminary	10
	5. Mission	11
	6. Role	11
	7. Powers and authority	12
	8. Respect for IOC Rules	12
2 - MEMBERS		
	9. Members: general provisions	13
	9.6 Valid Members	13
	10. Voting Membership	13
	11. Non-voting Membership	14
3 - STRUCTURI	ES	
	12. Structures	15
A - GENERAL	ASSEMBLY	
	13. General Assembly	15
	14. Functions of the General Assembly	15
	15. General Assemblies of the EOC	16
	16. Votes of Members	18
B - EXECUTIV	E COMMITTEE	
2 20000000	17. Executive Committee	19
	18. Retirement or Exclusion of members of	
	the Executive Committee	20
	19. Proceedings of the Executive Committee	21
	20. President	23
	21. Vice-President	23
	22. Secretary General	23
	23. EOC Athletes' Commission	23
	24. Minutes	24
	25. Honorary Awards	24
	26. The Seal	24
C - COMMISSI	ONS & WORKING GROUPS	

27. Commissions and Working Groups	25
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D - THE AUDIT COMMITTEE		
28. Audit Committee	26	
4 - FINANCE		
29. Treasurer	27	
30. Income and Property of the EOC	28	
31. Finances of the EOC	28	
32. Accounts	29	
33. Borrowing powers	29	
5 - DISSOLUTION		
34. Dissolution	30	
6 - MISCELLANEOUS		
35. Bye-Laws	31	
36. Notices	31	
37. Confidentiality	31	
38. Indemnity	32	
7- INTERPRETATION		
39. Interpretation	33	
8 -ARTICLES – AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONS & INTERPRETATION		
40. Articles	34	
9 - DISCIPLINE		
41. Discipline	35	
10 - THE EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL (EYOF)		
42. The European Youth Olympic Festival	36	
Cartifaction	27	
Certification	37	
Index	38	

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As adopted by the EOC General Assembly - Brussels (BEL) - 8th December, 2006

As amended on 1st December 2007 By the EOC General Assembly – Valencia (ESP) . 1st December 2007

As amended on 26th November 2010 by the EOC General Assembly – Belgrade (SRB), 26/27 November 2010

As amended on 23rd November 2011 by the EOC General Assembly – Sochi (RUS), 23/24 November 2011

As amended on 8th December 2012 by the EOC General Assembly – Rome (ITA), 7/8 December 2012

As amended on 21st November 2014 by the EOC General Assembly – Baku (AZE), 21/22 November 2014



- OBJECTS -

1. NAME

The name of the Association (hereinafter referred to as the "EOC") is "THE EUROPEAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEES".

The EOC is an international non-governmental not-for-profit organisation, of unlimited duration, in the form of an association with the status of a legal person.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

In these Articles the words standing in the first column of the table set out hereunder shall bear the meaning set opposite to them in the second column thereof, if not inconsistent with the subject or context.

Words	Meanings
ANOC	The Association of National Olympic Committees
ANOCA	The Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa
Articles	The EOC Statutes, as originally framed or as amended and in force from time to time.
Association	The European Olympic Committees
Bye-law	A Bye-law of, or made by the IOC pursuant to, the Olympic Charter
CIJM	International Committee for Mediterranean Games
EOC	The European Olympic Committees
Europe	The continent of countries embracing the National Olympic Committees in membership of the EOC
Executive Committee	The members for the time being of the Executive Committee constituted in accordance with these Articles
EYOF	The European Youth Olympic Festival
Games	The Games of the Olympiad
General Assembly	A General Assembly of the European Olympic Committees constituted in accordance with these articles

IOC	The International Olympic Committee
Member	A member of the EOC; and "Membership" shall be construed accordingly
Month	Calendar month
NOC	National Olympic Committee
Non-voting Member	A member of the EOC entitled to such rights and privileges as are hereinafter provided but not entitled to vote at meetings of the EOC
EOC Athletes' Commission	The Athletes' Commission as established under Article 23
Office	The EOC registered office
Officers	The Officers of the EOC referred to in Article 17.3
OCA	Olympic Council of Asia
ONOC	Oceania National Olympic Committees
Olympic Charter	The Olympic Charter as amended and in force from time to time (the version current at the date of adoption of these Articles being the version in force as from 1 st September 2004)
Olympic Games	The Games of the Olympiad and the Olympic Winter Games
Olympiad	A period of four successive years which follows the Games
Olympic Sport	A sport for the time being listed in the Olympic Charter as a programme sport of the Olympic Games
PASO	Pan-American Sports Organisation
President	The President for the time being of the EOC
Rule	A Rule of, or made by the IOC pursuant to, the Olympic Charter
Seal	The common seal of the EOC

Voting Member	A member of the EOC entitled to vote at meetings of the EOC
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency
Winter Games	The Olympic Winter Games
In writing	Written or reproduced in any visible substitute for writing, or partly one and partly another
Year	Calendar year, beginning on 1 st January and ending on 31 st December

3. OBJECTS

The objects for which the EOC is established are:

- 3.1 To foster the development of the Olympic movement and its ideals throughout Europe, in accordance with the Olympic Charter and in close collaboration with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and the Olympic Associations of the other continents, in promoting the development of physical and moral qualities that come from contests in the friendly spheres of sport.
- 3.2 To consistently encourage the Olympic spirit amongst the youth of Europe and to help to promote a programme of education for the public and the press of the philosophy of sportsmanship.
- 3.3 To ensure that the EOC remains a completely autonomous and independent body and resists all political, religious, racial or commercial pressures.
- 3.4 To promote co-operation between the National Olympic Committees of Europe in the areas of research and common interests.
- 3.5 To develop Olympic Solidarity Programmes of the IOC in Europe.
- 3.6 To exercise the exclusive rights and control of The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) in accordance with Article 42.
- 3.7 To receive from any person or body monies for the purposes of furthering the objects of the EOC.
- 3.8 To invest the moneys of the EOC not immediately required for its purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit.
- 3.9 To employ staff and remunerate any company, firm or person for services rendered to or on behalf of the EOC.
- 3.10 To purchase, take on lease, or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and any rights or privileges which the EOC think necessary or convenient for the attainment or advancement of any of its objects and to construct or maintain or alter any buildings or erections necessary or convenient for the work of the EOC.
- 3.11 To sell, let, mortgage, dispose of, or turn to account, all or any of the property or assets of the EOC as may be thought expedient with a view to the promotion of its objects.

- 3.12 For the purpose aforesaid to buy, acquire, hold, deal with, manage, direct the management of, sell, exchange, mortgage, charge, dispose of, grant, register or otherwise turn to account any right or interest in, over or upon any property of any kind whatsoever and in particular any intellectual property rights, copyrights, designs, trade marks, patents, licences, franchises, concessions and the like (or rights in respect thereof) conferring a right of use or any secret or other information and/or any film, video, television, internet or broadcasting rights which may seem capable of being used for any of the purposes of the EOC and to use, exercise, develop, grant licences in respect of or otherwise turn to account any rights and information so acquired, and also to undertake any kind of trade, business or activity for the purpose of promoting, advancing or protecting the interests of persons or bodies engaged in Olympic sport.
- 3.13 To borrow or raise money for the purposes of the EOC on such terms and on such security as may be thought fit.
- 3.14 To do or make any other acts and things which in the opinion of the EOC may be conducive or incidental to the objects of the EOC.
- 3.15 To observe and comply with the Charter, Rules, Regulations and Bye-laws of the International Olympic Committee.

AND IT IS HEREBY FURTHER DECLARED that the objects specified in different paragraphs of this Clause shall not, except where the context expressly so requires, be in anyway limited or restricted by reference to or inference from the terms of any other paragraph or the name of the EOC but may be carried out in as full and ample a manner and shall be construed in as wide a sense as if each of the said paragraphs defined the objects of a separate distinct and independent company.

4. **PRELIMINARY**

- 4.1 The EOC is established for the purposes expressed in these Articles.
- 4.2 The Association has its legal seat in Via della Pallacanestro, 19 00135 Rome, Italy.
- 4.3 The administrative headquarters of the Association shall be decided by the Executive Committee.
- 4.4 The Association is subject to Italian law, and specifically to Articles 14 and following of the Italian Civil Code.

It is fully responsible for the Association obligations by means of its patrimony, with the exclusion of the direct responsibility of its members, organs or employees.

4.5 The official languages of the Association are French and English. The working languages are French and English; in the case of divergence between the French and English texts of these Articles and any other EOC document the French text shall prevail unless expressly provided otherwise in writing.

At General Assemblies simultaneous interpretation must be made into Russian.

- 4.6 The EOC, being an organisation belonging to the Olympic Movement and being the body representing the National Olympic Committees for Europe, hereby undertakes to respect and apply the provisions of the Olympic Charter and to abide by the decisions of the IOC and the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code.
- 4.7 The EOC undertakes, in accordance with its mission and role at international level:
 - 4.7.1 to participate in actions to promote peace; and
 - 4.7.2 to promote women in sport.
- 4.8 The EOC also undertakes to support and encourage the promotion of sports ethics, to fight against doping and to demonstrate a responsible concern for environmental issues.

5. MISSION

The mission of the EOC is to develop and protect the Olympic Movement in Europe in accordance with the Olympic Charter.

6. ROLE

The role of the EOC is to:

- 6.1 propagate the fundamental principles of Olympism at European level within the framework of sports activity and otherwise contribute, among other things, to the diffusion of Olympism in the teaching programmes of physical education and sport in schools and university establishments; to see to the creation of institutions which devote themselves to Olympic education; and, in particular, to concern itself with the establishment and activities of the National Olympic Academies, Olympic Museums and cultural programmes related to the Olympic movement;
- 6.2 ensure the observance of the Olympic Charter in Europe;
- 6.3 encourage the development of sport;

- 6.4 help in the training of sports administrators in Europe;
- 6.5 commit itself to taking action against any form of discrimination (on grounds of race, religion, politics, sex and otherwise) and violence in sport;
- 6.6 fight against the use of substances and procedures prohibited by the WADA Prohibited List or the International Federations, in particular by approaching the appropriate authorities in Europe so that all medical controls may be performed in optimum conditions;
- 6.7 work to maintain harmonious and co-operative relations with appropriate governmental bodies, while preserving the EOC autonomy and resisting all pressures of any kind, including those of a political, religious or economic nature, that may prevent it from complying with the Olympic Charter.

7. POWERS AND AUTHORITY

- 7.1 The flag and the emblem adopted by the EOC consist of the five Olympic Rings, which represent the union of the five continents, the acronym and the full name of our Association.
- 7.2 The flag, the emblem and the anthem adopted by the EOC must be approved by the IOC Executive Board.
- 7.3 The EOC has the sole authority to designate the city which may apply to organise the European Youth Olympic Festivals.

8. **RESPECT FOR IOC RULES**

The EOC shall at all times act in accordance with the Charter, Rules and Bye-laws of the IOC (as same may be amended from time to time), the provisions of which, insofar as they concern the constitution, duties and obligations of Associations of National Olympic Committees, shall be deemed to be incorporated into these Articles.

- MEMBERS -

9. MEMBERS: GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 9.1 Only a National Olympic Committee in Europe recognised by the International Olympic Committee shall be admitted to membership of the European Olympic Committees.
- 9.2 The decision of the Executive Committee as to whether or not any application for admission to Membership shall be admitted shall be final and conclusive, and the Executive Committee shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to refuse to admit to Membership any applicant (but it shall give its reason for such refusal), provided that any such decision is taken by the EOC in conformity with the objectives of the Olympic Movement as set out in the Olympic Charter and in accordance with any obligations which the EOC may have under the Olympic Charter.
- 9.3 A register shall be kept by the EOC containing the names and addresses of all the Members.
- 9.4 Admission of any other member is subject to agreement by a General Assembly having received and guidance of the Executive Committee. Such admission requires a two-thirds majority of the members attending and voting at such General Assembly.
- 9.5 Member National Olympic Committees must support the aims pursued by the EOC whilst benefiting from all the rights given to them by these Articles.
- 9.6 Member National Olympic Committees are liable for annual fees set by the General Assembly for each four-year period. Only member National Olympic Committees having paid the appropriate annual fee shall be considered as valid Members.
- 9.7 The EOC has representatives in the ANOC Executive Council as set out in the ANOC Constitution One of the representatives must be a woman to be appointed by the ANOC President in consultation with the President of EOC

10. VOTING MEMBERSHIP

- 10.1 A member, honorary member or honour member of the IOC expelled from the IOC may not be an officer, a member of the Executive Committee or a delegate of a National Olympic Committee to the European Olympic Committees.
- 10.2 Voting Membership shall comprise:
 - 10.2.1 Representatives of the National Olympic Committees accepted into Membership in accordance with these Articles and which are in good standing in respect of such Membership.
 - 10.2.2 To be recognised by the EOC and accepted as a Member, a National Olympic Committee must be recognised by the IOC and conduct its activities in compliance with the Olympic Charter.

11. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP

- 11.1 The non-voting Membership may include:
 - 11.1.1 The Honorary Life President
 - 11.1.2 The Honorary Vice-President
 - 11.1.3 Other members elected in accordance with this Article.
- 11.2 The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee may elect any person to be an Honorary Member either for life or for such other period as the Executive Committee may, at its discretion, think fit. In addition the Executive Committee may create different categories of Honorary Membership.
- 11.3 Every Honorary Member shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend and speak at every assembly of the EOC but shall not be entitled to vote at any such meeting.

- STRUCTURES -

12. STRUCTURES

The official organs of the Association are:

A) the General Assembly

B) the Executive Committee

C) the Commissions and the Working Groups

D) the Audit Committee

A

- THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY -

13. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly is the supreme authority of "The European Olympic Committees". It is composed of the officers, members of the Executive Committee elected in accordance with these articles, and the delegates nominated by the valid Members.

14. FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

14.1 The functions of the General Assembly are:

- 14.1.1 at each annual General Assembly, to approve the annual reports for the preceding year;
- 14.1.2 at each annual General Assembly, to approve the annual financial statements of the preceding year after having taken into consideration the report of the External Auditors;
- 14.1.3 at each annual General Assembly, to approve the budget for the following year;
- 14.1.4 at each annual General Assembly, to appoint the External Auditors (who shall be members of an internationally recognised auditing body) for the following year and to fix their remuneration;
- 14. 1.5 at the General Assembly held in the year following the conclusion of the Games of the Olympiad, as provided for in Article 15.2, to elect the Executive Committee for a period of four years.

14.1.6 to agree upon the number and composition of the Commissions on proposal of the Executive Committee;

14.1.7 to elect the delegates to the positions of the Executive Council of ANOC and, if the case arises, to the different international organisations;

- 14.1.8 to adopt activity programmes;
- 14.1.9 to make modifications if necessary to the statutes;
- 14.1.10 to take a stand upon all questions or proposals submitted by the member NOCs or by the Executive Committee.

15. GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE EOC

- 15.1 An annual General Assembly shall be held once in every year, at such day, time and place as may be determined by the General Assembly.
- 15.2 In the year following the conclusion of a Games of the Olympiad a General Assembly of the EOC will be held to receive reports from the President, Secretary General and the Treasurer and to elect Officers and an Executive Committee for the next four years, in accordance with the provisions set out in these Articles. If circumstances prevent the holding of an Olympic Games the existing Officers and the Executive Committee will remain in office until the EOC elects successors in accordance with the provisions of these Articles. An outgoing Executive Committee constituted in accordance with the provisions of Article 17, shall remain in office until the end of the meeting referred to in this Article.

Copies of the minutes at which elections or replacements of Members have taken place shall be sent to the IOC. All documents must be certified as true copies by the President and the Secretary General.

- 15.3 All general assemblies of the EOC shall be either annual general assemblies or extraordinary general assemblies. The Executive Committee may convene a General Assembly at any time. In addition an extraordinary General Assembly of the EOC will be convened by the Secretary General, on the written requisition, with cause stated, of not less than one fifth of the affiliated National Olympic Committees. Such assembly shall be held within 60 days of the written requisition.
- 15.4 An annual General Assembly and an assembly called to pass a special resolution shall be called by ninety days' notice in writing at the least, and an assembly of the EOC (other than an annual General Assembly or an assembly called to pass a special resolution) shall be called by sixty days' notice in writing at the least, exclusive of the day on which the notice is served or deemed to be served and of the day for which it is given.

- 15.5 The Agenda and relevant documentation shall be sent to the members at least thirty days before the date of the General Assembly.
- 15.6 The accidental omission to give notice to or the non-receipt of notice by any Member entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at any General Assembly of the EOC.
- 15.7 Every notice calling a General Assembly shall specify the place and the day and hour of the meeting. The notice shall specify the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and, if any resolution is to be proposed as a special resolution, the notice shall contain a statement to that effect.
- 15.8 Three delegates from each National Olympic Committee Member are entitled to attend any General Assembly of the EOC. Each National Olympic Committee must notify the Secretary General in writing of the names of its delegates to the assembly and the seniority of those delegates. Such notification shall be received by the Secretary General not less than thirty days before the meeting is due to take place.

If the notification from the National Olympic Committee Member does not specify the seniority of the delegates, the seniority shall be determined by the order in which the delegates' names appear on the notification, the first-named being the most senior.

15.9 The following business shall be deemed special:

all that is transacted at an extraordinary General Assembly; and all that is transacted at an annual General Assembly with the exception of the consideration of the accounts, balance sheet and the reports of the President, Secretary General, the Treasurer, the Executive Committee and the External Auditors, the election of members of the Executive Committee in place of those retiring, the election of the retiring External Auditors and the fixing of the remuneration of the Auditors.

- 15.10 No business shall be transacted at any General Assembly unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as hereinafter provided a quorum shall be the representatives of not less than one half of the National Olympic Committees plus one, which have complied with Article 10.2.1 and 10.2.2.
- 15.11 The President for the time being of the EOC shall preside as Chairman at any General Assembly, but if the President is not present then the Vice-President may preside on the President's behalf. If neither the President nor the Vice-President are present then the members of the Executive Committee present shall choose one of their number to preside as Chairman at the meeting. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall be chosen by lot.
- 15.12 At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded by (a) the Chairman or (b) not less than twelve Members present and entitled to vote.
- 15.13 A declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has been carried, whether unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the minute book, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of votes recorded for or against such resolution.
- 15.14 If any votes shall be counted which ought not to have been counted, or might have been rejected, the error shall not vitiate the resolution unless it be pointed out at the same meeting, or at an

adjournment thereof, and not in that case unless it shall in the opinion of the Chairman be of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the resolution.

- 15.15 If a poll is duly demanded (and the demand is not withdrawn) it shall be taken in such manner as the Chairman may direct, and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded. The Chairman may appoint scrutineers and may adjourn the meeting to some place and time fixed by him for the purpose of declaring the result of the poll.
- 15.16 In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- 15.17 The minutes of all general assemblies other than an annual General Assembly shall be distributed by the Secretary General to all Members within six months of each such meeting.

16. VOTES OF MEMBERS

16.1 Only the most senior of the delegates present from each National Olympic Committee Member shall have the right to vote at meetings of the EOC, in accordance with the provisions of Article 15.

* * *

18

B

- THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

17. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 17.1 The affairs of the EOC shall be managed by an Executive Committee to be constituted as hereinafter provided.
- 17.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of:
 - 17.2.1 the Officers referred to in these Articles,
 - 17.2.2 twelve other members who are duly nominated for such membership and elected by the EOC in accordance with the provisions of these Articles,
 - 17.2.3 the Secretary General of ANOC (If representing a European NOC) (Ex Officio), and
 - 17.2.4 the Chairman of the EOC Athletes' Commission (Ex Officio).
- 17.3 The Officers of the EOC to be elected are:
 - 17.3.1 the President;
 - 17.3.2 the Vice-President;
 - 17.3.3 the Secretary General; and
 - 17.3.4 the Treasurer
- 17.4 Nominations for Officers and members of the Executive Committee must be submitted in writing to the Secretary General at least sixty days before the meeting referred to in Article 15.2. Nominations can be made only by a National Olympic Committee which is affiliated to the EOC. A National Olympic Committee may only nominate a citizen of its own country. The Secretary General shall, at least ninety days before the meeting referred to in Article 15.2, write to each National Olympic Committee inviting nominations for Officers and members of the Executive Committee.
- 17.5 Voting for election to any office under these Articles shall be by secret ballot.
- 17.6 Should the President cease for any reason to hold office during an Olympiad the Vice-President shall assume the office of President for the remainder of that four-year period.

- 17.7 Should any Officer other than the President cease for any reason to hold office during an Olympiad the Executive Committee shall appoint another Officer in his place who need not be a member of the Executive Committee. Any person thus appointed shall hold office for the remainder of the Olympiad unless the EOC shall in the meantime resolve in general meeting to remove him, in which case the EOC shall thereupon in general meeting elect another person to hold such office for the remainder of the four-year period.
- 17.8 Any change in the Officers of the EOC shall be notified in writing by the Secretary General to the IOC.
- 17.9 The President, during his term of office shall serve as a Vice-President of ANOC. The Vice President and the Secretary General, during their terms of office shall serve as members of the Executive Committee of ANOC representing the EOC.
- 17.10 The General Assembly shall elect delegates of the EOC to the Executive Council of ANOC.
- 17.11 If only one person stands nominated for any of the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary General or Treasurer such election or elections may be held by a show of hands provided the General Assembly so decides unanimously.
- 17.12 The President, Vice-President, Secretary General or Treasurer shall be elected on the first count if they obtain an absolute majority of the votes cast. If an absolute majority is not obtained a second or subsequent count/s is undertaken eliminating each time the candidate obtaining the lowest votes.
- 17.13 The twelve members of the Executive Committee are elected in one count by relative majority. To be valid, each voting paper must include twelve names. If the 13th candidate/s obtain an equal number of votes as the 12th candidate a second or subsequent count shall be undertaken to fill the vacancies concerned.
- 17.14 The Executive Committee may invite Observers or Guests without voting rights to attend a General Assembly or other meeting of the EOC.
- 17.15 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year.

18. RETIREMENT OR EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Retirement

Membership of the Executive Committee shall be vacated ipso facto if the member:

- 18.1 resigns by writing under his hand left at the Office;
- 18.2 becomes an employee of the EOC, a paid consultant or adviser to the EOC or provides for profit any other services to the EOC;

Exclusion

A member or The Executive Committee shall be excluded if he:

- 18.3 is adjudged bankrupt in Europe or in any territory outside Europe or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
- 18.4 becomes of unsound mind, duly documented by medical certification or by a decision of a competent court in the country in which the member has his legal domicile;
- 18.5 is convicted of an indictable offence unless the Executive Committee otherwise determine;
- 18.6 is directly or indirectly interested in any contract with the EOC and fails to declare the nature of his interest.

19. PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 19.1 The Executive Committee may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. The President of the EOC will preside over and conduct the business of meetings of the Executive Committee. In his absence the Vice-President will act as chairman. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President some Member appointed from among those present, will act as chairman ("the Chairman") with the same powers as the President.
- 19.2 The Vice-President will perform such duties as are assigned by the President or are laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- 19.3 Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman, as the case may be, shall have a second or casting vote.
- 19.4 The Secretary General shall give at least thirty days notice of any meeting of the Executive Committee. The Notice shall specify the place, day and the hour of the meeting and enclosing the Agenda and, where necessary, any documentation required.
- 19.5 The Secretary General on the requisition of 8 Members of the Executive Committee shall at any time summon a meeting of the Executive Committee. At least twenty-one days notice (inclusive of the day on which the notice is given) specifying the place, the day and the hour of meeting and enclosing the agenda shall be given of every meeting so requisitioned of the Executive Committee.
- 19.6 No business not mentioned in the agenda for any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be transacted at any meeting of the Executive Committee unless in the opinion of the President or Chairman, as the case may be, of the meeting supported by a majority of the other members of the Executive Committee present at the meeting such business arises directly out of an item included in the agenda or out of the minutes of the last preceding meeting or as a matter of urgency.
- 19.7 The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Executive Committee may be fixed by the Executive Committee and unless so fixed shall be 8. A meeting of the Executive Committee for the time being at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all powers and discretions for the time being exercisable by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may act notwithstanding any vacancies in its body but if at any time their number shall be less than the quorum fixed by or in accordance with these Articles they may act only for the purpose of filling up vacancies in the members of the Executive Committee or summoning a general meeting.

- 19.8 A resolution in writing signed by a majority of the members of the Executive Committee for the time being shall be as effective as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee duly convened and held, and may consist of several documents in the like form, each signed by one or more of the members of the Executive Committee. The EOC shall be entitled to act on a signature transmitted by facsimile or e-mail or other form of electronic communication provided that the Secretary General is satisfied as to the authenticity of the signature. Where it is proposed to have a resolution passed in accordance with this article the Secretary General shall transmit a copy of the resolution proposed to be signed to each member of the Executive Committee at such address (physical or e-mail) or facsimile number as that member shall have notified to the Secretary General. If the member has not notified any such address or number it shall be sufficient for the Secretary General to transmit a copy of the proposed resolution to the address or number of that member last known to the Secretary General.
- 19.9 All acts done by any meeting of the Executive Committee, or by any person acting as a member of the Executive Committee, shall as regards all persons dealing in good faith with the EOC, notwithstanding that there was some defect in the appointment of any member of the Executive Committee or person acting as such or that any such member or person was disqualified or had vacated office or was not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a member of the Executive Committee and had been entitled to vote.
- 19.10 Any member of the Executive Committee absent from two consecutive meetings is considered as having resigned, except in the case of "force majeure" duly justified. Any such decision is made by the Executive Committee. In the case of death, resignation or exclusion of a member the Executive Committee may co-opt a replacement to serve for the remainder of the four-year period.
- 19.11 The Executive Committee is responsible for the execution of decisions taken by the General Assembly and the administration of the EOC.

20. THE PRESIDENT

Among his duties the President shall:

- 20.1 represent the EOC in dealings with all International bodies including, but not limited to, the IOC, Associations of National Olympic Committees, International Federations, International Governmental Organisations, etc;
- 20.2 sign, as necessary, any accounting documents and financial reports;
- 20.3 sign, as necessary, any contract on behalf of the EOC, with the agreement of the Executive Committee.

If the President is unable to perform any of his duties the Vice-President shall perform them in his stead.

21. THE VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall:

- 21.1 assist the President in the performance of his duties;
- 21.2 in the absence of the President, assume the role of the Chairman at General Assemblies or meetings of the Executive Committee.

22. THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- 22.1 The Secretary General among his responsibilities is in charge of the Secretariat of the EOC and supervises its day-to-day activities to further the aims of the Association.
- 22.2 He establishes the agenda of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee according to the instructions of the President.
- 22.3 He verifies the draft minutes of the General Assemblies and of the Executive Committee and submits them for approval to the President.
- 22.4 He supervises the accreditation of delegates to the General Assembly and other meetings.
- 22.5 He supervises correspondence with the members of the EOC.
- 22.6 He represents, together with the President, the EOC vis-à-vis international organisations.
- 22.7 He signs any documents concerning the day-to-day administration of the EOC on behalf of the Executive Committee.

23. THE EOC ATHLETES' COMMISSION

An EOC Athletes' Commission shall be constituted and a chairperson elected, in accordance with regulations adopted by the EOC Executive Committee on 5 May 2005 in Tirana, Albania. All regulations and procedures of the EOC Athletes' Commission shall be adopted by the EOC Executive Committee after consulting with the EOC Athletes' Commission.

24. MINUTES

The Executive Committee shall cause minutes to be made in books provided for the purpose:

- 24.1 of all appointments of officers made by the Executive Committee;
- 24.2 of the names of the members of the Executive Committee and any committee or working group thereof; and
- 24.3 of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the EOC and of the Executive Committee and of any committee or working group thereof.

25. HONORARY AWARDS

The Executive Committee has the exclusive authority to make honorary awards to individuals or organisations who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, have reinforced the effectiveness of the EOC or have rendered distinguished services to the cause of Sport and Olympism.

26. THE SEAL

The EOC shall have a common seal with its name engraved thereon in legible characters and the Executive Committee shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal and the Seal shall never be used except by the authority of the Executive Committee. Every instrument to which the Seal shall be affixed shall be signed by the Secretary General, or by some other person appointed by the Executive Committee for the purpose, and by one other member of the Executive Committee.

С

- COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS -

27. COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

- 27.1 The Executive Committee may delegate any of their powers to commissions, or working groups, whether consisting of a member or members of their body, as they think fit. Any commission or working group so formed shall in the exercise of powers of delegation conform to any regulations that may be imposed on them by the Executive Committee.
- 27.2 The Executive Committee may, following the agreement of a General Assembly, appoint commissions, or working groups to deal with particular aspects of the Olympic movement, or matters connected with the Olympic Games, and may lay down the standing, responsibility and purpose of such commissions or working groups.
- 27.3 The chairman of each commission or working group shall be one of the EOC Officers or a member of the Executive Committee. The Chairman shall co-ordinate the proper running of activities and write reports on those activities to the Executive Committee.

D

- THE AUDIT COMMITTEE -

28. The audit committee

- 28.1 At the end of office of an outgoing Audit Committee, an Audit Committee consisting of three members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall serve for a period of four years. One of the three members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee as Chairman of the Audit Committee.
- 28.2 The duties of the Audit Committee are:
 - 28.2.1 to liaise with the Treasurer and the External Auditors on all audit matters;
 - 28.2.2 to preview the annual reports and annual accounts with the Treasurer and the External Auditors to satisfy itself that the information contained therein has been fairly and accurately stated and submit an advisory report to the Executive Committee discussing accounting policies proposed for the financial statements;
 - 28.2.3 to give the Executive Committee assurances as the Executive Committee may reasonably require, regarding the reliability of financial information submitted to it and of financial statements issued by the Treasurer;
 - 28.2.4 to review the External Auditors' management letter and the Treasurer's response thereto;
 - 28.2.5 to evaluate the independence and objectivity of the External Auditors;
 - 28.2.6 to review performance in relation to budgetary matters;
 - 28.2.7 to carry out such other financial duties as the Executive Committee shall determine.
- 28.3 The Audit Committee shall be accountable to the Executive Committee and shall meet with such frequency as it may consider appropriate, but in any event not less than twice a year.

The Audit Committee may invite any member of the Executive Committee, the External Auditors, or any other person to attend any of its meetings if it shall consider that their presence would assist in the performance of the Audit Committee's duties.

28.4 FINANCIAL YEAR END

The financial year end of the EOC shall be 31 December in each year, unless otherwise changed by the General Assembly.

- FINANCE -

29. TREASURER

The Treasurer, who is elected by the General Assembly, shall serve for a period of four years. He is responsible for the Treasury of the EOC and for the protection of its financial assets. The Treasurer must be consulted on all financial matters and shall assist at all financial negotiations.

His duties are:

- 29.1 to supervise the day to day operations of the Treasury, in particular the lodgement of funds and the disbursement of monies, subject to limits laid down by the Executive Committee;
- 29.2 to supervise the bookkeeping operations of the EOC, so as to ensure that proper books of account are kept;
- 29.3 to ensure that an adequate system of Internal Control is in operation, to prevent fraud and to detect errors;
- 29.4 to ensure that all taxes, properly due, are paid promptly to the relevant authorities;
- 29.5 to present at each meeting of the Executive Committee an up-to-date report of the financial situation of the EOC;
- 29.6 to supervise the production, in a timely manner, of year end financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the EOC and of its annual results;
- 29.7 to liaise with the Audit Committee and the External Auditors in the carrying out of their duties;
- 29.8 to supervise the preparation of an annual Budget for presentation to the Executive Committee for its approval and to ensure that the EOC finances are maintained within budget. Any expenses not included in the budget require prior authorisation by the President and the Executive Committee;
- 29.9 to carry out such other financial duties as the Executive Committee shall determine;
- 29.10 to represent the EOC before third parties on financial matters, as directed by the President or the Executive Committee;

- 29.11 to make a report to the General Assembly each year on the EOC's financial activities;
- 29.12 To pay accounts or other monies due by the EOC, by cheques or by electronic means, which shall be signed by the Treasurer and by, either the President or the Secretary General.

30. INCOME AND PROPERTY OF THE EOC

The income and property of the EOC whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the EOC as set forth in these Articles of Association and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the EOC PROVIDED that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the EOC or to any member of the EOC in return for any services actually rendered to the EOC nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any member to the EOC but that no member of the Executive Committee of the EOC shall be appointed to any salaried office of the EOC or any office of the EOC paid by fees and that no remuneration or other benefit in money or moneys worth shall be given by the EOC to any member of such Executive Committee except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses and interest at the rate aforesaid on money lent or reasonable and proper rent from the premises demised or let to the EOC. PROVIDED that the provision last aforesaid shall not apply to any payment to any company of which a member of the Executive Committee may be a member and in which such member shall not hold more than one-hundredth part of the capital and such member shall not be bound to account for any share of profits he may receive in respect of any such payment.

31. FINANCES OF THE EOC

The finances of the EOC shall be derived from, among others:

- 31.1 Membership subscriptions;
- 31.2 subsidies from the IOC, Olympic Solidarity, public bodies, or other organisations;
- 31.3 gifts and bequests;
- 31.4 proceeds from events like Olympic Day, from stamp issues, the sale of EOC emblems approved by the IOC for use on a commercial basis, publications and sale of printed material, the granting of licences to third parties for the use of the EOC emblems and mascots;
- 31.5 fees for services rendered;
- 31.6 any other source which the EOC or its Executive Committee shall approve and sponsorship;
- 31.7 No financial assistance from any of the various public and private bodies referred to herein may interfere with the independence of the EOC which, is to remain a completely autonomous and independent body, resisting all political, religious or commercial pressures;
- 31.8 The General Assembly approves each year a budget and the annual accounts (balance sheet and financial accounts) for the financial year. The financial year begins on 1st January and ends on 31st December, in each year unless otherwise changed by the General Assembly.

32. ACCOUNTS

- 32.1 The Executive Committee shall cause proper books of account to be kept relating to:
 - 32.1.1 all sums of money received and expended by the EOC and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure takes place;
 - 32.1.2 all sales and purchases of goods by the EOC;
 - 32.1.3 the assets and liabilities of the EOC.

Proper books shall not be deemed to be kept if there are not kept such books of account as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of the EOC's affairs and to explain its transactions.

- 32.2 The books of account shall be kept at the Office or at such other place as the Executive Committee think fit, and shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the Executive Committee.
- 32.3 The Executive Committee shall from time to time determine whether and to what extent and at what times and places and under what conditions or regulations the accounts and books of the EOC or any of them shall be open to the inspection of Members not being members of the Executive Committee, and no Member (not being a member of the Executive Committee) shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the EOC except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Executive Committee or by the EOC in general meeting.
- 32.4 The Executive Committee shall from time to time, cause to be prepared and to be laid before the annual General Assembly of the EOC such income and expenditure accounts, balance sheets, group accounts (if any) and reports as are required to be prepared and laid before the annual General Assembly of the EOC.
- 32.5 A copy of every balance sheet (including every document required by law to be annexed thereto) which is to be laid before the annual General Assembly of the EOC, together with a copy of the Executive Committee's report shall, not less than thirty days before the date of the annual General Assembly, be sent to the External Auditors and to every person entitled under the provisions of these Articles to receive them.

33. BORROWING POWERS

The Executive Committee may exercise all the powers of the EOC to borrow money and to mortgage and charge its undertaking and property or any part thereof, whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the EOC.

- DISSOLUTION -

34. **DISSOLUTION**

34.1 The dissolution of the EOC may only be effected by a General Assembly comprising three quarters of the valid NOCs and requires a secret ballot with a majority of 3/4 of the votes cast.

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the EOC there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the EOC but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the EOC, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the EOC under or by virtue of Article 30, such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the EOC at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some charitable object.

- MISCELLANEOUS -

35. BYE-LAWS

Subject to these Articles, the Executive Committee shall have power to make regulations or bye-laws on all matters not provided for in these Articles and to do all such things which it may deem necessary for attaining the objects of the EOC, provided that all actions taken or regulations or bye-laws made under this Article shall be reported to the next succeeding annual General Assembly of the EOC and provided further that no bye-laws shall be made under this power which would amount to such an addition to or alteration of these Articles as could only legally be made by a special resolution passed in accordance with these Articles.

36. NOTICES

- 36.1 A notice may be given by the EOC to any Member either personally or by sending it by post or email or any other equivalent means to him to his registered address. Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected in the case of a notice of a meeting at the expiration of twenty four hours after the letter containing the same is posted and in any other case at the time at which the letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post. Notice of every General Assembly shall be given in any manner hereinbefore authorised to:
 - 36.1.1 every Member;
 - 36.1.2 every person being a personal representative of a Member where a Member where such personal representative but for his death would be entitled to receive notice of the meeting; and
 - 36.1.3 the Audit Committee and the External Auditors for the time being of the EOC.

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of general meetings.

37. CONFIDENTIALITY

Without prejudice to its rights or duties at law, each Member shall treat all information relating to any other Member, the EOC or the Executive Committee as strictly confidential and shall not communicate such information or any part thereof to any other person authority or organisation whatsoever.

38. INDEMNITY

No Executive Committee member or other officer of the EOC shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other Executive Committee member or officer, or for joining in any receipt or other act for conformity, or for any loss or expense happening to the EOC through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired by order of the Executive Committee for or on behalf of the EOC or for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the moneys of the EOC shall be invested, or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortuous act of any person with whom any moneys, securities or effects shall be deposited, or for any loss occasioned by any error of judgment or oversight on his part, or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto, unless the same happens through his own dishonesty.

- INTERPRETATION -

39. INTERPRETATION

In these Articles, unless the context requires another interpretation: words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa; words importing the masculine gender only or neuter shall include the feminine gender; words importing persons shall include corporations.

ARTICLES – AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

40. ARTICLES

- 40.1 These Articles shall be, at all times, in accordance with the Olympic Charter. If there is any doubt as to the implication or interpretation of these Articles or if there is a contradiction between these Articles and the Olympic Charter the latter shall take precedence.
- 40.2 Subject to compliance with these Articles, any amendment of or addition to these Articles may be proposed by The Executive Committee or by any National Olympic Committee which is a Voting Member through its Secretary General. Such proposed amendment or addition must be notified, in writing, to the Secretary General at least sixty days before a General Assembly of the EOC which will consider it. The Secretary General shall give notice of such proposed amendment or addition to each Officer of the EOC, each member of the Executive Committee and to the Secretary General or equivalent officer of each National Olympic Committee which is a Member not later than thirty days prior to the meeting of the EOC which will consider same. A two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the meeting of the EOC considering any amendment or addition shall be necessary to carry same.
- 40.3 Any amendment of or addition to these Articles, proposed to be made shall be notified by the Secretary General to the International Olympic Committee with a request for approval.
- 40.4 Subject to the provisions of Article 35, the sole authority for the interpretation of these Articles and any regulations or bye-laws made thereunder from time to time shall be vested in the Executive Committee.
- 40.5 They replace the foregoing Statutes and all modifications before the above date.

- DISCIPLINE -

41. DISCIPLINE

- 41.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint not less than two of its members to sit on the Executive Committee Disciplinary Subcommittee.
- 41.2 The Disciplinary Sub-committee shall be empowered to hear any complaint against any officer or Member whether made by another officer, Member, or a member of the public. Upon receiving a written request from the Disciplinary Sub-committee, the officer or Member concerned against whom a complaint has been made shall provide such further information or documentation within such a period as may be reasonably required. The Disciplinary Sub-committee will give the said officer or Member a reasonable opportunity to make representations (in writing, in person or through the use of any duly appointed counsel or representative) in connection with the said complaint before making any final decision thereon.
- 41.3 The Disciplinary Subcommittee shall, in relation to an officer or Member against whom a complaint as aforesaid shall have been made, have the following disciplinary powers:
 - 41.3.1 reprimand;
 - 41.3.2 fine;
 - 41.3.3 suspension for whatever period of time the Disciplinary Sub-committee shall decide; and
 - 41.3.4 termination of Membership.
- 41.4 Any officer or Member against whom the disciplinary action referred to in this Article shall have been taken shall have a right of appeal to an extraordinary General Assembly of the EOC called for that purpose.
- 41.5 Notice of such appeal must be served in writing to the Secretary General not more than 14 days after the date upon which any decision of a disciplinary Sub-committee shall have been communicated to the said officer or Member concerned. Any decision of the disciplinary Subcommittee or (on appeal) of the EOC taken at the aforesaid extraordinary general meeting shall be by not less than a two thirds majority.
- 41.6 Any decision made by the extraordinary General Assembly referred to in Article 41.4 may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports-Related Arbitration. The decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne shall be final and binding on the parties. The time limit for appeal is twenty one-days after the receipt by the appellant of the decision to be appealed.

THE EUROPEAN GAMES

42 THE EUROPEAN GAMES

- 42.1. The European Games shall be celebrated every four (4) years, during the year preceding the Summer Olympic Games, unless otherwise determined by the General Assembly of the EOC. They shall be organized in compliance with the EOC Articles of Association, the Olympic Charter and WADA regulations.
- 42.2. The European Games are the exclusive property of the EOC, which owns all rights and data relating thereto. The EOC Executive Committee shall have the exclusive right to transfer, sell and/or cede totally or partially any of the EOC's Marketing and TV rights regarding for the European Games.
- 42.3. The European Games are regulated by the EOC Articles of Association as well as any regulations as approved by the EOC Executive Committee and the General Assembly in coordination with the European Sport Federations and /or the International Federations.
- 42.4 The NOC member of the country where the city that has been granted the right to organize the Games has to ensure that said Host City complies with the obligations laid down by the EOC Articles of Association and EOC regulations, as well as those deriving from the Host City Contract.
- 42.5. The Hosting National Olympic Committee shall appoint in consultation with the EOC Executive Committee an Organizing Committee which will take the responsibility for the organization of the Games.
- 42.6 The authority of last resort concerning the European Games rests with the EOC Executive Committee.

- THE EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL -

43 THE EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

43.1 Ownership Rights

The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) belongs to the European Olympic Committees (EOC), and is organised on behalf of the EOC, which has the exclusive rights to the event.

43.2 Patronage by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)

The EYOF are held under the patronage of the IOC.

43.3 Frequency of the EYOF

The EYOF winter and summer events shall be organised on a bi-annual basis, and take place during odd years.

- **43.4** The EYOF is regulated by the EOC Articles of Association as well as the regulations of the EYOF Charter as approved by the EOC. These govern, among other aspects, all that which concerns the duration, the candidature procedure, *the sports on the program, the ceremonies* and the election of the Host City together with the General Organisation of the EYOF.
- **43.5** The authority of last resort concerning the EYOF rests with the EOC Executive Committee.

CHAPTER 12

- DISPUTE RESOLUTION-

Art. 44 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute relating to the EOC Articles of Association, to resolutions of the GA, the EOC Executive Committee or the EGA relating to the European Games and EYOF shall in the first instance be submitted to the EOC Executive Committee for an amicable resolution in good faith.

If, within a period of 4 months after the receipt of a claim, the EOC Executive Committee is unable to agree on a solution that satisfies the parties, the Parties may submit the dispute to the CAS in Lausanne.

CERTIFICATION

Certified as a true copy of the Articles of The European Olympic Committees as adopted by Special Resolution at the General Assembly held in Brussels, Belgium, on 8th December 2006 and subsequently modified by the General Assembly.

Signed: President

Signed: Secretary General

21st November 2014

INDEX TO ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Article	Number	<u>Page</u>
Accounts	32	29
Articles	40	34
Audit Committee	28	26
Borrowing Powers	33	29
Bye-laws	35	31
Certification		37
Commissions and Working Groups	27	25
Confidentiality	37	31
Contents		3
Definitions	2	7
Discipline	41	35
Dissolution	34	30
EOC Athletes' Commission	23	23
Executive Committee	17	19
Finances of the EOC	31	28
Functions of the General Assembly	14	15
General Assemblies of the EOC	15	16
General Assembly	13	15
Honorary Awards	25	24
Income and Property of the EOC	30	28
Indemnity	38	32
Index		38
Interpretation	39	33
Members: general provisions	9	13
Minutes	24	24
Mission	5	11
Name	1	7
Non-voting Membership	11	14
Notices	36	31
Objects	3	9
Powers and authority	7	12
Preliminary	4	10
President	20	23
Proceedings of the Executive Committee	19	21
Respect for the IOC Rules	8	12
Retirement or exclusion of Members of the Executive Comr	nittee 18	20
Role	6	11
Secretary General	22	23
Structures	12	15
The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF)	42	36
The Seal	26	24
Treasurer	29	27
Valid Members	9.6	13
Vice-President	21	23
Voting Membership	10	13
Votes of Members	16	18