



# **STATUTE & STANDING ORDERS**

**MALTA DARTS  
ASSOCIATION**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Malta Darts Association felt the need to revise the statute of the Association in order to better reflect today's times. The need was felt for member Teams to be more involved in decisions, while the Executive would also have team representation from all divisions.

Nowadays, one has to be much more organized and more professional and this has to be reflected in the regulations of the Association.

Much of the content of this publication is the basis on which the Association should operate. In fact, this publication not only explains the statute of the Association but also explains things of general importance with regard to this Association.

## **THE COUNCIL MALTA DARTS ASSOCIATION**

AS APPROVED AT THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING ON **04.09 2020**

# **SECTION 1**

## **STATUTE AND STANDING ORDERS**

### **STATUTE OF THE M.D.A.**

#### **PART 1: NAME, CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTIVES**

##### **1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

This Association shall be referred to as the “Malta Darts Association”, and in interpreting these Rules and in any other Rules of the Malta Darts Association, the words the Association, this Association, the Association or M.D.A. means the Malta Darts Association except when the context otherwise requires.

The official address of the M.D.A. is: c / o Circolo Musicale Sta. Caterina, Pjazza Ġrogorio Bonici, Żejtun while the postal address is P.O. Box 119, Marsa MTP 1001.

##### **2. CONSTITUTION OF ASSOCIATION**

The Association shall consist of Teams that are willing to play the game of Darts in accordance with the regulations (as stipulated by the World Darts Federation - WDF) and obey the rules and regulations of the Association as decided and approve the Association Council.

##### **3. AFFILIATION**

The Association shall observe the rules and By Laws of the W.D.F. as well as this Association shall safeguard its autonomy. It shall be affiliated to the World Darts Federation, European Darts Council, Malta Olympic Committee, SportMalta and other Associations as may be decided by the Executive Committee from time to time, as necessary.

##### **4. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The objectives of the Association are:

- a) To organize and develop the game of Darts among its members in accordance with the Statute and rules of the Association, By Laws and regulations of the W.D.F.;
- b) To organize, administer, control and exercise discipline on the game of Darts among the members of this Association;
- c) To create and ensure uniformity in the conduct and matters in favour of the game of Darts and to enforce with effect the By Laws and Regulations which may be arranged from time to time by the M.D.A.;
- d) To create friendship among its members, officials, and players, as well as with other sports associations of any denomination and is also willing to contribute to the good of Sports in general;
- e) To take action against anyone who attempts to use any method or practice inconsistent with the game of Darts and to combat any abuse;
- f) To consider and decide any matter relating to the game of Darts among the members;
- g) Endeavour to obtain financial assistance to enable the organization to be improved;

#### **PART II: PARTNERSHIP**

##### **5. TEAM MEMBERSHIP**

All Teams in this Association shall be called Member Teams.

- a) There is no limit to how many Teams from each town or village can be members of the Association. No more than two member Teams may come from the same Club or Centre and bear the same name with the letters "A" and "B" after them.
- b) The Council has the right to refuse membership of teams or officials as well as of any person or persons, either directly or indirectly, provided there is a valid reason with the Association itself, as well as with the Clubs. partners.
- c) Each Team Member must forward to the Secretary General a list of the members of their respective Committee together with other information requested by the Administration no later than a date to be established by the same Administration. All correspondence regarding the team / s will only be sent to the address of the Team or the Secretary and / or by e-mail. If a team still does not provide the requested information as explained by the time given by the Administration, the membership of this team will be terminated. The Secretaries of the Member Teams shall inform the Secretary General of the Association of any change or movement in the respective committee within fifteen (15) days of the change.
- d) A Team member who feels the need to change the name of the Team, shall request written permission.
- e) Member Teams shall request the permission of the Association in case they wish to affiliate with any other Association that organizes Darts, in order to also participate in its Championships. A team found guilty of violating this regulation will be removed by the Association.

## **6. NEW TEAMS**

- a) The new Teams, before being accepted to be members of this Association, shall satisfy the Council that they are, properly constituted and ready to play Darts in accordance with the regulations as stipulated by the W.D.F. and that they are ready to observe the statute and the 'By Laws' of this Association.
- b) The Administration shall ensure that new Teams comply with the requirements of the Statute.
- c) New teams, when accepted as explained in the regulation, will be on probation for one year.
- d) The name of the Team must be approved by the Association.

## **7. MONTHLY AND MEMBERSHIP FEES**

- a) No more than two member Teams may come from the same Club or Centre and bear the same name with the letters "A" and "B" after them.
- b) Each Member Team, must pay the sum of two hundred and fifty euro (€ 250) with the application as 'Affiliation / Participation Fee' for each season no later than a date to be set by the Administration. Payment after this date will not be accepted under any circumstances and this means that the membership of that team will be terminated. This sum covers the participation in each local competition as well as the registration of up to 13 players per team provided one of these players is a woman.
- c) In addition to the payment as explained, each Team must pay a deposit of seventy-five euros (€75). This sum will be a deposit which will be returned at the end of the season in case the team ceases to take part in the following season, after informing the Association in writing by a date stipulated by -Administration.
- d) The Team that informs the Association that it will dissolve after the date stipulated by the Administration, will lose any deposit it has paid to the Association

## **PART III: BODIES AND OFFICIALS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **8) AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS**

Bodies and officers of the Association

The powers and functions of the Malta Darts Association are distributed and applied by the following Bodies and Officers:

- i) General Meeting
- ii) The Council
- iii) The President
- iv) The other Officers referred to in Rule 12
- v) The Executive
- vi) The Administration

- vii) The Control and Discipline Board
- viii) The Protest Board
- ix) The Appeals Board
- x) The Committee or Commissions nominated by the Administration, Executive or Council

## 9) GENERAL MEETING

The Association shall hold one General Meeting each year which shall be called an Annual General Meeting. Other General Meetings shall be known as Extraordinary General Meetings.

## 10) THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held no later than the first week of September with this Agenda.
  - 1. Reading of minutes of the Last General and Extraordinary Meeting
  - 2. Reading and approval of the Administrative Report
  - 3. Approval of the Balance Sheet (audited)
  - 4. Address of the Chairman
  - 5. Election of Officers (if it is time, every 2 years)
  - 6. Appointment of members to the Executive (annually)
  - 7. Appointment of Auditors
  - 8. Amendments to the Statute
  - 9. Discussions and Decisions on any Motions which may be submitted
  - 10. Confirmation of Teams.
  - 11. Draw for next season
- b. The Secretary General shall notify all members of this Association in writing, not less than fifteen (15) days in advance, of the date and time and place of the General Meeting. This notice shall also be accompanied by the Agenda to be discussed during the Meeting and amendments to the Statute in the event of any
- c. If the need arises from a Team Member, that there shall be any changes, additions or adjustments in the regulations, Standing Orders or Playing Rules, such proposals shall be sent in writing to the Secretary General of the Association by not later than the stipulated data provided by the Administration. Proposals must bear the signature of the proposing Team as well as of the seconding of the proposals.
 

After the Executive discusses these amendments, they will be circulated to all Member Teams for their information. The Executive may also propose an addition, reduction or amendment to any existing rules in both the statute and the Standing Orders or Playing Rules, and the Discipline Code. They will also be circulated to all Member Teams to have time to study them before they are discussed at the Annual General Meeting.
- d. The Quorum for the Annual General Meeting and any other Meeting shall be 50% of the members plus one. In the absence of a quorum present after fifteen (15) minutes from time of commencement of the AGM, the meeting shall begin with the members present.
- e. **In case a vote is required, only the Delegate and Council member representing each team and any neutral official (if any) are entitled to vote. If needed, the President has the "Casting Vote".**
- f. No subject other than those set out in the Agenda may be discussed during the Annual General Meeting.
- g. If a Team fails to be represented by at least one member, at the General Meeting, this Team will be fined twenty-five euros (€25).

## 11. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- a. The Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened when the President or the Council deems it necessary.
- b. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened when forty per cent (40%) of the Member Teams so request, in writing, to the Secretary General of the Association where they shall also give the reasons for convening this Extraordinary General Meeting. This Meeting shall be held within three (3) weeks from the receipt of the request by the Secretary General.
 

The Secretary General shall notify all members at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting.
- c. If an Extraordinary General Meeting is convened to fill the post of any officer, then it shall be given three (3) weeks in advance of the Meeting, so that nominations for the vacant post may be accepted.

- d. Each notification shall explain the location, date and time of the Meeting, together with the Agenda of the meeting.
- e. Only the members of the Council and the Delegates of the Member Teams who have already been approved by the Council before the General Meeting may also attend the General Meetings and they shall also have the right to vote. In case a vote is required, only the Delegate and Council member representing each team and any neutral official (if any) are entitled to vote. If needed, the President has the "Casting Vote". Both members of the Council and delegates shall not have the right to participate in the General Meeting unless they are approved as required by the regulations.
- g. If a Team fails to be represented by at least one member at the Extraordinary General Meeting, this Team shall be liable to a fine (multa) of twenty-five euros (€25).

## **12. MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Management of this Association, the Administration, shall be composed of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary-General, an International Officer, a Treasurer and a Public Relations Officer. These Officers, except for the Public Relations Officer, have the right to exercise their right to vote at any meeting held.

## **13. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- a. This Association shall have an Executive Committee composed of the Administration together with two members from each Division, chosen by election from among the members of the Council. Where there are two teams coming from the same place (Center) only one person may come to this post to represent the Division. This Executive shall have executive power and in the event of any matter of urgency the same Executive shall have the power to decide with full power without rectification before the Council.
- b. The Executive Committee shall hold regular meetings throughout the season in order to follow the course of the leagues as well as shall play a leading role in the running of the Association together with the Administration.
- c. The members of this Executive shall be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting. In the event of any member of this Executive passes away in the current season, the vacancy shall be filled by another member to be appointed by the council for the remainder of the year or until the next Annual General Meeting, and must belong to the same Division.
- d. The Executive Council may appoint various commissions within it to work on various areas including sponsorships, PR and new teams. These Commissions shall report their work to the Executive Council as well as to the Annual General Meeting.

## **14. THE OFFICIALITY OF THIS ASSOCIATION**

- i. Ideally, the officers of this Association should be neutral, persons not involved with any Team. In case this is not possible, people affiliated to a Team may occupy these Posts. In this case, the representation of these Officers will also be that of that team in the Executive Committee and in the Council, as well as at General Meetings. No more than two persons, coming from the same Team, may hold the office of elected Officer.
- ii. The officers of this Association, with the exception of the Secretary General and the Public Relations Officer, shall hold their respective positions for a period of two years.
- iii. The President and the Secretary-General are ex-officio of any Commission or Sub-Committee appointed from time to time.
- iv. It is the duty and responsibility of every officer or member of the Committee of each team within the M.D.A. to inform in writing of any breach of any regulation being carried out by any other member (s) of this Association. This regulation does not apply to the Competition Rule.

## **15. RESIGNATION OF OFFICER**

In the event of resignation by the Association, the President or the Secretary-General, the management of the same Association shall continue to be chaired by the Vice-President and the Assistant Secretary respectively; pending a specially convened General Meeting shall be summoned not later than three (3) months from the vacancy. In the event of the resignation of the Vice-President or the Treasurer, the Executive Council shall appoint a replacement from the Council or from outside the Association until the Annual General Meeting. In the

event of the resignation of the Secretary-General, the Executive shall elect another person to hold office and obtain the approval of the Executive Committee.

## **16. PROTEST BOARD**

- a) (i) This Association shall have a Protest Board, appointed by the Executive Committee, which shall be Composed of three neutral members (Chairman and two members). The task of this Board shall be to see to it that the rules  
Of this statute shall be complied with as provided in the same Statute.
- (ii) The Chairman of this Board shall have the ordinary vote as well as the casting vote.
- (iii) The Board shall be assisted by the Secretary General or by any other person appointed by the Administration and who may take part in the discussions but may not vote.
- b) A protest made by a Team / player cannot be dealt with and will not be valid if it is not received in person.
- (i) In writing / email, explaining the shortcomings that the team is protesting about.
- (ii) To the Secretary General of the Association with three (3) legible copies and must be signed by the President or the Secretary of the same Team presenting the protest.
- (iii) Reach the Association by not later than two (2) working days by 6.30pm from the time of the incident.
- (iv) Accompanied by a deposit of fifty euros (€50).
- c) (i) The Secretary-General shall send a copy of the protest to the members of the Board, and another copy to the team against which the protest has been made.
- (ii) The Chairman shall, as soon as possible, fix the date of the hearing which shall not be earlier than two days after the entry of the protest, but not later than may conflict with the requirement of -Association competitions.
- (iii) The date, time and place at which the protest is to be heard shall be notified to the other members of the Board by the secretary not later than twenty-four (24) hours from when the Chairman determines the day of the hearing.
- d. (i) The Board shall have full power to regulate its own proceedings and shall have the right to hear not only the evidence submitted by both parties concerned, but also other evidence from others that the Board deems necessary are relevant to the case.
- (ii) The parties to this protest shall produce substantial evidence at the hearing. The Board may not postpone any case if the Chairman does not have any exceptional circumstances, as well as the same time does not conflict with the exigencies of the competitions of the Association.
- (iii) The Board shall deliberate the case "in camera" as soon as possible. When the case has been resolved by the deliberations of both parties, the decision shall be signed by the Chairman and Board Members.
- (iv) All or part of the deposit shall be returned if the protest is won by the protester. In the event that the protest is not accepted the deposit will not be refunded.
- (v) The Board may make recommendations to the Council for further action on the case or any other matter arising at the hearing. The Board has a duty to do so.
- (vi) The Secretary General shall send the decisions of the Board to the parties concerned in writing no later than twenty-four (24) hours. The Secretary shall also notify the Council of any recommendations which the Board deems fit to make to the Council, on the first meeting of the Council.
- e. An appeal may be lodged against the decision of the Protest Board before the Board of Appeal of the M.D.A. (not on Competition Rules).

## **17. APPEALS BOARD**

- a) (i) This Association shall have an Appeals Board, appointed by the Executive Committee, which shall be composed of three neutral members (Chairman and two members). The task of this Board shall be to evaluate appeals submitted by Member Teams on decisions taken by the Protest Board or the Control and Discipline Board. This Board shall ensure that all the rules of this statute are complied with as provided in the same Statute.

- (ii) The Chairman of this Board shall have the ordinary vote as well as the casting vote.
- (iii) The Board shall be assisted by the Secretary General or by any other person appointed by the Administration and who may take part in the discussions but may not vote.
- b) An appeal lodged by a Team cannot be dealt with and will not be valid if it is not received in writing by the person lodging the appeal.
  - (i) In writing/email, explaining the shortcomings that the team is protesting about.
  - (ii) To the Secretary General of the Association and must be signed by the President or the Secretary of the same Team presenting the protest.
  - (iii) Arrive at the Association not later than five (5) working days by 6.30pm from the decision taken by the Protest Board or the Control and Discipline Board where a receipt will be given which will serve as evidence that the appeal has been received within the stipulated time.
  - (iv) Accompanied by a deposit of one hundred euro (€100).
  - (v) If the appeal presented is not as explained above the case will not be dealt with.
  - (vi) The Secretary General shall send the decisions of the Board to the parties concerned in writing no later than twenty-four (24) hours. The Secretary shall also notify the Council of any recommendations which the Board deems fit to the Council, on the first Council meeting.
  - (vii) No member or Team may refer a case to any other authority, whether private, governmental, judicial or sporting.
  - (viii) The Member Team that fails to comply with "(vii)" of this regulation, will be removed from the Association.
- c) The decisions taken by the Board of Appeal are final. An appeal can only be lodged with the Local Sports Tribunal.

## **18. THE COUNCIL**

This Association shall have a Council composed of a member of each team who may not even be a member of the Committee. (In the event that the Association at any time has to operate the Associated Members scheme, their representation on the Board shall be the same as that of any other Team member). These representatives may have one alternate, but only one of them may be present at Council meetings. No excuse will be accepted in case of any absence of any member at the meetings of the Council. A fine of twenty-five euros (25) will be imposed on the Team absent after the first absence and the fine will be increased by ten euros (10) for each absence after the first absence. These fines must be paid within fifteen days from the date of notification to the Team issued by the Association. In case the fine has not been paid as required by the regulation, the fine will be doubled.

- (1) It is the responsibility of each Team to ensure that its members do not miss these meetings.
- xi) In the event that any team feels the need to replace any member of the Council, or any of its alternates, this shall be approved by the Council and the team shall be notified of the progress made in this regard.
- xii) The quorum required for Council meetings shall be 50% of the members plus one. In the event that this number is not reached by the notified time, the meeting will begin fifteen (15) minutes later with the number present.
- xiii) While a case is being discussed in relation to a member Team, the representative of that Team in the Council shall not be able to represent his Club. Only the delegate or substitute appears for that Club.
- xiv) **In case a vote is required, only the Delegate and Council member representing each team and any neutral official (if any) are entitled to vote. If needed, the President has the "Casting Vote".** The President shall also have the 'Casting Vote' in case the vote is equal.
- xv) The Council shall deal with all matters relating to the conduct of the Association, see to it that the regulations are observed and shall reserve the right to bring before the competent Boards any case it deems appropriate. Council decisions are final.
- xvi) Any complaint by a Team shall be submitted to the Council or the Executive only. No Team or member of the Council may write, or publish or exclaim any complaints against the Administration, members of the Council, or



against any Team of this Association, as well as against any decisions or resolutions issued by the Council, or by any other Board of this regulation means removal of the Team from the Association.

- xvii) The Council has the right to suspend any competition for the purpose of organizing matches with any foreign teams if the occasion arises. This can be done after studying the situation and according to the requirements.
- xviii) The Council shall meet at least three times a year, before the start of the league, in the middle of the season and before the Annual General Meeting. The Administration or the Executive Council may convene other meetings of the Council if the need arises.

## **19. PUBLICATION**

The Association reserves the right to publish in the local press or otherwise reports of decisions and resolutions taken in the Council / Executive / other Board, even if they in any way reflect on the character or the conduct of any Team or officer (s), player / s or all those whose responsibility falls under any member Team.

## **20. GENERAL SECRETARY**

- (i) This Association shall have a Secretary General appointed by the Executive, responsible for the day to day running of this Association. The main role of this Officer is to coordinate all the work of the Association including that of each Board and / or Sub-Committee. Among other things, it shall keep the minutes of all meetings, both of the Annual General Meetings, of the Council and of the Executive Committee and all matters relating to the need of the Administration. He shall be remunerated according to the funds of the Association which amount shall be decided by the Executive Council.
- (ii) The Secretary General of this Association shall also keep the information and records of all competitive games; the results of all matches and (digital) score sheets must be kept with these records.
- (iii) The Secretary General may have an Assistant to assist in his work. This person shall be chosen from among the members of the Executive Committee or co-opted from outside. In case of co-opting, this person will not have the right to vote and will be approved by the Executive Committee.

## **21. TREASURER**

- a) The Treasurer is obliged to keep the financial books of the Association. At each Annual General Meeting it shall submit to the meeting a detailed Financial Report for the year that has elapsed and the current financial performance of the Association together with a Financial Estimate for the following season. He shall also ensure that the Financial Statement is certified and signed by two auditors.
- b) The Treasurer may have an Assistant to assist in his work. This person shall be chosen from among the members of the Executive Council and appointed by the Executive Council.

## **22. PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

The Association shall have a public relations officer appointed by the Executive Committee. Ideally this person should be well acquainted with sports journalism in order to be able to give good coverage of the Activities organized by the M.D.A. This person should promote as much as possible the game of darts among the general public. He shall be remunerated according to the funds of the Association which amount shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

## **23. REPRESENTATION BEFORE THE COURT**

The President and Secretary General of the Association shall be the Officers appearing on behalf of the Association before a Court of Law or in the event of an Arbitration Process. The President has the power to delegate a person or persons to present any case (s) explaining the regulations. The President and the Secretary General shall be the persons representing the Association in any contract entered into by the Association.

- 23a. The Association shall have an Advocate appointed by the Executive to defend its interests both in its Boards and in other matters.

## **PART IV: MEMBER TEAMS**

### **24. GAME BETTING**

No Officer, either of the Association or of a Team and / or player may place bets on any Darts games organized by this Association, **except the legal ones**. Teams are responsible for preventing any bets from being played. Anyone caught violating this regulation will be automatically suspended immediately and will not take any part, direct or indirect, in the activities of the Association.

### **25. CONTROL AND DISCIPLINE BOARD**

1. The Association shall have a Board, appointed by the Executive, which shall deal with all cases of Control and Discipline. This Board shall be composed of three **neutral members (Chairman and two members)**. This Board shall deal with any case of alleged breach of the regulations prescribed in this statute by either player (s), officer (s) and Clubs or teams thereof the Association.
2. When the case arises the Chairman shall be obliged to call the members of the Board as well as the person(s) involved in the case no later than 10 days from the date of being informed of the case. . All persons shall be informed no later than 48 hours of the place and time and day of the hearing.
3. This Board shall have a Secretary chosen by the Secretariat of the Association who shall have the right to take part in the discussion but shall not have the right to vote in the event of a need for a vote.
4. The Board shall cause every case to be executed on the same day without delay. The Board may defer only in some extraordinary cases which have no imminent solution to an accusation.
5. If the accused party fails to be present and the Control and Disciplinary Board has sufficient evidence of any breach as explained in sub-article 1, it shall give its verdict as well as the penalties explain in the regulations. The Board also has the power to adjourn the case to other dates in exceptional cases. The Control and Disciplinary Board may also suspend the accused (s) indefinitely until he is summoned again.
6. The Delegates of the Teams shall be the persons representing the Teams in case of allegations or other accusations against them. In the absence of such representatives, the Control and Discipline Board shall continue to use the same procedures as set out in sub-article 5. The Board shall have the power to deal with any case even in the absence of the member (s) involved in the case.
7. The parties involved in this case shall produce substantial evidence at the hearing. The Board shall deliberate the case "in camera" as soon as possible. When the case has been resolved by the deliberations of both parties, the decision shall be signed by the Chairman and the members of the Board.
8. The Secretary-General shall forward the decisions of the Board to the parties concerned in writing no later than twenty-four (24) hours. The Secretary shall notify the Council of any recommendations which the Board deems fit to make to the Council, on the first meeting of the Council.
9. An appeal may be lodged against the decision of the Control and Discipline Board before the Board of Appeal of the M.D.A.

### **26. WITHDRAWAL OR REMOVAL OF ANY TEAM FROM THE ASSOCIATION**

- (i) If any Team withdraws after the ballots have already been drawn, the Team will be removed from the Association or suspended by the Council, it shall forfeit any right of refund made to the Association, including the deposit.

### **27. LEGAL STEPS**

- a. No Team, club player or officer of the Association may take legal action against any decision of the Council or of any other Board within the Association. Members of this Association may not take legal action against each other without the permission of the Association. This permission shall be requested in writing and only in cases of physical violence. In case of non-compliance with this regulation, the Member Team will be removed from the Association.
- b. No person, member of this Association who initiates a judicial process against a person or persons, under any circumstances may reverse his decision and cease the process. Whoever violates this regulation will be removed from all activities of this Association.
- c. Officers of member Teams shall seek the permission of the Association, in writing, in the event that they feel they should take legal action against any persons, officers or members of the Association, except in cases of physical violence. This regulation does not include spectators.

- d. Those who contravene this regulation will be removed by members of this Association. No member of this Association may take legal action against the Management of the place where competitive games are held without the permission of the Council.

## **28. SPORTS ACTIVITIES BY MEMBER CLUBS**

In the event that a member team wishes to organize a Darts competition, both one day tournaments, ranking and non-ranking as well as summer league competitions, it must request written permission from the Association. In the event that the necessary permission is granted, the Organizers must observe the following measures:

- a) The Competition shall be held under the auspices of the M.D.A.
- b) The Association will have the right to monitor any progress during the event. The Association shall have the right to suspend or stop this event in the event of any irregularities.

## **29. ADMINISTRATION RIGHTS ON AFFILIATED TEAMS**

The Administration has the right to request the Administrative and Financial books as well as the minutes of the meetings of the Committee of each affiliated Team.

## **30. REMOVAL OF TEAMS DUE TO DISCIPLINE**

Under no circumstances will a team expelled from the Association due to discipline be re-admitted to the Association before a period of five years. The person (s) responsible for the dismissal will be suspended from any activity of the M.D.A.

## **31. RULING**

- (i) If any clause of all the rules of this statute cannot be interpreted or may have two interpretations, the President shall decide which interpretation is to be taken (Ruling). This ruling will be final.
- (ii) In the event of the need to give a ruling as explained in this regulation, the ruling that has been decided shall be circulated to the member Teams within fifteen days of the ruling. The effect of the ruling shall have immediate effect.

## **32. STATUTE**

A copy of this statute and the regulations of the Association shall be kept by each affiliated Team for the use of the same Team, as well as by its members and players.

# **PART V: COMPETITIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

## **33. SET UP OF THE COMPETITION**

The Administration together with the Executive shall determine the set-up of the competitions where after this it will be presented to the Council for information.

## **34. THE END OF THE SEASON**

The season should start no earlier than the third week of September and end at the end of May. If for any reason a game is cancelled, the dates of the postponed / cancelled games will be set by the Executive.

## **35. CANCELLATIONS OF ACTIVITIES**

If the M.D.A. has to cancel its activities due to circumstances beyond its control eg. pandemic, civil war, plague, or any act of God etc, if up to 75% of the games have been played in the National league, the current classification will be considered for the purpose of winners, promotion and relegation.

If 75% has not been played but more than 50% of the National league games have been played, the current standings will be considered for League Leaders for that team occupying first place. These teams are awarded the trophy which they hold for a year and a trophy for a team. No trophy will be awarded to players.

In both cases the league classification continues to be used for the purpose of Playing Rule 4.04 under Winning Honours, Promotion and Relegation, as well as the Overall Player of the Year classification for the purpose of player registrations for the next season.

If 50% of the National league matches have not been played, the league will be declared void and there will be no winner, promotion or relegation for the next season.

In this case the previous season's league classification will be used for the purpose of Playing Rule 4.04 under Honours, Promotion and Relegation, as well as the previous season's league classification. Former Overall Player of the Year for the purpose of player registrations for next season.

In any competition other than the 8-a-side mentioned above, if they are not completed they will be declared void and Player of the Year points will not be awarded.

In all of the above cases if there is still a case(s) of Discipline pending, it will be continued as soon as possible after everything returns to normal.

### **36. USE OF DRUGS OR PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES**

Any player may without prior notice be tested for use of prohibited substances or drugs. If a player is found positive, he can be suspended for a year to a lifetime.

Regulation 8.01 applies not only to activities organized by the M.D.A., but also to those activities organized by other clubs, individuals or organizers with the permission of the M.D.A.

If a player refuses to be tested, this will be considered as if he has tested positive and will be charged as stated in 8.01.

## **PART VI: PAYMENT OF FINES**

### **37. FINES**

- (i) Any fine imposed on a Team or its players must be paid before the game the Team is due to play. Whoever fails to comply with this regulation and wins the game will be awarded a defeat. In case of losing the game, the fine is doubled. If the team still does not pay the fine, it will not be allowed to play the next game/s (unless otherwise provided).

## **PART VII: INTERPRETATION OR CHANGE OF RULES**

### **38. CHANGE OF STATUTE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- (i) The Annual General Meeting, or the Extraordinary General Meeting, is the only authority that may change, add or reduce or amend any rule of this statute unless otherwise provided.
- (ii) Proposals for changes or other amendments to this statute shall reach the Secretary General of the Association not later than three (10) days before the Annual General Meeting for discussion.
- (iii) Proposals for amendments may be made by the Council, an Executive Committee or by any member Team and shall be signed by a Proponent, who makes them, and by another person seconding him. These persons may be officers or members of an associated Team in the M.D.A.
- (iv) Amendments to this statute may also be made at the Extraordinary Meeting specially convened by the Administration when and if the need arises.
- (v) **60%** of the members at the meeting as aforesaid is sufficient, for the purpose of this regulation, for an amendment to be implemented in this statute.
- (vi) Changes in the Playing Rules and Code of Discipline of the Association require a simple majority of the Council. These changes will take effect from the following season **if they have been effected at least two months before the Annual General Meeting.**

**Form A1 - Committee list**  
**Form B1 - List of members of the Council and Delegate**  
**Form C1 - Player Registration Form**  
**Form C2 - Player Release Form**

## **PART VIII: DISSOLUTION AND INVENTORY**

### **39. DISSOLUTION**

- (i) This Association may be dissolved only after a vote taken at a special General Meeting where 75% of the members present vote in favour of dissolution.
- (ii) In the event that this Association dissolves, or ceases for any period of time, the property shall be entrusted to the President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer who are in office in the time of dissolution in order to take care of it.
- (iii) The assets of the M.D.A. may be entrusted to the said officers for not more than five (5) years.
- (iv) If at the time of dissolution, or during the period when the Association is not functioning and any person or persons who were part of it as members, show the desire to re-establish this capacity in their capacity. Association, this can happen. To this end, the Officers who have entrusted to them the assets and property of the Association, have a duty and obligation to assist in the re-establishment of this Association.
- (v) In the event that by the stipulated time, no one wants to take responsibility for the re-establishment of this Association, all assets and property shall be deposited in accordance with the decision of the executors.

### **40. INVENTORY**

An inventory of all the property and assets of the Association shall be kept and updated approved annually at the Annual General Meeting.

## **STANDING ORDERS OF GENERAL MEETINGS AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

### **01. Venue of General Meetings and Council Meetings**

General Meetings and Council Meetings shall be held at a place identified by the Administration.

#### **Authority of the President**

The **President** shall have the authority to adjourn any meeting if he considers that there is insufficient matter to be discussed.

### **02. Attendance List**

The Secretary General shall keep a list of the Attendees and minutes of each meeting.

### **03. Notices of Motions**

Notification of any motion to be tabled shall be sent in writing to the Secretary General as explained in regulation (10) Sub C, Page 5.

### **04. Notification of Meetings**

The Secretary-General shall notify in writing and in due time, those persons who are eligible to attend and inform them of the Agenda to be discussed.

In case of urgency and by decision of the Chair, the notification may be not less than forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting.

### **05. Order of Procedures**

At all Meetings, the Secretary General shall present the minutes of the preceding meetings, all correspondence shall be read, both that sent and received by the Association. In case the Secretary General does not attend, the Assistant Secretary will be appointed in his place.

**06. Mode of Discussion**

Any person speaking at the meeting shall address the Chairman. No one may speak while another person is speaking, except on a "point of order".

**07. Manner of processing Motions**

All Motions arising out of a meeting, both original and amended, shall, if the Chairman so directs, be submitted to the Secretary in writing and with the signature of the proposer and seconder. Each member shall read his motion before speaking on it.

**08. Order of speech**

Unless the Chairman directs otherwise, the person tabling a resolution shall have the right to respond to it and shall not exclude the subject.

**09. Amendments to Motions**

When an amendment is tabled, no one may table another amendment until the first one has been dealt with in full. Amendments shall be dealt with in the order in which they are presented. Any amendment shall be tabled on the original amendment. If any amendment is rejected and there are no other amendments, then the first amendment or the original proposal, as the case may be, shall be passed as a resolution passed by the House.

**10. An amendment shall not be discussed if the person proposing it is not present**

If a member or Team submits a motion or amendment and is not present at the General Meeting, the motion or amendment will not be discussed.

**11. Decision on "show of hands".**

Any issues raised during a meeting shall be decided on a "show of hands". In the event that a member or delegate requests that the decision be taken by secret ballot, this request shall be granted.

**12. Matters submitted or discussed by the Council are considered Confidential.**

Discussions, statements by members, statements of witnesses and other matters submitted to the Council or any other Board of the Association are considered confidential and any member present at the meetings is obliged to honour this regulation. In case of non-compliance with this regulation, the person (s) and / or the Team will be suspended from any activity of the M.D.A. as well as a fine of one hundred and fifty euros (€150)

**13. In the event of anything not covered by this Statute, the decision of the Council shall be final and unappealable.**