



WORLD
AQUATICS

ELECTION RULES

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 It is in the interest of World Aquatics, all National Federations and all candidates for a position in World Aquatics that the respect of the fundamental ethical principles shall prevail during World Aquatics elections. In particular, it is essential that equality, fairness, transparency and proper behaviour be observed by all candidates in mutual respect. These Election Rules aim to implement the principles set out in the World Aquatics Constitution and World Aquatics integrity Code, to ensure that elections are conducted in a proper and fair manner.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1 The Election Rules apply to all candidates for World Aquatics positions as well as to their National Federations and government officials, all voting delegates and anyone attending or involved in any way in elections or nominations of World Aquatics.
- 2.2 A candidate is identified as such when their nomination is submitted to World Aquatics. This being said, an individual shall also be regarded as a candidate, and subject to the Election Rules, if they state their intention in public to be a candidate or campaign in such a way that gives the appearance of being a candidate, even if they have not been nominated.

3. ELECTION COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Election Committee shall be appointed by the Bureau.
- 3.2 The Election Committee is responsible for the process and overall conduct of any World Aquatics election, before and during the General Congress. The Election Committee is in charge of the following:
- a) Oversee the election process.
 - b) Address and decide on any dispute, claim or complaint filed in relation to the election process.
 - c) Serve as scrutineers during the election.
 - d) Report the results of the election to the Congress.
- 3.3 The Election Committee may investigate any activity around the elections and collect any form of evidence, including hearing witnesses and experts. All persons subject to the Election Rules must fully collaborate with the investigation.

4. CAMPAIGNING

- 4.1 The campaign of candidates shall start only after the announcement of the confirmation of the eligibility of the candidate by the AQIU.
- 4.2 The promotion of a candidature shall be conducted by the candidate themselves and their National Federation with dignity and moderation.
- 4.3 Candidates may outline and describe in a written document addressed to voting delegates their plans and views. Copies of any document used to support a candidature shall be provided by the candidates to the Election Committee. Directives of the Election Committee in respect of the content of the document shall be immediately observed and implemented by the Candidates.
- 4.4 All communications undertaken by a candidate shall strictly respect the other candidates and shall in no way be prejudicial to any other candidate.
- 4.5 Candidates and their National Federation must refrain from:
- a) entering into any form of undertaking with any individual or organisation that is likely to affect the candidate's freedom of decision or action if elected;
 - b) engaging in any act, coalition, collaboration or collusion by or between candidates with the intent to defraud or unduly manipulate the result of the vote;
 - c) requesting or using support, resources or services from World Aquatics in connection with their candidacies, even if they currently occupy elected or appointed positions within World Aquatics; and
 - d) giving or promising any type of support (financial or of other nature).
- 4.6 Voting delegates must:

- a) respect the integrity of the candidacy process, allowing equal conditions and opportunities for each candidate and potential candidate, treating them in a fair and equal manner, and avoiding any risk of conflict of interest;
 - b) not accept gifts or hospitality from any candidate, unless permitted under the Integrity Code;
 - c) not directly or indirectly solicit or accept any form of undue advantage from the process; and
 - d) not use the resources of World Aquatics to assist or back any candidate.
- 4.7 The candidates' respective governments and/or other public agencies or entities are prohibited to interfere, directly or indirectly, with the whole election process.
- 4.8 The candidates shall reject any form of undue interference by governments and/or other public agencies or entities.
- 4.9 If a National Federation or its delegate receive any communication about the election from a third party or any governmental agency or entities directly or indirectly, they must notify the Election Committee of the same immediately.
- 4.10 If the Election Committee finds that a candidate or their National Federation has violated the Election Rules or if the Election Committee is satisfied that there has been undue interference by a government in favour of a candidate, the Election Committee may impose any sanction or measure deemed appropriate, including exclusion of a candidate from the election, withdrawal of the right of a delegate to vote and the annulment of the results of the election.

5. VOTING

- 5.1 Voting at the elections will be carried out in accordance with the World Aquatics Rules and by secret ballot.
- 5.2 Only the delegates nominated by the respective National Federation as voting delegates will be allowed to cast the vote on behalf of their National Federation.
- 5.3 Abstentions and invalid votes shall not be counted.
- 5.4 The vote for the Bureau Members Continental Representatives will proceed as follows:
- a) The Congress will vote on a single slate and approve or reject all candidates nominated by the Continental Organisations for these positions.
 - b) If the Congress does not approve the slate of candidates nominated, an individual vote on each candidate will take place.
- 5.5 The vote for the Bureau Members World-at-Large Representatives will proceed as follows:
- a) The delegates will vote for three candidates from Africa that they would like to elect, of which no more than two candidates must be of the same gender. The three candidates with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected, provided that the gender requirements are respected. If they are not respected, the two candidates of a single gender with the highest number of valid votes cast and the candidate from the other gender with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected. In case of a tie for a position available, a tie-breaker vote will take place between the candidates in a tie. If the tie-breaker vote results again in a tie between two candidates, the World Aquatics President will decide, at his sole discretion, which of the tied candidates shall take the last position available.
 - b) The delegates will vote for four candidates from Asia that they would like to elect, of which no more than three candidates must be of the same gender. The four candidates with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected, provided that the gender requirements are respected. If they are not respected, the three candidates of a single gender with the highest number of valid votes cast and the candidate from the other gender with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected. In case of a tie for a position available, a tie-breaker vote will take place between the candidates in a tie. If the tie-breaker vote results again in a tie between two candidates, the World Aquatics President will decide, at his sole discretion, which of the tied candidates shall take the last position available.

- c) The delegates will vote for four candidates from America that they would like to elect, of which no more than three candidates must be of the same gender. The four candidates with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected, provided that the gender requirements are respected. If they are not respected, the three candidates of a single gender with the highest number of valid votes cast and the candidate from the other gender with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected. In case of a tie for a position available, a tie-breaker vote will take place between the candidates in a tie. If the tie-breaker vote results again in a tie between two candidates, the World Aquatics President will decide, at his sole discretion, which of the tied candidates shall take the last position available.
 - d) The delegates will vote for four candidates from Europe that they would like to elect, of which no more than three candidates must be of the same gender. The four candidates with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected, provided that the gender requirements are respected. If they are not respected, the three candidates of a single gender with the highest number of valid votes cast and the candidate from the other gender with the highest number of valid votes cast will be elected. In case of a tie for a position available, a tie-breaker vote will take place between the candidates in a tie. If the tie-breaker vote results again in a tie between two candidates, the World Aquatics President will decide, at his sole discretion, which of the tied candidates shall take the last position available.
 - e) The delegates will vote for the candidate from Oceania that they would like to elect. The candidate with the highest number of votes will be elected. In case of a tie, a tie-breaker vote will take place between the candidates in a tie. If the tie-breaker vote results again in a tie between two candidates, the World Aquatics President will decide, at his sole discretion, which of the tied candidates shall take the position.
- 5.6 Examples of how the vote for Bureau members World-at Large will proceed are provided in Annex 1 for ease of understanding.
- 5.7 The vote for the five Vice-Presidents will proceed as follows:
- a) The delegates will vote on a single slate to approve or reject all candidates nominated by their Continental Organisation for these positions.
 - b) If the delegates do not approve the slate of candidates nominated, an individual vote on each candidate will take place.
- 5.8 The vote for the first Vice-President will proceed as follows:
- a) The delegates will vote on whether they approve the candidate proposed by the five elected vice-presidents for this position.
- 5.9 The vote for the second Vice-President will proceed as follows:
- a) The delegates will vote on whether they approve the candidate proposed by the five elected vice-presidents for this position.

Annex 1 – Examples of voting process for the election of World Aquatics Bureau Members World-at-Large

EXAMPLE 1: SIMPLE RESULTS

Valid votes cast results for Asia:

- 1- Mr. A – 400 votes
- 2- Mr. B – 375 votes
- 3- Ms. C – 350 votes
- 4- Ms. D – 200 votes
- 5- Mr. E – 100 votes
- 6- Mr. F – 50 votes

Election results: Mr. A, Mr. B, Ms. C and Ms. D are elected as they were the four candidates with the highest number of valid votes cast and the gender requirements are met.

EXAMPLE 2: GENDER REQUIREMENTS NOT MET

Valid votes cast results for Asia:

- 1- Mr. A – 400 votes
- 2- Mr. B – 375 votes
- 3- Mr. E – 350 votes
- 4- Mr. F – 200 votes
- 5- Ms. D – 100 votes
- 6- Ms. C – 50 votes

Election Results: Mr. A, Mr. B, Mr. E and Ms. D are elected. Even though Mr. F came fourth, he cannot be elected as Article 14.4 of the World Aquatics Constitution stipulates that no more than 3 individuals from the same gender can be elected as World-at-Large Bureau Members from Asia.

EXAMPLE 3: TIE FOR LAST POSITION AVAILABLE WITH NO TIE-BREAKER REQUIRED

Valid votes cast results for Asia:

- 1- Mr. A – 400 votes
- 2- Mr. B – 375 votes
- 3- Mr. E – 200 votes
- 4- Ms. C – 150 votes
- 5- Mr. F – 150 votes
- 6- Ms. D – 100 votes

Election Results: Mr. A, Mr. B, Mr. E and Ms. C are elected. Even though Mr. F and Ms. C were tied for the fourth place, Mr. F could not be elected as Article 14.4 of the World Aquatics Constitution stipulates that no more than three individuals from the same gender can be elected as World-at-Large Bureau Members from Asia. Thus, no tie-breaker vote is required.

EXAMPLE 4: TIE FOR LAST POSITION AVAILABLE WITH TIE-BREAKER REQUIRED

Valid votes cast results for Asia:

- 1- Mr. A – 400 votes
- 2- Mr. B – 375 votes
- 3- Mr. E – 200 votes
- 4- Ms. D – 100 votes
- 5- Ms. C – 100 votes
- 6- Mr. F – 100 votes

Election Results: Mr. A, Mr. B and Mr. E are elected. A tie-breaker vote is organised between Ms. C and Ms. D for the fourth position. Mr. F cannot take part in the tie-breaker vote because Article 14.4 of the World Aquatics Constitution stipulates that no more than three individuals from the same gender can be elected as World-at-Large Bureau Members from Asia.

EXAMPLE 5: TRIPLE TIE FOR LAST TWO POSITION AVAILABLE

Valid votes cast results for Asia:

- 1- Mr. A – 400 votes
- 2- Mr. B – 375 votes
- 3- Mr. E – 200 votes
- 4- Ms. D – 200 votes
- 5- Mr. F – 200 votes
- 6- Ms. C – 25 votes

Election Results: Mr. A, Mr. B and Ms. D are elected. A tie-breaker vote is organised between Mr. E and Mr. F for the fourth position. Ms. D was elected without needing to take part in the tie-breaker vote because Article 14.4 of the World Aquatics Constitution stipulates that no more than three individuals from the same gender can be elected as World-at-Large Bureau members from Asia.

EXAMPLE 6: UNSUCCESSFUL TIE-BREAKER

Valid votes cast results for Asia:

- 1- Mr. A – 400 votes
- 2- Mr. B – 375 votes
- 3- Mr. E – 200 votes
- 4- Ms. D – 100 votes
- 5- Ms. C – 100 votes
- 6- Mr. F – 50 votes

Next steps: A tie-breaker vote is organised between Ms. C and Ms. D for the fourth position.

Valid votes cast results for the tie-breaker:

- 1- Ms. D – 400 votes
- 2- Ms. C – 400 votes

Election results: Mr. A, Mr. B and Mr. E are elected. The World Aquatics President will choose, at their sole discretion, who between Ms. C and Ms. D will take the fourth position available.