

OPERATIONAL REGULATIONS

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PART 1:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Overview

The International Powerchair Hockey (IPCH) was established in 2002 as IWAS Committee for Electric Wheelchair Hockey (ICEWH).

The Committee became a sport section of IWAS in 2005.

In 2014 the name was changed into IWAS Powerchair Hockey (IPCH) and following the merge between IWAS and CPISRA into World Abilitysport the name has evolved into IPCH.

The official language of the IPCH is English.

2. Name and Authority

- a) IPCH is the international technical committee for the sport of powerchair hockey for persons with an impairment as that term is used in the International Paralympic Committees (IPC) International Standard for Eligible Impairments.
- b) The IPCH committee is governed by the World Abilitysport Federation and the Constitution of World Abilitysport Federations (World Abilitysport).
- c) IPCH is the competent authority for the rules and regulations of the sport as endorsed by the IPCH Sport Congress.
- d) The IPCH Operational Regulations refer to the rules and guidelines that govern the operations and management of the IPCH. These regulations typically define how the organisation conducts its activities, how decisions are made, and the responsibilities of its members, officers, and other stakeholders.
- e) In case of any question or matters arising, which is not provided for in the present Operational Regulations, such questions or matters shall be dealt with by the IPCH Sport Executive Committee (SEC) in compliance with World Abilitysport Regulations and IPCH Operational Regulations.
- f) World Abilitysport's internal regulations govern the conduct of the IPCH SEC and Sport Congresses, unless otherwise defined in these Operational Regulations, IPCH undertakes to ensure compliance on all occasions.
- g) IPCH has the right to recommend sanctions of athletes, coaches, technicians, supporters, officials, staff and spectators or World Abilitysport member nations to the World Abilitysport Governing Board if they violate the Operational Regulations or any other rules, regulations or policies of IPCH or World Abilitysport.
- h) IPCH, on its own discretion, has the right to assert jurisdiction over violations of the Competition Regulations by athletes, coaches, technicians, supporters, officials, staff and spectators during IPCH competitions, if the IPCH Technical Delegate (TD) and/or the Officials were unable to enforce sanctions for the aforementioned violation.

3. Neutrality

IPCH shall maintain absolute political and religious neutrality and shall not tolerate any form of discrimination.

4. Aims and Objectives

- a) Promote, supervise, develop, and support the sport of powerchair hockey worldwide.
- b) Serve as the official body, under the auspices of World Abilitysport, for the scheduling, award and conduct of all international competitions and events in the PCH sport.
- c) Encourage the growth and development of the sport worldwide through an organised programme of education and the dissemination of technical and associated information to World Abilitysport members.
- d) Develop the international calendar of official powerchair hockey competitions and events
- e) Establish friendly and loyal cooperation between all members of World Abilitysport for the benefit of powerchair hockey between nations throughout the world.
- f) Foster the conditions for collaboration with relevant International Sports Federations promoting the PCH sport worldwide, whilst safeguarding and preserving the identity of PCH.
- g) Collaborate with the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) through World Abilitysport in respect to the sports' participation in the Paralympic Games programme.
- h) Establish the official powerchair hockey rules and regulations and the specifications for equipment and facilities and ensure that they are enforced on all occasions.
- i) Compile the Classification rules and regulations governing international participation of powerchair hockey athletes and ensure their application.
- j) Ensure that the World Abilitysport Anti-Doping Code is adhered to under all circumstances.
- k) Establish and maintain programmes to the highest standards for the training, certification and Licensing of IPCH Officials and Instructors
- l) Convene all meetings necessary for proper organisation and administration of the IPCH
- m) Raise finances for the benefit and support of the development of the PCH sport..
- n) Organise and manage the sport to the benefit of the members, including the establishment and maintenance of databases in ranking, classification and results and directories of accredited officials and technicians.

- o) Establish working groups as it deems necessary for the proper conduct of its duties and make appointments thereto.
- p) Update their organisation structure from time to time and present it to the World Abilitysport Governing Board for approval to ensure it follows the governance requirements of World Abilitysport.
- q) Represent IPCH at/in international organisations, summits, sport events or promotional opportunities as deemed appropriate
- r) Publish all relevant rules and regulations and on its website and maintain archives of the history of the sport.
- s) Support to National organisations of PCH in improving their own activities
- t) Encourage the self-determination of athletes and the active participation of retired athletes in all aspects of sports management.

5. Membership

5.1 Nations may participate in the official and sanctioned competitions and/or events of the IPCH through membership of World Abilitysport, unless otherwise approved by the SEC and/or World Abilitysport.

5.2 An Active International Member is a World Abilitysport member in good standing that actively participates in the governance and development of Powerchair Hockey by meeting at least one of the following requirements:

- a) Participation in at least one official IPCH competition (World Championship, Regional Championship, Qualification Tournament, or other sanctioned event) within the previous four years or formal commitment to participate in the next competition cycle.
- b) Operates a domestic league or national championship. Or If a league is not yet established, can demonstrate regular domestic activity (e.g. national training camps, development tournaments, regional competitions, club competition).
- c) Has a recognised National Powerchair Hockey Committee or governing body.
- d) Actively participates in IPCH development initiatives (classifier, referee or coach education, workshops, working groups, etc.).
- e) Supports the implementation of IPCH rules and regulations nationally.
- f) Attends the Annual General Meeting or other official meetings (either in person or online).

PART 2: GOVERNANCE

6. Organisational Structure

6.1 World Abilitysport

- a) World Abilitysport is the legal and financial entity governing the sport of IPCH and retains ultimate authority over its governance, financial management, policies and practices.
- b) The World Abilitysport General Assembly is the highest governing authority and the final decision-making body on matters relating to the governance and administration of World Abilitysport.

6.2. IPCH SEC

- a) The IPCH SEC is a Standing Committee established by the World Abilitysport General Assembly.
- b) The IPCH SEC is responsible for the governance, administration and strategic development of IPCH on behalf of World Abilitysport.
- c) Members of the IPCH SEC shall be referred to throughout these Regulations as SEC Members.
- d) The IPCH SEC shall manage the sport between meetings of the IPCH Sport Congress in accordance with the World Abilitysport Constitution, Standing Orders and these Regulations.
- e) SEC Members are elected every four (4) years by the IPCH Sport Congress in accordance with the World Abilitysport Constitution, Standing Orders and the applicable Election Procedures.
- f) The IPCH SEC is the executive governing body responsible for the strategic leadership, administration and development of IPCH between meetings of the IPCH Sport Congress. The IPCH SEC is accountable to the IPCH Sport Congress and to World Abilitysport.

6.3. IPCH Sport Congress

- a) The IPCH Sport Congress is the technical governing body of IPCH.
- b) The IPCH Sport Congress is composed of representatives of the World Abilitysport Member Organisations participating in the sport of IPCH.
- c) The IPCH Sport Congress is responsible for establishing the technical policies, regulations and strategic direction of the sport.
- d) The IPCH Sport Congress may make recommendations on matters outside the technical governance of the sport to the World Abilitysport General Assembly through the World Abilitysport Governing Board.
- e) The IPCH Sport Congress is held every year and is conducted either in person, virtually or in a Hybrid format.

- f) Unless otherwise approved by the IPCH SEC and World Abilitysport, the Congress shall normally be held during the final quarter of the calendar year.

6.4. Relationship with World Abilitysport

The IPCH SEC shall exercise the authority delegated to it by World Abilitysport and shall operate in accordance with the World Abilitysport Constitution, Standing Orders, Regulations and policies.

As the legal and financial entity for the sport, World Abilitysport retains responsibility for financial governance, accounting and financial reporting.

The IPCH SEC shall work in partnership with World Abilitysport to ensure sound financial management of the sport. Financial coordination shall be undertaken by the Financial Lead, where appointed, or otherwise by the Secretary, in collaboration with the Chairperson and the World Abilitysport Finance Department.

7 IPCH Sport Executive Committee

7.1 Composition

- a) The Executive Committee shall consist of a maximum of ten (10) elected members:
- Chairperson
 - Secretary
 - Technical & Classification Officer
 - Competition Officer
 - Athletes & Coaches Representative
 - Development Officer
 - Communication Officer
 - Partnership Lead
 - Two (2) Members at Large
- b) The objective of the IPCH SEC is to ensure diversity of expertise, gender balance and geographical representation whenever reasonably possible.
- c) At its first meeting following election, the IPCH SEC shall:
- elect one Vice-Chairperson from among its members;
 - assign portfolio responsibilities where required;
 - appoint liaison roles to committees and networks;
 - establish task forces or working groups when necessary.
- d) In the event of death or resignation of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson performs the Chairman's duties provisionally until the next Sport Congress, during which the election of a new Chairperson will be organised.
- e) A SEC Member who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the SEC without reasonable justification accepted by the Executive Committee may be deemed to have resigned from office. A proposal will be made to the SEC to replace the member with the candidate who received the highest number of

votes at the last Sport Congress, that was not elected - but next in line, to fill the vacancy.

7.2 Roles and Responsibilities

All members of the IPCH SEC shall:

- act in the best interests of IPCH and World Abilitysport;
- act in the interests of IPCH and not as a representative of their own Member Nation when performing duties on behalf of the Executive Committee.
- contribute to the strategic development and governance of the sport;
- actively participate in Executive Committee meetings and decision-making;
- maintain regular communication with other SEC members;
- oversee the portfolio assigned to them by these Regulations or by decision of the Executive Committee;
- support the recruitment and development of volunteers, committee members and officials;
- contribute to the preparation of the annual operational plan, activity reports and strategic objectives within their portfolio;
- ensure that all activities within their portfolio comply with the Constitution, Regulations and policies of IPCH and World Abilitysport.
- SEC Members may also serve as members of Standing Committees, Advisory or Working Groups established under these Regulations, provided that such appointments do not give rise to a conflict of interest.

7.3 Conflict of Interest

- a) All SEC Members shall perform their duties with integrity, independence and in the best interests of IPCH and World Abilitysport.
- b) A conflict of interest may arise where a SEC Member, or a closely related person or organisation, has a personal, financial, professional, sporting or other interest that could reasonably be perceived as influencing the impartial performance of that Member's duties.
- c) SEC Members shall avoid any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest that could improperly influence, or appear to influence, the impartial performance of their duties.
- d) A SEC Member shall promptly disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest relating to any matter under consideration by the Executive Committee. The declaration shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- e) Failure to declare a known conflict of interest may constitute misconduct and may result in disciplinary action or removal from office in accordance with these Regulations and the applicable World Abilitysport governance procedures.
- f) Where a conflict of interest exists, the affected SEC Member shall:
 - declare the nature of the conflict before discussion of the relevant item;

- refrain from participating in the discussion, deliberation and decision-making on that matter unless expressly invited to provide factual information;
- withdraw from the meeting, whether in person or virtually, for the duration of the discussion and vote on that matter; and
- not attempt to influence the decision of the Executive Committee, either directly or indirectly.
- the remaining non-conflicted members shall determine whether a declared conflict requires recusal.

Conflict Involving the Chairperson

Where the Chairperson has declared a conflict of interest in relation to a specific matter, the Chairperson shall not chair that item of business.

The Vice-Chairperson shall assume the Chair for that item and exercise all procedural powers necessary for the conduct of the meeting.

Conflict Involving the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Where both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson have declared, or are determined to have, a conflict of interest in relation to the same matter, the remaining non-conflicted SEC Members shall appoint one of their number to chair that item of business.

The appointed Acting Chair shall exercise the powers of the Chairperson solely for the consideration and decision of that matter.

7.4 The Chairperson

The Chairperson provides the overall strategic leadership of IPCH and serves as its official representative.

The Chairperson shall:

- a) preside over meetings of the IPCH Sport Congress and the IPCH Sport Executive Committee;
- b) provide strategic leadership and direction for the governance, administration and development of IPCH;
- c) oversee the effective technical, administrative and financial management of IPCH in accordance with the Constitution, Regulations and policies of World Abilitysport, assisted by the IPCH SEC, in particular the Secretary;
- d) oversee the implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan and monitor its progress;
- e) serve as the primary liaison with World Abilitysport, maintaining regular communication on governance, strategic, financial and operational matters, and ensuring that relevant World Abilitysport decisions, policies and regulatory changes are communicated to the IPCH SEC;

- f) represent IPCH at meetings of World Abilitysport and other international organisations, or nominate an appropriate representative where necessary;
- g) promote the international growth and development of Powerchair Hockey by fostering relationships with existing and prospective Member Nations and other strategic stakeholders;
- h) prepare, in collaboration with the Secretary, the agenda for meetings of the IPCH Sport Congress and the IPCH SEC;
- i) delegate responsibilities, establish working groups and assign specific tasks to SEC Members, Committees or other appointed persons, as appropriate;
- j) oversee the appointment of Committee members, Working Groups and other official positions in accordance with these Regulations;
- k) prepare and present the annual report of the IPCH SEC to the IPCH Sport Congress and submit such reports, activity reports and strategic updates as required by the World Abilitysport Governing Board and General Assembly;
- l) countersign official governance documents and appointments where required;
- m) exercise a casting vote in the event of an equality of votes at any meeting over which the Chairperson presides.

7.4 The Vice Chairperson

The Vice-Chairperson is elected by the IPCH SEC from among its elected members at its first meeting following each election.

The Vice-Chairperson supports the Chairperson in the leadership and governance of IPCH and acts on behalf of the Chairperson when required.

The Vice-Chairperson shall:

- a) act on behalf of the Chairperson during the Chairperson's absence, incapacity or vacancy, exercising all powers and responsibilities delegated to the Chairperson for the duration of such period;
- b) assist the Chairperson in the strategic leadership, governance and administration of IPCH;
- c) support the implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan and monitor progress on priorities assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC;
- d) coordinate and oversee projects, initiatives or portfolios delegated by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC;
- e) support communication and collaboration between the IPCH SEC, Committees, Working Groups and Member Nations;
- f) represent IPCH at meetings, events and official functions when delegated by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC;

- g) support the recruitment, appointment and development of Committee members, Working Groups and volunteers;
- h) assist in promoting the international growth and development of Powerchair Hockey and foster relationships with existing and prospective Member Nations;
- i) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations

7.5 Secretary

The Secretary is responsible for the administration and governance of IPCH and supports communication between the IPCH Sport Executive Committee, Member Nations and World Abilitysport.

The Secretary shall:

- a) act as the principal administrative officer of the IPCH;
- b) prepare, distribute and maintain the agendas, minutes and official records of IPCH SEC meetings and the Sport Congress, together with the Chairperson;
- c) ensure that official decisions of the IPCH SEC are communicated and implemented;
- d) facilitate the exchange of information between the IPCH SEC, Member Nations, Committees and World Abilitysport;
- e) provide the Executive Committee with the administrative support necessary to carry out their respective responsibilities;
- f) oversee the administrative management of the annual operating budget;
- g) ensure that expenditure is consistent with the budget approved by the World Abilitysport Governing Board;
- h) maintain regular communication with World Abilitysport regarding administrative and financial matters;
- i) work in collaboration with the Financial Lead, where appointed, on financial planning, reporting and budget monitoring.

7.6 Technical & Classification Officer

- The Technical & Classification Officer is responsible for the technical governance and sporting integrity of IPCH.
- The Officer oversees the development and implementation of the Game Rules, Competition Regulations and Classification Rules, and supervises the Referee & Observers Committee, Jury Committee and Classifiers Committee.

The Technical & Classification Officer shall:

- a) provide strategic leadership for the technical governance of IPCH;

- b) oversee and coordinate the activities of the Referee & Observers Committee, Jury Committee and Classifiers Committee
- c) ensure the ongoing development, implementation and consistent application of the Game Rules, Competition Regulations and Classification Rules;
- d) oversee the development and delivery of education, certification and professional development programmes for referees, observers, jury members and classifiers;
- e) ensure that technical standards, officiating and classification practices are applied consistently across all IPCH-sanctioned competitions;
- f) coordinate the preparation of technical proposals, recommendations and reports submitted by the Standing Committees to the IPCH SEC;
- g) support the appointment and development of technical officials for IPCH competitions in accordance with the applicable regulations;
- h) collaborate with the Event and Competition Officer to ensure the effective technical delivery of IPCH competitions;
- i) support the continuous review and improvement of technical policies, procedures and standards;
- j) contribute to the preparation and implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan within their portfolio;
- k) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

7.7 Event and Competition Officer

The Event and Competition Officer is responsible for the strategic planning, development and delivery of the international competition programme of IPCH. The Officer oversees competition planning, bidding processes, qualification systems, world rankings and the consistent delivery of IPCH-sanctioned competitions.

The Event and Competition Officer shall:

- a) provide strategic leadership for the international competition programme of IPCH;
- b) oversee the development, implementation and review of Competition Regulations and competition policies;
- c) coordinate the bidding, evaluation and appointment processes for IPCH competitions;
- d) support and monitor Local Organising Committees in the planning and delivery of IPCH-sanctioned competitions in partnership with the appointed Technical Delegates where applicable;
- e) oversee qualification systems and the IPCH World Ranking System;
- f) monitor competition operations and recommend improvements to competition structures and delivery;

- g) collaborate with the Technical & Classification Officer to ensure the effective technical delivery of competitions;
- h) support the development of competition management tools, procedures and best practice guidance;
- i) contribute to the preparation and implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan within their portfolio;
- j) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

7.8 Athletes & Coaches Committee Representatives

The Athletes & Coaches Representative is responsible for representing the interests and perspectives of athletes and coaches within the governance of IPCH. The Athletes & Coaches Representative serves as the Chairperson of the Athletes & Coaches Committee and acts as the formal link between the Committee and the IPCH SEC.

The Athletes & Coaches Representative shall:

- a) represent the views, interests and recommendations of the Athletes & Coaches Committee within the IPCH SEC;
- b) chair and coordinate the activities of the Athletes & Coaches Committee;
- c) participate fully in meetings of the IPCH SEC and other meetings as required;
- d) communicate the decisions and activities of the IPCH SEC to the Athletes & Coaches Committee;
- e) facilitate communication between athletes, coaches, Member Organisations and the IPCH SEC;
- f) represent the interests of Powerchair Hockey athletes and coaches at meetings, competitions, forums and conferences, as delegated by the IPCH SEC;
- g) promote athlete welfare, integrity, safeguarding, inclusion and fair play throughout IPCH;
- h) support initiatives relating to athlete engagement, coaching development and athlete education;
- i) contribute to the preparation and implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan within their portfolio;
- j) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

Eligibility

To be eligible for election as an athlete member of the Athletes & Coaches Committee, a candidate shall:

- a) be nominated by a World Abilitysport Member Organisation in good standing;
- b) be at least eighteen (18) years of age during the election year;
- c) have participated in at least one (1) IPCH World Championship or another IPCH-sanctioned international competition within the five (5) years preceding the election;
- d) not have been sanctioned for an anti-doping rule violation, competition manipulation or other serious disciplinary offence under the regulations of World Abilitysport or IPCH.

Elections

Elections for the athlete members of the Athletes & Coaches Committee shall be held every four (4) years during the IPCH World Championship.

Only accredited athletes participating in the relevant IPCH World Championship shall be eligible to vote.

The nomination process, election procedures, voting arrangements and publication of results shall be conducted in accordance with the IPCH Election Procedures.

7.9 Development Officer

The Development Officer is responsible for the international growth and long-term development of Powerchair Hockey. The Officer promotes participation, education and capacity building across Member Organisations and emerging nations.

The Development Officer shall:

- a) provide strategic leadership for the international development of Powerchair Hockey;
- b) develop and implement initiatives to support the establishment and growth of Member Organisations and emerging nations;
- c) promote education, knowledge sharing and capacity building throughout the international Powerchair Hockey community;
- d) foster collaboration between Member Organisations, Regional Organisations and World Abilitysport;
- e) identify opportunities to expand participation and strengthen the global development of the sport;
- f) support the implementation of development programmes and monitor their effectiveness;
- g) collaborate with other SEC Members to promote sustainable growth across all areas of the sport;
- h) contribute to the preparation and implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan within their portfolio;

- i) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

7.10 Communication Officer

The Communication & Communication Officer is responsible for the communication, promotion and public profile of IPCH. The Officer oversees communication strategies, marketing initiatives, digital platforms and stakeholder engagement to increase the visibility and awareness of the sport worldwide.

The Communication & Marketing Officer shall:

- a) provide strategic leadership for the communication and marketing activities of IPCH;
- b) develop and implement communication and marketing strategies aligned with the objectives of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan;
- c) oversee the management and development of the IPCH website, digital platforms and social media channels;
- d) coordinate media relations, publications and promotional campaigns;
- e) ensure the consistent application of the IPCH brand and communication standards;
- f) support the promotion of IPCH competitions, development initiatives and educational programmes;
- g) coordinate communication activities with World Abilitysport, Member Organisations and other stakeholders;
- h) establish and oversee Operational Committees or Working Groups supporting communication and marketing activities, where appropriate;
- i) contribute to the preparation and implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan within their portfolio;
- j) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

7.11 Partnership Lead

The Partnerships Lead is responsible for developing and maintaining strategic partnerships and sponsorships and resource development opportunities that support the sustainable growth of IPCH. The Officer works to strengthen relationships with sponsors, funding organisations, commercial partners and institutional stakeholders that enhance the development of Powerchair Hockey internationally.

The Partnerships Lead shall:

- a) provide strategic leadership for the development of partnerships, sponsorships and resources that support the objectives of IPCH;
- b) develop and implement partnership, sponsorship and resource development strategies aligned with the objectives of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan;
- c) identify, develop and maintain relationships with , sponsors, funding organisations, commercial partners institutional stakeholders and other potential supporters of IPCH;
- d) support initiatives that strengthen the financial sustainability and long-term growth of the sport;
- e) collaborate with World Abilitysport and Member Organisations on partnership and commercial opportunities;
- f) support fundraising initiatives and the development of funding opportunities for IPCH programmes and competitions;
- g) oversee partnership agreements and monitor the delivery of partnership commitments within their portfolio;
- h) establish and oversee Operational Committees or Working Groups supporting commercial and partnership activities, where appropriate;
- i) contribute to the preparation and implementation of the IPCH Strategic and Operational Plan within their portfolio;
- j) undertake any additional duties assigned by the Chairperson or the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

7.12 Financial Lead (If appointed)

The IPCH SEC may appoint a Financial Lead from among its elected members or broader Powerchair Hockey stakeholders to provide financial oversight and coordination. The Financial Lead is not responsible for the accounting functions of World Abilitysport but supports the Executive Committee in the financial management of the sport.

The Financial Lead shall:

- a) coordinate the preparation, review and submission of financial claims and reimbursement requests from Executive Committee members, Committees and appointed officials;
- b) conduct a preliminary review of claims and supporting documentation before submission to World Abilitysport Finance;
- c) support the Secretary and Chairperson in preparing and monitoring the annual operating budget;
- d) monitor the financial performance of the sport and advise the Executive Committee on budget implementation;

- e) act as the primary liaison with the World Abilitysport Finance Department and Treasurer on sport-specific financial matters;
- f) support the preparation of grant applications, funding reports and sponsorship agreements requiring financial input;
- g) assist the Partnership Lead in finalising sponsorship and commercial agreements that require financial review or coordination with World Abilitysport;
- h) provide financial advice and recommendations to the Executive Committee to support sound financial governance.

The role of Financial Lead may be assigned to the Secretary where appropriate, or to another member of the Executive Committee or broader Powerchair Hockey community possessing suitable financial, accounting or administrative expertise.

7.13 Members at large

Members at Large support the work of the Executive Committee.

The Chairperson or the Sport Executive may assign each Member at Large responsibility for overseeing specific strategic projects or supporting one or more Committees or Networks.

Members at Large participate fully in Executive Committee discussions and decision-making.

7.14 Meetings

- a) The IPCH Sport Executive Committee shall meet at least ten (10) times each calendar year.
- b) Additional meetings may be convened by the Chairperson whenever considered necessary
- c) Meetings may be held in person, virtually or in a hybrid format.
- d) Attendance at SEC meetings is a fundamental responsibility of every SEC Member.
- e) A Member who is unable to attend a meeting shall notify the Chairperson and Secretary in advance and provide the reason for their absence whenever reasonably possible.
- f) The quorum for meetings of the SEC shall be a simple majority of the appointed SEC Members.
- g) No decisions shall be taken unless a quorum is present.
- h) Each SEC Member shall have one vote.
- i) Unless otherwise provided in these Regulations, decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes cast.

- j) In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson, or the person chairing the meeting in accordance with these Regulations, shall have a casting vote.
- k) The SEC may invite experts, advisors, committee members, observers or other persons to attend meetings of the SEC or the IPCH Sport Congress.
- l) Invited participants may speak and provide advice on matters within their expertise but shall not have voting rights.

7.15 Vacancies

- a) A vacancy on the SEC shall arise where a Member:
 - resigns from office;
 - dies;
 - is removed from office in accordance with these Regulations;
 - is unable to perform the duties of the office for an extended period; or
 - is deemed to have vacated office under Article 15.5.
- b) A SEC Member who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the SEC without reasonable justification accepted by the Executive Committee may be deemed to have resigned from office.
- c) Before any decision is taken, the Member shall be given the opportunity to provide an explanation.
- d) The Executive Committee shall determine, by majority vote, whether the position is declared vacant.
- e) In the event of the resignation, death, incapacity, removal or vacancy of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume the duties and powers of the Chairperson on an interim basis until a new Chairperson is elected or appointed in accordance with these Regulations.
- f) Where the Vice-Chairperson is unable or ineligible to act, the remaining SEC Members shall appoint one of their number as Acting Chairperson until the vacancy is filled.
- g) Where a vacancy occurs in any other elected position, the Executive Committee may appoint a replacement from among the unelected candidates from the most recent election, where available.
- h) Where no such candidate is available, the Executive Committee may appoint a suitably qualified individual to serve until the next IPCH Sport Congress, at which the appointment shall expire or be submitted for election or ratification, as appropriate.

PART 3: STANDING COMMITTEES, ADVISORY AND WORKING GROUPS

7. General Principle

8.1 Purpose

- a) The IPCH SEC may establish Standing Committees, Advisory and Working Groups to support the governance, development and delivery of IPCH.
- b) These bodies provide technical expertise, stakeholder representation, specialist advice and operational support within their respective areas of responsibility.
- c) Unless otherwise provided in these Regulations, all Committees and Working Groups are advisory bodies and shall make recommendations to the IPCH SEC. Final decision-making authority remains vested in the IPCH SEC.

8.2 Reporting Structure

- a) Each Committee or Working Group shall report through the SEC Member responsible for the relevant portfolio.
- b) The supervising SEC Member shall coordinate the activities of the body, provide strategic direction and submit recommendations to the IPCH SEC for consideration.

8. Standing Committees

9.1 Establishment

- a) The following Standing Committees are established by these Regulations:
 - Athletes & Coaches Committee
 - Referee & Observers Committee
 - Jury Committee
 - Classifiers Committee
- b) These Committees constitute the permanent technical and representative advisory bodies of IPCH.
- c) Unless otherwise approved by the IPCH SEC, each Standing Committee shall consist of:
 - one (1) Committee Head; and
 - up to seven (7) additional members, unless otherwise approved by the SEC.
- d) Members of the Standing Committees shall be appointed by the IPCH SEC, unless otherwise specified in these Regulations.
- e) Appointments shall seek an appropriate balance of technical expertise, geographical representation, gender balance and diversity.
- f) Each Standing Committee shall have a Committee Head responsible for leading the work of the Committee, coordinating its activities and meetings, acting as the primary liaison with the designated Reporting Officer, and presenting the Committees' recommendations and reports to the IPCH SEC through that Officer.

- g) The Committee's Head shall be designated by the members of the Committee, in consultation with the relevant Reporting Officer, and confirmed by the IPCH SEC.
- h) Vacancies arising through resignation, death, removal or inability to fulfil the role may be filled by appointment of the IPCH SEC for the remainder of the term of office. Where a vacancy occurs in an elected position, the replacement shall be made in accordance with the applicable procedures.
- i) Each Standing Committee shall include members representing at least two (2) different World Abilitysport Member Organisations, unless otherwise approved by the IPCH SEC in exceptional circumstances.
- j) To promote broad participation and diversity of expertise, no individual shall simultaneously serve as a member of more than two (2) Standing Committees, unless otherwise approved by the IPCH SEC.
- k) Each Permanent Committee shall operate in accordance with these Regulations, its approved Terms of Reference, and any policies adopted by World Abilitysport or the IPCH SEC.

9.2 Athletes and Coaches Committee

Reporting Officer: Athlete Representative

Purpose

The Athletes & Coaches Committee (ACC) is the representative advisory body for athletes and coaches within IPCH. It ensures that the perspectives, experiences and interests of athletes and coaches are considered in the governance, development and promotion of the sport.

The ACC shall advise and make recommendations to the IPCH SEC on matters relating to athlete welfare, coaching, competition experience, education, integrity and the long-term development of IPCH.

Responsibilities

The Athletes & Coaches Committee shall:

- a) gather the views, needs and concerns of athletes and coaches from across the international Powerchair Hockey community;
- b) provide recommendations on competition regulations, technical rules and athlete experience;
- c) promote athlete welfare, safeguarding, fair play and integrity, both on and off the field of play;
- d) contribute to initiatives aimed at improving training environments, competition delivery, accommodation and participation opportunities;
- e) facilitate effective communication between athletes, coaches and the IPCH SEC;
- f) support educational, promotional and communication initiatives that contribute to the development of the sport;
- g) identify emerging issues affecting athletes and coaches and submit recommendations to the IPCH SEC.

Composition

The Athletes & Coaches Committee shall consist maximum eight (8) members, comprising:

- three (3) elected athlete representatives;
- additional members appointed by the IPCH SEC to ensure appropriate expertise and representation.

The Committee shall include:

- at least one (1) female member;
- at least one (1) male member; and
- at least one (1) active coach competing or coaching at either club or international level.

The Committee may invite additional athletes, coaches or subject matter experts to participate in specific projects or meetings in a non-voting advisory capacity.

Athlete Representative

Following each election of the Athletes & Coaches Committee, the elected athlete members of the Committee shall elect one (1) of their number to serve as the Athlete Representative on the IPCH SEC.

The Athlete Representative shall be the only member of the Athletes & Coaches Committee with voting rights on the IPCH SEC.

The Athlete Representative shall serve for the same term as the elected Athletes & Coaches Committee and shall remain eligible only for so long as they continue to satisfy the eligibility requirements for Committee membership.

9.3 Referee and Observers Committee

Reporting Officer: Technical & Classification Officer

- a) The Referee & Observers Committee is the technical advisory body responsible for the governance, development and continuous improvement of officiating within IPCH.
- b) The Committee shall advise and support the IPCH SEC on matters relating to the interpretation and application of the Game Rules, the development of referees and observers, and the promotion of consistent, safe and high-quality officiating at all levels of the sport.
- c) The responsibilities of the Referee & Observers Committee shall include:
 - reviewing and proposing amendments to the IPCH Game Rules to ensure they reflect the ongoing development of the sport;
 - promoting the consistent interpretation and application of the Game Rules across all IPCH-sanctioned competitions;

- developing and maintaining technical regulations relating to powerchairs, equipment and other officiating matters to promote safety, fairness and consistency;
- developing, implementing and reviewing referee and observer education, certification and continuing professional development programmes;
- preparing and maintaining educational resources, guidance materials and best practice documentation for referees and observers;
- organising and supporting seminars, workshops, clinics and other educational activities for referees and observers;
- establishing mentoring and development programmes to support the progression of referees and observers at national and international level;
- evaluating the performance of referees and observers and recommending measures to support continuous improvement;
- advising the IPCH SEC on the appointment and development pathway of referees and observers for IPCH-sanctioned competitions;
- promoting the recruitment and retention of qualified referees and observers from a diverse range of Member Organisations;
- promoting the highest standards of integrity, impartiality, professionalism and ethical conduct amongst referees and observers;
- collaborating with other Standing Committees, where appropriate, to support fair play, athlete welfare and the continued development of international Powerchair Hockey.

9.4 Jury Committee

Reporting Officer: Technical & Classification Officer

- a) The Jury Committee is the technical advisory body responsible for supporting the governance, management and integrity of IPCH competitions. The Committee promotes excellence in jury operations and advises the IPCH SEC on matters relating to competition management, the interpretation and application of the Competition Regulations, and the development of jury members.
- b) The responsibilities of the Jury Committee shall include:
 - reviewing and recommending amendments to the Competition Regulations and associated competition procedures to ensure they remain effective, consistent and aligned with the development of the sport;
 - promoting the consistent interpretation and application of the Competition Regulations across all IPCH-sanctioned competitions;
 - developing, implementing and reviewing jury education, certification and continuing professional development programmes;

- preparing and maintaining educational resources, guidance materials and best practice documentation for jury members;
- organising and supporting seminars, workshops, clinics and other educational activities for jury members;
- evaluating the performance of jury members and recommending measures to support continuous improvement;
- advising the IPCH SEC on the appointment and development pathway of jury members for IPCH-sanctioned competitions;
- promoting the recruitment, development and retention of qualified jury members from a diverse range of World Abilitysport Member Organisations;
- promoting the highest standards of integrity, impartiality, professionalism and ethical conduct amongst jury members;
- supporting the effective management of competitions by promoting consistent operational procedures, fair decision-making and the timely resolution of competition matters, including protests and appeals within the scope of the Competition Regulations;
- collaborating with other Standing Committees, where appropriate, to promote fair play, athlete welfare and the continued development of international Powerchair Hockey.

9.5 Classifier Committee

Reporting Officer: Technical & Classification Officer

- a) The Classifiers Committee is the technical advisory body responsible for the governance, development and continuous improvement of the IPCH Classification System. The Committee promotes a fair, evidence-based and athlete-centred classification system and advises the IPCH SEC on matters relating to classification governance, policies, education, quality assurance and the consistent application of the Classification Rules.
- b) The responsibilities of the Classifiers Committee shall include:
 - developing, reviewing and recommending amendments to the IPCH Classification Rules, Classification Manual and associated policies and procedures, ensuring alignment with the World Abilitysport Classification Code and any applicable international classification standards;
 - promoting the consistent, equitable and impartial application of the IPCH Classification System across all IPCH-sanctioned competitions;
 - developing, implementing and reviewing education, certification and continuing professional development programmes for classifiers;
 - preparing and maintaining classification manuals, guidance documents, educational resources and best practice materials for classifiers, athletes, coaches and Member Organisations;
 - organising and supporting seminars, workshops, clinics and other educational activities relating to classification;
 - overseeing quality assurance programmes, evaluating the performance of classifiers and recommending measures to support continuous improvement and consistency in classification practice;
 - advising the IPCH SEC on the appointment and development pathway of classifiers for IPCH-sanctioned competitions;

- promoting the recruitment, development and retention of qualified classifiers from a diverse range of World Abilitysport Member Organisations;
- promoting the highest standards of integrity, impartiality, professionalism, confidentiality and ethical conduct amongst classifiers;
- ensuring that athlete classification is conducted in a manner that respects the dignity, rights, privacy and confidentiality of athletes and their medical information;
- maintaining oversight of classification records, classification data and relevant documentation, and promoting the collection and analysis of classification data to support the ongoing development of the classification system;
- supporting Member Organisations in the implementation and understanding of the IPCH Classification System through education, guidance and collaboration;
- collaborating with the other Standing Committees and the IPCH SEC to ensure that the Classification System continues to support fair, safe and equitable competition within IPCH.

9. Advisory Groups

9.1 Purpose

Advisory Groups can be established by the IPCH SEC to facilitate collaboration, knowledge sharing and stakeholder engagement in support of the strategic objectives of IPCH.

Advisory Groups bring together individuals with relevant expertise, experience or regional knowledge to provide advice, promote best practice and contribute to the development and growth of the sport. They are consultative bodies and shall not exercise decision-making authority.

The composition, scope, reporting arrangements and Terms of Reference of each Advisory Groups shall be determined by the IPCH SEC or the responsible Reporting Officer, as appropriate.

10. Working Groups

- a) To support the effective delivery of their portfolio responsibilities, each SEC Member may establish Working Groups.
- b) Such groups are operational in nature and shall not constitute permanent governance bodies.
- c) Working Groups may be established to:
 - support the delivery of projects or strategic initiatives;
 - provide specialist expertise or technical advice;
 - assist with operational planning and implementation;
 - engage volunteers and subject matter experts;
 - respond to emerging priorities within the Officer's portfolio.

- d) The responsible SEC Officer shall determine:
 - the composition of the group;
 - the number of members;
 - eligibility criteria;
 - duration of appointment;
 - Terms of Reference;
 - meeting arrangements.
- e) Members may include volunteers, athletes, coaches, officials, technical experts or external advisors.
- f) Working Groups shall report directly to the responsible SEC Member.
- g) Recommendations shall be submitted to the IPCH SEC through that Officer.
- h) Working Groups may be established, amended or dissolved by the responsible SEC Member, subject to notification of the IPCH SEC.
- i) The establishment, amendment or dissolution of a Working Group shall not require an amendment to these Regulations.

PART 4:

SPORT CONGRESS

11. The Sport Congress

11.1 Purpose

- a) The Sport Congress is the technical governing body of IPCH and provides the principal forum for Member Organisations to contribute to the governance and development of the sport.
- b) The Sport Congress shall:
 - determine the technical rules and regulations governing IPCH
 - receive reports from the IPCH SEC, Standing Committees and Advisory Networks;
 - consider the strategic development of the sport and provide guidance to the IPCH SEC;
 - consider and vote upon motions submitted by the IPCH SEC and Member Organisations;
 - make recommendations to the World Abilitysport Governing Board and General Assembly on matters outside the authority of the Sport Congress;
 - elect the Officers of the IPCH SEC in accordance with these Regulations.

11.2 Composition

The Sport Congress shall comprise:

- Member Organisations of World Abilitysport in good standing;
- the IPCH SEC;
- representatives of Standing Committees, Advisory and Working Groups,
- observers and invited guests.

11.3 Delegates

Each Member Organisation in good standing may appoint up to two (2) official delegates, one (1) of whom shall have voting rights.

Delegates shall be appointed and accredited in accordance with the World Abilitysport Standing Orders.

Where a Member Organisation appoints two (2) delegates, the voting right may be transferred from the designated voting delegate to the second delegate, provided that World Abilitysport has been notified and the transfer has been verified prior to the commencement of the Sport Congress.

11.4 Frequency

The Sport Congress shall be held every year and may be conducted in person, virtually or in a hybrid format.

An Extraordinary Sport Congress may be convened by the IPCH SEC or upon written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Member Organisations participating in IPCH.

11.5 Notice of Meeting

The notice of meeting, submission of mandates, motions, nominations and supporting documentation shall be issued and administered in accordance with the applicable World Abilitysport Standing Orders and timelines.

The World Abilitysport Office shall administer the organisation of the Sport Congress in accordance with the applicable World Abilitysport Standing Orders.

Unless otherwise determined by World Abilitysport, the following minimum timelines shall apply:

Document / Action	Issued by World Abilitysport	Return Deadline	Distribution
Delegation Information Pack	As required	–	–
Mandate Form	At least twelve (12) weeks before the Sport Congress	At least two (2) weeks before the Sport Congress	N/A
Draft Agenda	At least four (4) weeks before the Sport Congress	Updated as required	At least four (4) weeks before the Sport Congress
Nomination Forms	At least twelve (12) weeks before the Sport Congress	At least eight (8) weeks before the Sport Congress	Candidate information circulated at least four (4) weeks before the Sport Congress
Motion Forms	At least twelve (12) weeks before the Sport Congress	At least eight (8) weeks before the Sport Congress	Motions and recommendations circulated at least four (4) weeks before the Sport Congress
Draft Minutes of the previous Sport Congress	Within six (6) weeks following the previous Sport Congress	–	–

The IPCH SEC may approve revised administrative timelines where required, provided they remain consistent with the World Abilitysport Constitution, Standing Orders and Operational Regulations.

12. Conduct of the Sport Congress

12.1 General

The Sport Congress shall be conducted in accordance with the World Abilitysport Standing Orders unless otherwise provided by these Regulations.

12.2 Call to Order

The Chairperson of the IPCH SEC, or their delegate, shall call the meeting to order and preside over the proceedings.

12.3 Roll Call

The World Abilitysport representative shall verify the mandates of the delegates, confirm those entitled to vote and establish the attendance record.

12.4 Quorum

No business shall be transacted unless a quorum is present.

The quorum shall be determined in accordance with the applicable World Abilitysport Standing Orders.

12.5 Adoption of the Agenda

The proposed agenda shall be submitted for approval at the commencement of the meeting.

12.6 Minutes

Draft minutes of the Sport Congress shall be circulated to Member Organisations within six (6) weeks of the meeting.

The minutes shall remain in draft form until approved by the subsequent Sport Congress, after which they shall constitute the official record of the meeting.

12.7 Reports

Reports submitted by the IPCH SEC, Standing Committees, Advisory Networks and other authorised bodies shall be received and considered by the Sport Congress.

12.8 Speaking Rights

Speaking rights shall be limited to duly accredited delegates unless otherwise authorised by the Chair.

12.9 Rules of Debate

Debate shall be conducted in accordance with the World Abilitysport Standing Orders and the rulings of the Chair.

The proposer of a motion shall have the right of reply immediately before the motion is put to the vote.

13. Motions and Voting

13.1 Ordinary Motions

Member Organisations and the IPCH SEC may submit motions in accordance with the procedures established by World Abilitysport.

13.2 Amendments

Amendments to motions shall be considered in accordance with the World Abilitysport Standing Orders.

13.3 Procedural Motions

Procedural motions may be introduced during the meeting in accordance with the applicable Standing Orders.

The meeting Chair may determine whether a motion submitted after the prescribed deadline constitutes an emergency motion. Such a ruling may be challenged in accordance with these Regulations.

13.4 Voting Procedures

- a) Each Member Organisation entitled to vote shall have one (1) vote.
- b) Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations, decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority of valid votes cast.
- c) Abstentions shall not be counted as votes cast when determining whether a motion has been adopted.
- d) In the event of an equality of votes, the motion shall be deemed defeated.

13.5 Electronic Voting

Electronic voting may be used where authorised by World Abilitysport and shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable World Abilitysport Regulations and Standing Orders.

14. Rulings and Discipline

14.1 Rulings of the meeting Chair

The meeting Chair shall rule on all matters related to the conduct of the Sport Congress, including points of order, personal explanations, procedural matters, and the interpretation of these Regulations and any applicable World Abilitysport Standing Orders.

Unless challenged in accordance with these Regulations, the ruling of the Chair shall be final.

14.2 Appeals Against a Ruling of the meeting Chair

Any delegate entitled to speak may challenge a ruling of the meeting Chair.

A challenge must be seconded by another voting delegate. If the challenge is seconded, the meeting shall be suspended and the meeting Chair shall temporarily relinquish the meeting to another member of the IPCH SEC designated by the meeting.

The acting meeting Chair shall invite the proposer of the challenge to state the grounds for the appeal and may permit limited debate before putting the challenge to a vote.

The challenge shall be decided by a simple majority of the valid votes cast.

Following the vote, the meeting Chair shall resume the chair and proceed in accordance with the decision of the Sport Congress.

14.3 Unacceptable Behaviour

The meeting Chair shall ensure the orderly conduct of the Sport Congress.

Where the conduct of a delegate disrupts the orderly proceedings of the meeting, a procedural motion may be made that the delegate be no longer heard.

If the motion is carried, the delegate shall take no further part in that debate.

Where disruptive behaviour continues, a procedural motion may be made requiring the delegate to leave the meeting.

If the motion is carried, the delegate shall immediately withdraw from the meeting.

14.4 Adjournment and Reconvening

- a) If a quorum is not present within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled commencement of the meeting, or if a quorum ceases to exist during the meeting, the delegates present may resolve by ordinary resolution to adjourn the meeting.
- b) The meeting Chair shall determine the date, time and place of the reconvened meeting unless these are specified by the resolution of the Sport Congress.
- c) Where a meeting is adjourned for more than seven (7) days, notice of the reconvened meeting shall be provided to all Member Organisations at least seven (7) clear days before the meeting.
- d) No business shall be conducted at the reconvened meeting other than business that could properly have been conducted at the original meeting.
- e) If a quorum is not present within thirty (30) minutes of the commencement of the reconvened meeting, the Member Organisations present shall constitute the quorum for that meeting.

14.5 Closing of the Sport Congress

The Chair shall declare the Sport Congress closed once all business on the adopted agenda has been concluded.

PART 5: ELECTIONS

15. Election Procedures

15.1 Eligibility

Candidates for election to the IPCH SEC shall:

- a) be nominated by a World Abilitysport Member Organisation in good standing;
- b) satisfy the eligibility requirements established by World Abilitysport;
- c) be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the date of the election;
- d) comply with the World Abilitysport Code of Ethics, Constitution, Operational Regulations and any applicable eligibility requirements.

The World Abilitysport Nominations Committee may determine that a national or international position held by a nominee creates an incompatibility or conflict of interest with service on the IPCH SEC.

15.2 Nominations

- a) Each Member Organisation may nominate candidates only from its own nation, for a maximum of three (3) of the open positions.
- b) The IPCH SEC may nominate candidates from any nation for the open positions.
- c) Nominations shall be submitted using the official nomination forms and within the timelines established by World Abilitysport.
- d) Each nomination shall include the required supporting documentation, including a curriculum vitae, photograph and any declarations required under [World Abilitysport Regulations](#).

15.3 Election Process

- a) Elections shall be held every four (4) years during the Sport Congress.
- b) Only Member Organisations represented by an accredited voting delegate shall be entitled to vote.
- c) Each Member Organisation shall have one (1) vote for each elected position.
- d) Unless otherwise provided by these Regulations or the World Abilitysport Standing Orders, candidates shall be elected by a simple majority of valid votes cast.
- e) Where no candidate achieves the required majority on the first ballot, subsequent ballots shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable [World Abilitysport election procedures](#) until a candidate is elected.

15.4 Terms of Office

Officers of the IPCH SEC shall serve a term of four (4) years commencing at the conclusion of the Sport Congress at which they are elected.

Officers shall be eligible for re-election in accordance with the [World Abilitysport Constitution and applicable Regulations](#).

15.5 Vacancies

Should an elected position become vacant before the expiry of its term, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with these Regulations and any applicable World Abilitysport Regulations.

Where appropriate, the IPCH SEC may appoint an Acting Officer until the vacancy is filled through the prescribed election process.