



CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL KEMPO FEDERATION

(Association governed by the French law of July 1, 1901, and the decree of August 16, 1901)

PREAMBLE

The undersigned, wishing to contribute to the global development of the mixed combat sport *Kempo*, and to maintain a democratic, transparent, and international governing body, hereby adopt these statutes of the *International Kempo Federation (IKF)*, an association governed by the French law of July 1, 1901, and the decree of August 16, 1901.

CHAPTER I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 – Title

The association “*Fédération Internationale de Kempo (International Kempo Federation – IKF)*,” founded in 2002 in Budapest, Hungary, is an international non-profit organization.

Article 2 – Registered Office

The headquarters of the IKF are located at:

237 ter, avenue Sainte-Marguerite, 06200 Nice, France.

It may be relocated by a simple decision of the Executive Committee.

Article 3 – Duration

The Federation is established for an unlimited duration.

Article 4 – Mission and Objectives

The objectives of the Federation are:

1. PROMOTION OF THE SPORT

- a) To promote, organize, and regulate the practice of the mixed combat sport “Kempo/Kenpô” worldwide;
- b) To develop Kempo as a universal, safe, and educational mixed martial art;

2. COMPETITIONS AND STANDARDS

- a) To ensure uniformity of rules and standards for international competitions;
- b) To organize World Championships, Continental Championships, and other official sporting events;
- c) To establish technical, educational, refereeing, and ethical standards for athletes, coaches, and officials;

3. ETHICS, FAIR PLAY, AND INTEGRITY

- a) To promote friendship, solidarity, respect, and fair play among nations and practitioners;
- b) To combat doping, match-fixing, corruption, harassment, and all forms of discrimination;
- c) To implement and monitor compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA);

4. INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AND COOPERATION

- a) To represent “Kempo/Kenpô” before international sports institutions and to actively seek recognition by the International Olympic Committee (IOC);
- b) To apply for and obtain membership in GAISF (Global Association of International Sports Federations / SportAccord), TAFISA, IWGA, and any other relevant international sports organizations;

- c) To establish cooperation with WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) and ensure that the IKF is included among the list of signatory federations.

5. DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

- a) To encourage the creation and recognition of national federations by their National Sports Authorities (NSA) / National Olympic Committees (NOC) and their integration into the IKF;
- b) To provide technical assistance, seminars, and development programs for emerging Kempo nations;
- c) To promote Kempo as a tool for youth education, health, cultural exchange, and peace;

CHAPTER II – MEMBERS

Article 5 – Categories of Members

The IKF is composed of:

- **FULL MEMBERS** – Founding members of the IKF, or national “Kempo/Kenpô” federations legally recognized by their National Sports Authority (NSA) and/or their National Olympic Committee (NOC), or national sports federations that have officially established a Kempo department/commission.
- **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** – National, regional, or local Kempo associations or clubs in countries where no recognized national Kempo federation exists.

Article 6 – Admission of Full Members

1. Eligibility Requirements

To obtain the status of Full Member of the IKF, the applicant organization must:

- a) Be either a founding member of the IKF, a legally recognized national Kempo/Kenpô federation by its NSA and/or NOC, or a legally recognized national sports federation that has officially created a Kempo/Kenpô department or commission;
- b) Have participated in at least three IKF World Championships;
- c) Be an independent, democratic, and non-profit organization;
- d) Comply with the Statutes and regulations of the Federation;
- e) Not be affiliated with another international Kempo/Kenpô organization in conflict with the IKF;

2. Application Procedure

Applications must be submitted in writing to the Secretary General and must include:

- a) A certified copy of the organization’s statutes and proof of its legal recognition in its country;
- b) A certified copy of recognition by the NSA/NOC;
- c) The list of affiliated clubs, athletes, referees, and officials;
- d) A Kempo/Kenpô activity report covering the last three years (including sample brackets, photos, videos);
- e) Proof of payment of the application fee, as established by the Executive Committee;

3. Review of the Application

- a) The Executive Committee reviews all applications in light of the compliance criteria;
- b) Additional information may be requested, or an on-site evaluation may be conducted;
- c) The Executive Committee may grant provisional admission, subject to ratification by the General Assembly;

4. Approval by the General Assembly

- a) Final admission as a Full Member requires a majority vote of the Full Members present or represented;
- b) The decision is final and not subject to appeal;

5. Rights of Full Members

- a) The right to vote at the General Assembly and to nominate candidates for the Executive Committee;
- b) The right to submit proposals, motions, and amendments to the Statutes and regulations;
- c) The right to propose and elect candidates for IKF offices and bodies;
- d) The right to participate in official IKF events, competitions, and activities;
- e) The right to receive all communications, documents, and benefits provided by the IKF;
- f) The right to exercise any other rights arising from the Statutes, regulations, and decisions of the IKF;

6. Obligations of Full Members

- a) To comply with the Statutes, regulations, and decisions of the IKF;
- b) To promote and develop Kempo/Kenpô in accordance with IKF principles;
- c) To organize their activities in a democratic, transparent, and non-profit manner;
- d) To pay membership dues and other financial obligations established by the IKF;
- e) To ensure participation in the IKF World Championships and other official events; a Full Member must participate annually in the IKF World Championships. Failure to participate for three (3) consecutive years results in automatic suspension; removal of Full Member status is decided by the General Assembly upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
- f) To preserve their independence from any other international organization in conflict with the IKF;
- g) To uphold principles of fair play, ethics, and human rights in all their activities;
- h) When two or more IKF Associate Members exist within the same country and one of them attains Full Member status, that member is obliged to offer the others the opportunity to join under the form of departments/commissions or any other arrangement agreed upon by the parties, guaranteeing them a right of expression within it, without prejudice to their previous activities, and allowing them to maintain their historical relations with the IKF;

Article 7 – Admission of Associate Members

1. Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for Associate Member status, the applicant must:

- a) Be duly registered or incorporated under national sports law as a sports club, association, or regional entity practicing Kempo/Kenpô;
- b) Operate in a country where no Full Member of the IKF exists at the time of application;
- c) Be independent, non-profit, democratic, and respectful of human rights;
- d) Represent the majority of Kempo/Kenpô associations within that country;
- e) Commit to promoting Kempo/Kenpô in accordance with the principles of the IKF;

2. Application Procedure

Applications, addressed in writing to the Secretary General, must include:

- a) The organization's statutes or internal regulations;
- b) A list of members, athletes, and instructors, along with a brief activity report;
- c) A declaration of compliance with the IKF's ethical rules and principles;
- d) Proof of payment of the application fee, if applicable.

3. Review and Approval

- a) The Executive Committee evaluates the applications and may grant provisional admission;
- b) Admission must be ratified by the General Assembly by a simple majority.

4. Rights of Associate Members

- a) To participate in the General Assembly without voting rights;
- b) To take part in official IKF events, competitions, and activities, in accordance with the Statutes and regulations;
- c) To receive official IKF communications and documents;
- d) To express opinions and submit proposals to IKF bodies, without deliberative power;
- e) To exercise any other rights specifically provided by the IKF Statutes, regulations, or decisions.

5. Obligations of Associate Members

- a) To comply with the Statutes, regulations, and decisions of the IKF;
- b) To promote and develop Kempo/Kenpô within their jurisdiction in accordance with IKF principles;
- c) To organize their activities in a democratic, transparent, and non-profit manner;
- d) To pay dues and fulfill other obligations set by the IKF;
- e) To respect principles of fair play, ethics, and human rights;
- f) To work towards the creation of a nationally recognized federation in their country;
- g) To participate annually in the IKF World Championships; failure to participate for three (3) consecutive years results in automatic suspension; expulsion is decided by the General Assembly upon proposal of the Executive Committee.

Article 8 – Loss of Membership Status

Membership status is lost through:

- a) Voluntary resignation;
- b) Dissolution of the member organization;
- c) Non-payment of annual dues;
- d) Non-participation for three consecutive years in the World Championships;
- e) Serious violation resulting in automatic provisional suspension;
- f) Expulsion decided by the Executive Committee and submitted for ratification by the General Assembly;

CHAPTER III – GOVERNANCE

Article 9 – Governing Bodies

The governing bodies of the Federation are:

- a) The General Assembly
- b) The Executive Committee
- c) The President
- d) The Vice-Presidents
- e) The Secretary General
- f) The Treasurer
- g) Specialized Commissions (technical, refereeing, disciplinary, medical, ethical)

Article 10 – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- a) The General Assembly is the supreme authority of the Federation.
- b) It is composed of all Full Members, each represented by one delegate.
- c) Associate and Honorary Members may attend with consultative (non-voting) rights only.
- d) The General Assembly meets at least once every two years, either in person or online.

Quorum:

At least 50% of the Full Members must be present or represented. If the quorum is not met, a second meeting may be convened no sooner than one (1) hour later, with the same agenda;

The General Assembly may then validly deliberate regardless of the number of Full Members present or represented.

Powers of the General Assembly:

- a) Approval of reports, financial statements, and budgets;
- b) Election and dismissal of the Executive Committee;
- c) Determination of membership dues;
- d) Adoption or amendment of the Statutes and Internal Regulations;
- e) Ratification of disciplinary sanctions and expulsions;
- f) Dissolution of the Federation;

Voting:

- a) Each Full Member has one (1) vote.
- b) Decisions are taken by simple majority, except for dissolution, which requires a three-quarters majority.

Article 11 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a) The Executive Committee administers the Federation between two General Assemblies;
- b) It is composed of the President, up to four (4) Vice Presidents, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and 2 to 5 additional members;
- c) Members are elected by the General Assembly for a renewable term of five (5) years;
- d) The Committee meets at least twice per year, either in person or online.

Powers of the Executive Committee:

- a) To implement the decisions of the General Assembly;
- b) To manage administration and finances;
- c) To admit and expel members (subject to ratification by the General Assembly);
- d) To create Commissions and appoint their members;
- e) To propose amendments and new regulations;
- f) To impose provisional disciplinary measures when necessary;

Article 12 – PRESIDENT

- a) The President is the legal representative of the Federation;
- b) He presides over the meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee;
- c) He signs official documents and contracts;
- d) He may delegate his powers to the Vice Presidents or to the Secretary General;
- e) He is elected by the General Assembly for a renewable term of five (5) years;

Article 13 – VICE PRESIDENTS

1. The Federation has up to four (4) Vice Presidents, elected by the General Assembly for a renewable term of five (5) years, as members of the Executive Committee.
2. The Vice Presidents assist the President in the performance of his duties and may be assigned specific areas of responsibility, as follows:

VICE PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT – manages relations with member federations and external sports institutions (IOC, GAISF/SportAccord, IWGA, TAFISA, WADA, etc.); oversees membership expansion and supports the recognition of new national federations; coordinates development projects and cooperation agreements.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR TRADITIONAL KEMPO – responsible for technical matters relating to traditional Kempo (kata, self-defense, demonstrative disciplines); supervises refereeing, rules, and training of coaches and referees for traditional Kempo; ensures grading standards and technical curricula; works closely with the Referees and Judges Commission.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMBAT KEMPO – responsible for technical aspects of combat Kempo (full contact, semi contact, grappling, submission, etc.); supervises refereeing, rules, and training of coaches and referees for combat Kempo; ensures compliance with medical and safety standards during competitions; collaborates with the Referees and Judges Commission and the Medical Commission.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ETHICS AND INTEGRITY – oversees the implementation of the IKF Ethics and Integrity Policy (including the fight against corruption, safeguarding, and gender equality); ensures compliance with conflict-of-interest rules and transparency standards.

3. In the event of the President's absence or incapacity, a Vice President shall be designated by the Executive Committee, in the order provided in Article 14, to serve as Acting President.
4. The Vice Presidents report to the Executive Committee and share responsibility for implementing the decisions of the General Assembly.
5. Any delegation of authority must be recorded in the minutes of the Executive Committee.

Article 14 – SECRETARY GENERAL

- a) The Secretary General is elected by the General Assembly for a renewable term of five (5) years;
- b) Appointed by the President of the IKF and validated by the General Assembly for a renewable five-year term;
- c) He is responsible for the administrative and operational management of the Federation, including:
 - Day-to-day administration, correspondence, and archives;
 - Preparation and filing of meeting minutes;
 - Maintenance of the membership register;
 - Sending of notices, circulars, and regulations;
 - Supervision of Secretariat staff (if applicable);
 - Support for competitions and events;
 - Ensuring compliance with the Statutes and Regulations.
3. He may countersign official documents.
4. In his absence, he may be replaced by an Assistant Secretary appointed by the President.

Article 15 – TREASURER

1. The Treasurer is a neutral officer appointed by the President of the IKF for a renewable term of five (5) years.
2. He manages the finances of the Federation, including:
 - Preparation of budgets and accounts;
 - Collection of membership fees and revenues;
 - Control of expenditures;
 - Compliance with French accounting standards;
 - Management of bank accounts and financial assets;
 - Presentation of financial reports to the General Assembly and the Executive Committee;

- Retention of receipts, invoices, and contracts for audit purposes;
 - Proposal of financial policies ensuring sustainability;
3. He may be temporarily replaced by an Assistant Treasurer appointed by the President.

CHAPTER IV – CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES

Article 16 – Continental & Regional Committees

1. Definition

Continental Committees are established within the structure of the IKF to coordinate, promote, and develop Kempo/Kenpô at the continental or regional level, in accordance with the Statutes and regulations of the IKF.

They operate under the authority of the IKF, without their own legal personality, and fully comply with the objectives, decisions, and policies of the Federation.

2. Appointment

- a) Continental and Regional Directors are appointed by the President of the IKF and confirmed by the General Assembly;
- b) Their term of office is 2 (two) years, renewable;
- c) They may be dismissed at any time by decision of the Executive Committee, on the proposal of the President, in cases of inactivity, misconduct, or violation of the IKF Statutes or regulations;

3. Responsibilities of Continental and Regional Directors

- a) Represent the IKF in their respective regions;
- b) Promote the development of Kempo/Kenpô through seminars, competitions, and educational activities;
- c) Maintain close relations with national federations and clubs within their region;
- d) Assist in the recognition of new national federations and encourage their application for IKF membership;
- e) Submit an annual report to the Executive Committee on the activities and progress within their continent;
- f) Support the organization of continental championships and regional events;

4. Authority

- a) Continental and Regional Directors operate under the direct supervision of the IKF President;
- b) They may not commit the Federation financially or legally without prior authorization from the IKF President;
- c) They perform development and liaison functions, not executive decision-making roles;

5. Status

Continental and Regional Directors may be invited to attend meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee with consultative (non-voting) status, unless they are also elected members of the Executive Committee.

CHAPTER V – ORGANIZING COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Article 17 – Organizing Committees and Commissions

Definition: Organizing Committees and Commissions are bodies established by the IKF to manage, supervise, or advise on specific areas of activity such as competitions, refereeing, technical matters, development, or discipline.

They operate exclusively under the authority of the IKF, **without legal personality**, and their structure, mandate, and responsibilities are determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with the Statutes and regulations of the IKF.

The IKF may establish Organizing Committees and Commissions to coordinate activities, projects, or events under its authority (as specified in the Internal Regulations).

These bodies operate in accordance with the IKF Statutes, its regulations, and the decisions of the Executive Committee.

Their composition, mandate, and responsibilities are defined by the IKF Executive Committee.

They act in an advisory or executive capacity depending on their assigned missions and report directly to the IKF Executive Committee.

They have no independent legal personality and act solely within the framework of the IKF.

Committees and Commissions:

TRADITIONAL KEMPO/KENPÔ COMMITTEE – establishes and updates the technical rules and standards of Traditional Kempo; supervises grading systems and ensures their uniform application worldwide.

COMBAT KEMPO/KENPÔ COMMITTEE – establishes and updates the technical rules and standards of Combat Kempo; supervises grading systems and ensures their uniform application worldwide.

REFEREES AND JUDGES COMMISSION – established under the Traditional and Combat Kempo Committees; organizes training, licensing, and evaluation of referees and judges; supervises officiating at IKF competitions.

COMPETITIONS COMMISSION – established under the Traditional and Combat Kempo Committees; plans, coordinates, and supervises official events and championships, ensuring compliance with IKF technical and organizational standards; establishes and updates technical standards for Kempo.

DISCIPLINARY AND ETHICS COMMISSION – investigates violations of the Statutes, regulations, or codes of conduct and imposes sanctions in accordance with IKF rules; safeguards integrity, fair play, and ethics within the IKF; resolves ethical conflicts and prevents corruption or abuse.

MEDICAL AND ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION – ensures the health and safety of athletes; supervises medical protocols and ensures compliance with international anti-doping standards.

ATHLETE SUPPORT COMMISSION – represents the interests of athletes; ensures their voices are considered in decision-making processes; promotes their well-being; educates and trains athletes, coaches, and entourages using frameworks and guidelines.

GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION – ensures that all IKF policies, rules, and programs promote equality and respect for diversity.

DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION – promotes Kempo/Kenpô globally, supports new member countries, and develops educational and training programs.

MARKETING AND MEDIA COMMISSION – oversees promotion, branding, and visibility of the IKF.

PARA KEMPO / ADAPTED (ADAPTADO) COMMISSION – ensures the health and safety of athletes, supervises equal opportunities, and ensures compliance with fairness standards.

LEGAL COMMISSION – ensures consistency in the application of rules and legal compliance within the Federation and its entities.

WOMEN AND SPORT COMMISSION – increases women's participation and leadership in sport; guarantees an inclusive environment for female athletes at all levels.

WORLD MANAGEMENT COMMISSION – ensures the implementation of all IKF policies, regulations, and programs.

TECHNICAL COMMISSION – proposes updates to the technical standards of Kempo/Kenpô.

CHAPTER VI – DISCIPLINE, ETHICS, AND INTEGRITY

Article 18 – Disciplinary Rules

A Disciplinary and Ethics Commission composed of at least three (3) members is appointed by the Executive Committee.

Sanctions may be imposed in the event of violations of the Statutes, rules, or ethical principles.

Possible sanctions include: warning, reprimand, suspension, exclusion from an event, or expulsion from the Federation.

The person concerned shall be informed in writing and granted the right to a defense.

Decisions may be appealed before the Executive Committee within 30 days.

Expulsions must be ratified by the General Assembly.

In urgent cases, the President may impose a provisional suspension, subject to review.

Article 19 – Ethics and Fair Play

The Federation adheres to the principles of:

- a) Ethical competition;
- b) Equality and non-discrimination;
- c) Respect for human rights and safeguarding of athletes;

Article 20 – Ethics and Integrity Policy

- a) The IKF applies zero tolerance toward corruption, both active and passive, competition manipulation, harassment, and abuse;
- b) The safeguarding of minors and vulnerable persons is a primary obligation for all members;
- c) Gender equality and equal opportunities are promoted in governance, participation, and competitions;
- d) Transparency is required in all financial, contractual, and administrative activities;

Article 21 – Conflict of Interest

- a) Members of the Executive Committee shall act independently and in the best interest of the Federation;
- b) Any real or potential conflict of interest must be declared and recorded in the minutes.;
- c) The person concerned shall abstain from participating in related discussions and votes;
- d) Breaches may result in disciplinary sanctions or removal from office;

Article 22 – Anti-Doping Compliance

- a) The IKF fully adheres to the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA);
- b) All members and athletes must comply with international and national anti-doping rules;
- c) Violations may result in disciplinary measures, including suspension or expulsion;

CHAPTER VII – FINANCES AND DIGITAL GOVERNANCE

Article 23 – Resources

The resources of the Federation include:

- a) Membership fees;
- b) Sponsorships and donations;
- c) Revenue from events;
- d) Public or private subsidies;
- e) Any other lawful source of income;
- f) Fees from grades, licenses, competition entries, seminars, training courses, etc.

Article 24 – Financial Year

The financial year runs from January 1 to December 31.

Article 25 – Accounts

- a) Annual accounts are prepared by the Treasurer and approved by the Executive Committee;
- b) The accounts are submitted to the General Assembly for approval;
- c) An auditor may be appointed if required by law or by the General Assembly;

Article 26 – Digital Governance

- a) General Assemblies and Executive Committee meetings may be held in person or through secure online platforms;
- b) Notices, agendas, and documents may be transmitted electronically;
- c) Electronic voting is valid if it is secure, verifiable, and accessible to all eligible members;
- d) Electronic signatures and documents have full legal effect to the extent permitted by applicable law. Decisions made electronically have full legal validity;

CHAPTER VIII – SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Article 27 – Internal Regulations

The Executive Committee may adopt Internal Regulations, subject to approval by the General Assembly.

Article 28 – Settlement of Disputes

- a) Internal disputes shall first be resolved through mediation or by the Disciplinary and Ethics Commission;
- b) Decisions may be appealed to the General Assembly, which acts as the final internal authority;
- c) After exhaustion of all internal remedies, disputes may be submitted to the **Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)** in Lausanne, Switzerland, whose decision shall be final and binding.

CHAPTER IX – AMENDMENT AND DISSOLUTION

Article 29 – Amendments to the Statutes

The Statutes may be amended by the General Assembly upon proposal of the Executive Committee or by at least one-tenth of the General Assembly members representing at least one-tenth of the votes.

In either case, the convocation, including an agenda mentioning the proposed amendments, must be sent to members of the General Assembly at least 15 days before the meeting date.

The General Assembly may amend the Statutes only if at least half of its members, representing at least half of the votes, are present.

If this quorum is not met, the Assembly shall be reconvened with the same agenda at least fifteen days later; it may then deliberate without any quorum requirement.

Amendments to the Statutes require a two-thirds majority of the members present, representing at least two-thirds of the votes.

Changes to these Statutes require a majority of votes cast by the General Assembly.

Article 30 – Dissolution

The General Assembly may pronounce the dissolution of the Federation only if convened specifically for this purpose.

It shall deliberate under the conditions set forth in Article 29.

Dissolution may be decided by a three-quarters majority of the General Assembly. In such a case, one or more liquidators shall be appointed, and the remaining assets shall be transferred to a non-profit association pursuing similar objectives, in accordance with French law.

Adopted and updated by the General Assembly of the International Kempo Federation, held on April 26, 2025, in Caldas da Rainha, Portugal.