

FEDERATION COLOMBOPHILE INTERNATIONALE

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Annex:

FEDERATION COLOMBOPHILE INTERNATIONALE

Founded on 9 January 1948.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION 2015

BUDAPEST Conference/ Hungary 2015

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CONSTITUTION

Art. 1

The Fédération Colombophile Internationale (abbreviated to FCI) is a non-profit-making organization of an essentially voluntary nature governed by article 60 and subsequent of the Swiss Civil Code. It is made up of the National Federations which govern the sport of pigeon-fancying in their respective countries and sporting associations of a representative nature in countries where there is no National Federation.

The Federation is domiciled in the town of CUGY (near Lausanne) SWITZERLAND and its general administrative offices are in Halle / BELGIUM.

The Federations and representative sporting associations affiliated to the FCI declare that they accept these articles of association and undertake to comply with them. They also undertake not to take any legal action against the FCI

The FCI has its own legal status and its official members, directors and employees are not liable for its debts.

AIMS

Art. 2

The FCI 's aims are to develop the sport of pigeon-fancying, to protect pigeon-fancying and the homing pigeon, in all its forms, as well as to examine pigeon-fancying problems of general interest. It governs the sport of pigeon-fancying in general and registers any equipment associated with its practice. It authorises and regulates the organisation of the pigeon-fancying Olympic Games, International Conferences and ratifies the World Championships as well as the Grand Prix competitions.

The FCI considers that the term "homing pigeon", refers to a pigeon:

- which is identified by a unique registration ring issued by an FCI member federation;
- whose direction-finding abilities, allow its owner to become involved in the hobby of taking part in pigeon-fancying trials;
- which is a sporting animal not involved in the commercial food chain.

PRINCIPLES

Art. 3

The principles of the FCI charter are based on the following:

- a) complying with the complete independence of the representative sporting Federations and associations acknowledged as governing the sport of pigeon-fancying in their country.
- b) the mutual respect of the Federations and affiliated representative sporting associations in their reciprocal relations.
- c) each member country undertakes to comply with the general rules and techniques established and adapted by the FCI Management Committee with regard to the materials (in the broadest sense) used in pigeon-fancying and on the subject of doping according to the rules applicable in each country.

MANAGEMENT BODIES

Art. 4

FCI operations are governed by the following committees and commissions:

- the Conference;
- the Management Committee;
- the Sport - Standard – Veterinary & Scientific — Articles of Association – Youth – Solidarity – Legal – Supervisory – communications and Information Commissions;
- the Commission associated with matters affecting the European Union (abbreviated to EU);
- the Finances Commission.

The FCI is independently governed by its Conferences.

FCI Conferences are held at the time of and as part of the Pigeon-Fancying Olympic Games organised every two years by the member National Federation of the FCI which has been nominated to do this by a previous Conference.

The Conferences are mainly concerned with matters of a statutory, administrative, sporting and financial nature.

They conduct statutory elections and accept, based on advice from the Management Committee, the Federations or representative sporting associations which have applied to be accepted as a member.

Art. 5

In order to be accepted as a member of the FCI, the Federation or sporting association representing the applicant country must send a request to the FCI's general administrative office in Halle, no later than two months before the date of the pigeon-fancying Olympic Games. The country must be a member of the International Olympic Committee.

This request must be accompanied by a detailed report about the applicant's pigeon-fancying activity, the number of enthusiasts, the number of pigeons, the organisation of competitions, their number, their range, etc.

The applicant must attach two copies of his articles of association to his application as well as a letter from two Federations which are already members of the FCI which agree to propose its candidacy. Countries in which there is no National Federation can be accepted by the FCI on two conditions:

- a) the combined associations must form a single delegation representative of their country. The delegation's principle of unity also applies for countries in which there are several federations.
- b) this single delegation must be proposed by four Federations. Its candidacy must be accompanied by a written report, issued by an affiliated Federation appointed by the FCI Management Committee,

All the affiliated members must pay the annual subscription, 10% of which is paid into the Youth Fund and 10% into the Solidarity Fund, as established by the International Conference.

The EU costs must be paid by the member associations of the FCI, which are part of the European Community.

Art. 6

The decision to exclude an active member may be taken by the majority of the active members attending a statutory International Conference, with the exception of the stipulations indicated in article 29 on the subject of Federations or representative sporting associations which are in arrears with their subscriptions.

Art. 7

All the Conferences begin in the morning and are expected to involve a full day's work.

Art. 8

An Extraordinary Conference may be convened if at least half the affiliated member countries indicate that they are interested in this, providing their reasons. If this is the case, the Management Committee shall be in charge of selecting the conference venue. The Management Committee, ruling on the majority of its members, also has the authority to convene Extraordinary Conferences.

Art. 9

All affiliated members are entitled to submit their proposals to the Conference.

In order to be placed on the agenda, these proposals must reach the FCI general administrative offices four months before the date on which the Olympic Games begin.

In the case of an Extraordinary Conference, proposals, accompanied by reasons, must reach the FCI general administrative office at least twenty-five days prior to the date of this Conference.

In the course of the session following the closure date for submitting proposals, the Management Committee shall issue any counter-proposals. These shall be notified to the member federations before the Conference.

Art. 10

In the case of International Conferences organised at the same time as the Olympic Games, well-grounded proposals notified to the general administrative office four months before the date on which the Olympic Games begin must be sent, together with their agendas, to the Federations and member associations at least one month before the date of the Conference.

If this concerns an Extraordinary Conference, this notification must be made 15 days before the date of the Conference.

Art. 11

All the official papers and documents compiled by the FCI are written in the French language. The member Federations and representative sporting associations are entitled to use their own national language or a widely-used international language in the correspondence they send to the FCI.

Art. 12

The FCI Conferences are public unless a decision to the contrary is taken by the majority of the delegates.

Art. 13

Voting takes place on absolute majority, namely half plus one of the votes cast. If the votes are equal, the proposal is not accepted.

Votes can be cast as follows:

- a) by means of a public ballot, by calling out the name of each country represented (verbal declaration made by the head of the delegation)
- b) by raising hands
- c) by means of a secret ballot whatever the subject, if the majority of the countries requests this.

Voting rights – one vote per country – are only granted to delegates present at the Conference provided that the country they represent is no more than one year in arrears with payment of its annual subscription, whose amount is fixed by the International Conference.

Postal votes shall be accepted at Extraordinary Conferences. They must reach the general administrative office at least three days before the ballot and must be contained in a sealed envelope.

The Federations and representative affiliated sporting associations which are officially represented and in line with the FCI have one vote per country at the Conference. New affiliate members approved by the Conference shall be entitled to vote as from the following Conference.

Any matter which is not on the agenda of a Conference may be added to this agenda in order to be discussed when the Conference is held, if at least half the Federations and representative delegations express this wish validly and in writing.

This resolution does not extend to requests to amend the articles of association.

No vote can be accepted about a matter which does not appear on the agenda, with the exception of the cases indicated in the previous paragraph.

International Conferences organised as part of Olympic Games are entitled to set up consultative Commissions and to make decisions, 6 years before the Olympic Games, on the following topics among others:

- a) the country in which the next Olympic Games shall be held.
- b) the choice of the Federation to be responsible for organising the World Championships.

Art. 14

In order to be acknowledged as a delegate, Conference participants must be at least 25 years of age, have been a practicing pigeon-fancier for at least 5 years, possess the nationality of the country they represent, be a member of its Federation or representative association and be appointed by this body. The participant's main activity cannot be profit-making in relation to the sport of pigeon-fancying.

Each country represented is entitled to send two delegates to International Conferences as well as to Extraordinary Conferences. Delegates can only represent the Federation or representative sporting association which has authorised them to do this.

Art. 15/I

A country which has submitted its candidacy for organising an Olympic Games and which has been appointed by an International Conference, must undertake to do the following:

- a) organise the physical aspects of the Olympic Games in a satisfactory way;
- b) pay all the accommodation expenses of the International Chairman, the Statutory Adviser, the Treasurer, the Administrative Secretary and the Coordinator-Interpreter;
- c) pay the overheads for the Olympic Games, particularly those relating to physical organisation, such as renting rooms for exhibition and Conference purposes (translators, equipment required and banquet(s), if applicable);
- d) only to grant authorization to sell pigeons if this is organised by the National Federation of the country in which the Olympic Games are organised or by the Management Committee of the FCI, if the sale takes place in the town where the Olympic Games are organised, if the profits from the sale benefit one or more philanthropic works, or can be used to reduce the costs generated by the Olympic Games. In the latter case, the benefits shall be shared, half each, by the Federation which has organised the event and the FCI. No personal financial advantage can be allowed.
- e) to invite the Honorary Presidents of the FCI
Other dedicated former members can be invited by the Management Committee.
Guests must pay their own transport and accommodation costs.

Diplomas and special prizes must be paid for by the Fédération Colombophile Internationale.

The transport and accommodation costs of the official delegates and judges must be paid by the respective Federations and representative associations.

Art. 15/II

A country which has submitted its candidacy for organising a World Championship and which has been appointed by the FCI Conference, must:

- a) install a dovecote capable of housing the teams representing all the countries (25 pigeons per federation) constituting the FCI, with maximum occupation of three pigeons per m³, installing the electronic entrances approved by the FCI. Appropriate veterinary assistance shall be guaranteed by the Federation organizing the event, under the supervision of the veterinary and Scientific Commission of the FCI
- b) the distance proposed for the competition must be accepted by the FCI
This distance can only be changed on express authorization of the FCI Chairman or delegate present at the Championships on request of the country organizing the event.
The Chairman of the FCI or its delegate shall be entitled to take part in all the activities associated with the competition. The organiser shall pay all the costs for his stay.

- c) The period for admission to the dovecote shall be 30 days. On competition day, the young pigeons must be 5 to 6 months old.

The first pigeon recorded shall take the title of the World Champion.

Classification per country shall be established on the basis of adding together the speeds produced by the first three

pigeons from the respective countries. The competition shall be closed when 20% of the pigeons taking part have been recorded, if not the competition shall be closed at midday the next day.

- d) the FCI shall pay the costs inherent in this, at the price established by the Management Committee.

- e) the pigeons shall remain the property of the country which has organised the competition and the FCI

If the competition coincides with an Olympic year, the pigeons shall be put on public sale on the Day of the Olympic Games, if the organiser is the same Federation. If not, the sale shall take place in the

organiser's country, and this party shall establish the place and date.

Under all circumstances, the FCI shall receive 25% of the proceeds from selling the pigeons.

Art. 15/III

The Conference shall appoint the consultative Commissions required for the FCI to function in a satisfactory way, namely:

- the Sporting Commission
- the Standard Commission
- the Veterinary & Scientific Commission
- the Articles of Association Commission
- the Youth Commission
- the Solidarity Commission
- the Commission relating to EU matters
- the Finances Commission.
- the Legal Commission
- the Supervisory Commission
- the Communications and Information Commission.

They shall consist of one member from each country wishing to be involved, with the exception of the Finance Commission, which consists of the Chairman, the 5 Vice-Chairmen, the Treasurer and the Administrative Secretary. If more than one delegate per country is present, the Federation represented shall have only one vote if an election takes place. The Commissions shall be chaired by the Vice-Chairmen of the FCI

The Chairmen of these Commissions shall be appointed by the Management Committee. The National Federations are responsible for the transport and accommodation costs for all the members.

These Commissions are responsible for submitting to the Management Committee the regulations required for achieving their aims. They shall meet at the FCI's administrative offices as required, convened by the Chairman of the FCI

Under no circumstances can the regulations proposed contradict the articles of association of the FCI

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Art. 16

The FCI is managed by a Management Committee comprising a Chairman, four vice-Chairmen, a Treasurer, a Statutory Adviser and a maximum of 1 member per five affiliated Federations.

The recommendation is to elect delegates who shall form the Management Committee according to a reasonable geographical representation.

The Management Committee shall also comprise an Administrative Secretary and a coordinator-interpreter (with an advisory role). The Administrative Secretary and the coordinator-interpreter are elected by the Management Committee for two years.

In order to sit on the Management Committee, the member must be at least 25 and must have been an active, practising pigeon-fancier for at least 5 years within the Federation or the representative sporting association he represents, possess the nationality of the country he represents and be appointed by his Federation or association.

Nobody whose main professional activity is related to the sport of pigeon-fancying can sit on the Management Committee.

A country can only have one member on this Committee (not including the Chairman, the Administrative Secretary, the coordinator-interpreter and the Chairman of the organisation where the general administrative offices are located who is automatically the vice-chairman of the Management Committee).

The Management Committee is elected for two years. Its election takes place at the time of the Olympic Games, as part of this event.

The Chairman is elected on absolute majority.

If votes are still equal after a second ballot, the new Management Committee shall appoint the Chairman.

In order to be a candidate for the Chairmanship, the party concerned must be the outgoing Chairman or Vice-Chairman. He must be proposed by his Federation once again and he must be proposed by a minimum of 5 other Federations.

In order to be a candidate for the vice-Chairmanship, the party concerned must be proposed by his Federation once again and must again be sponsored by a minimum of 5 other Federations.

The other members are elected on simple majority. A candidate who is not elected to the post of Chairman may propose, at the Conference, his candidacy for the Vice-Chairmanship. The candidate who is not elected to the post of Vice-Chairman may put forward his application as a member. These members can be re-elected, without restriction, on condition that they are again duly accredited and proposed by their Federation or respective representative association. Their mandate comes to an end as soon as

accreditation is withdrawn by the Federation in their country. In this case, the Federation shall be able to transfer a representative to the Management Committee but this person shall have the capacity of an observer, with no voting rights.

The Chairman represents the FCI in all circumstances; he directs discussions and is responsible for ensuring that the articles of association and the regulations are followed. If he is unable to carry out his mandate, he is replaced by a vice-Chairman appointed by the Management Committee. If the latter is unable to carry this out, the mandate passes to the General Treasurer or the Statutory Adviser.

These mandates can be fulfilled up until the International Conference organised as part of the next Olympic Games.

If the post of General Treasurer becomes vacant, the Management Committee appoints a temporary replacement from among its members.

All the applications for any post involving membership of the Management Committee, as well as the proposal statements, must be received by the General Administrative Office, at least four months before the election and be placed on the agenda for the Conference.

As an exception, the Chairman may propose an extra Vice-Chairman in order to ensure that the FCI functions and develops properly and that its interests are protected.

Art. 17

The Management Committee convenes the Conferences on the basis of the agenda which have reached it by the deadlines indicated. It makes contact with the Chairman of the Federation which is organizing the Olympic Games and gives it the instructions it can use to ensure that this event is successfully organized.

Art. 18

Between Conferences, the Management Committee has the most extensive powers with regard to managing the FCI and in addition to implementing the decisions reached by the Conferences, he takes all the measures and decisions dictated by the circumstances, provided that they are in no way contrary to the articles of association.

Art. 19

Any case not explicitly covered in the articles of association and having the nature of an emergency is settled by the Management Committee as closely as possible to the sporting spirit and interests of the FCI or the Federations and representative sporting associations.

Any protocol, contract, undertaking, etc., with third parties must be signed by the Chairman of the FCI and must always be countersigned by the Administrative Secretary or by a Vice-Chairman with responsibility for the Commission concerned.

Art. 20

The solution adopted in these cases must be notified to the next International Conference.

Art. 21

The Management Committee meets in principle twice a year on the dates fixed by its Chairman.

However it can be convened for urgent reasons on the request of one of its members and subject to authorisation for this being granted by the International Chairman. The travel and accommodation costs incurred by the Management Committee meetings are payable by the national Federations, except for those of the Administrative Secretary. Lunch in the course of the working day is payable by the FCI

Art. 22

Sessions of the Management Committee must be convened at least six weeks before the date of this session and reference must be made to its agenda. In the event of an emergency, with the Chairman being the sole judge of this state of affairs, the period can be shortened.

Art. 23

In order to be able to deliberate validly, the majority of the elected members of the Management Committee must be present at the very least. If votes are equal, the Chairman's vote takes precedence.

Art. 24

A report on the activities of the Management Committee and the General Administrative Office is submitted each time the Olympic Games take place.

Art. 25

The members of the Management Committee can be replaced at meetings of the Management Committee by a member of their Federation's Management, acting as an observer.

Art. 26

The International Chairman and the General Administrative Office are responsible for dealing with everyday matters. The Office is responsible for compiling and dispatching the mail which it submits to the International Chairman and signs with him.

The General Administrative Office is also responsible for compiling minutes; it ensures that the minutes relating to the Conferences are sent to the Federations and representative member associations within 45 days of the meeting taking place.

It must send the same document to all the members of the Management Committee in the same way as the minutes of the meetings of the Management Committee. It keeps the articles of association of the FCI up to date.

Art. 27

The minutes of a Conference are considered to have been accepted if no complaint has been sent to the general administrative office 45 days after they have been sent out by the affiliated Federations.

Art. 28

Any letter or document from a group which is not recognized by the FCI must be sent to the Federation or the duly affiliated representative association of the same nationality.

The General Administrative Office shall only follow this up after receiving a response from the Federation or representative association concerned. If this response fails to reach it in the normal period of time, it submits the case to the FCI Management Committee.

CASH MANAGEMENT

Art. 29

The Treasurer and the General Administrative Secretary are in charge, under the supervision of the International Chairman, of regularly collecting the subscriptions owed by the Federations and member representative associations.

The Chairman (or Treasurer) and the General Administrative Secretary jointly sign the bank transfers intended to cover the expenses of the FCI. Operations involving paying expenses and collecting money are carried out by the FCI's bank

They shall submit to the non-voting member of the board, appointed by the previous Conference, the accounting documents and information relating to this. This member shall sign the statement so that it may be approved.

The company year comprises the period between two Olympic Games.

At every International Conference, on proposal of the Treasurer, the accounts submitted are approved and the company year is closed.

Any Federation or representative sporting association which is two years in arrears with its subscription, shall receive, by registered letter, formal notification to make payment, and if this is not carried out within three months, it shall lose its right to vote at the Conference.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 30

Federations or representative associations affiliated to the FCI may not be affiliated to both the FCI and a competitor Union or Group or one which is declared as being such by the Management Committee or by a Conference.

Art. 31

The articles of association of the national Federations or representative sporting associations cannot counter the aims and principles of the FCI. All National Federations or representative associations must

send the International Administrative Office on its request, a copy of their articles of association and inform it of any amendments made to these.

Art. 32

In order to take part in an official competition or a demonstration organised by the FCI, the participant (club or person) must be a member of an affiliated federation.

An enthusiast who is the subject of an unconditional penalty or exclusion by his or her own national federation cannot become affiliated or participate in pigeon-fancying activities within another federation, which is a member of the FCI.

Art. 33

Former Chairmen of the FCI are automatically candidates for Honorary Chairmen.

This nomination must be carried out by the Conference. These Honorary Chairmen can also be asked to be representatives by the Management Committee or by the International Chairman. Given their experience, this position gives them the right to take part, without any voting rights, in all meetings of the Commissions, the Management Committee and the Conference.

On proposal of the Management Committee, the Conference may confer the title of Honorary Member on people worthy of this. This honorary title does not confer any particular right on the parties concerned.

The International Chairman may decide to grant the FCI diploma and medal on those worthy of this honour.

DISSOLUTION

Art. 34

The FCI is established on a permanent basis. If it is dissolved this decision can only be taken by an Extraordinary Conference especially convened forty-five days before the date of said Conference.

Conferences deliberating on dissolution must, at the time of voting, be attended by at least two thirds of the Federations or affiliated representative associations. The vote is passed if two thirds of the votes are cast.

If this quorum is not reached, a second, duly convened Extraordinary Conference may issue its opinion on the majority of votes.

The Extraordinary Conference pronouncing the dissolution rules on what is to be done with the FCI company assets

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