

**September-2014**

## **STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL NATURIST FEDERATION (INF-FNI) ASSOCIATION**

### **§ 1: Name, Headquarters and Scope of Activity**

1. The association maintains the name International Naturist Federation (INF-FNI).
2. Its social seat is located in Europe, A-4063 Hörsching, Eduard-Nittnerstrasse 14/6 and is active on a worldwide basis.

### **§ 2: Purpose**

The purpose of the non-profit association is:

1. Naturism/nudism is a way of life in harmony with nature whose activities are not directed towards profit. It is characterized by the practice of common nudity, with the intention of encouraging respect for oneself, respect for others and respect for the environment.
2. The goal of naturism/nudism is the promotion of the physical and mental health of humans in nature or in athletic activities. The INF-FNI supports all initiatives that nurture the body, the mind, and the soul, and opposes anything that can cause harm, especially the abuse of nicotine, alcohol, and drugs. It promotes the protection of nature and the environment.
3. The INF-FNI supports the international cooperation of all naturists/nudist to reach this common goal.
4. The INF-FNI supports the worldwide recognition of naturism/nudism and its development. It cooperates with national and international authorities.
5. The INF-FNI advocates the harmonious coexistence of all people and adopts a neutral attitude on political party, religion and world view. The INF-FNI rejects all forms of discrimination.
6. The INF-FNI strives to reach these goals by:
  - a. Promoting the foundation of national federations of naturist/nudist organizations.
  - b. Promoting cooperation between its members.
  - c. Representing its members.
  - d. Promoting the organization of sport and youth work.
  - e. Publishing writings about naturism/nudism.
  - f. Taking other actions that may support naturism/nudism.
  - g. Protecting against Threats to Naturism.

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### **§ 3: Means for Achieving the Association's Goals**

The necessary material resources shall be raised by means of joining and membership fees.

1. The INF-FNI finances its activities primarily by selling yearly INF-FNI stamps to attest direct or indirect affiliation with the INF-FNI.
2. Ordinary members must obtain and pay for a number of stamps equivalent to the number of affiliated persons over 18 they record every year. The reference date is 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year coming to an end. Youngsters under 18 years old receive the stamp free of charge.
3. The association funds are exclusively liable for payment of the INF's debts. INF-FNI members are only liable for the equivalent of the amount of their membership fee. Members may not be required to pay any contributions other than those stipulated in the statutes and resolutions of the General Assembly.
4. The financial year begins on 1<sup>st</sup> of January and ends on 31<sup>st</sup> of December.
5. The EC/CC prepares the annual accounts for both preceding years. The annual accounts must be approved by the General Assembly.
6. The EC/CC prepares the budgets for the coming two years. The budgets must be approved by the General Assembly.
7. The EC/CC temporarily authorizes, after approval by the auditors, the annual accounts in a year when no General Assembly takes place.

### **§ 4: Ordinary Membership**

Ordinary membership in the INF-FNI can be obtained by umbrella organizations (federations) of national naturist/nudist organizations. Only one federation from any given country can be recognized as an ordinary member. The Central Committee will decide on admission as an ordinary member.

### **§ 5: Extraordinary Membership**

The following may join as extraordinary members without voting rights:

1. Physical persons from countries without a national federation and
2. With the permission of the national federations as stated under § 4, organizations, and companies based in the country in question which represent, support, or are otherwise involved with naturism/nudism. The Central Committee will decide on admission as an extraordinary member.

### **§ 6: Terminating Membership**

Membership in the INF-FNI can be terminated with a three months notice at the end of each calendar year.

1. The Central Committee is authorized to revoke the membership of ordinary and extraordinary members with immediate effect if they no longer represent their country or no longer pursue the goals of the INF-FNI or for any other reasons. Membership may only be revoked by stating reasons. Debarred members do not have any claim to INF-FNI funds or to reimbursement of any contributions paid.
2. Members can only be debarred after having been informed of the decision to revoke their membership. They have the right to present their defense to the Law Council. The defense must take place within two months after receipt of the decision. It is a strict deadline.
3. The decision for excluding an ordinary member must be submitted to a vote during the next General Assembly.

## § 7: Members Rights and Duties

1. Ordinary and extraordinary members may participate in all INF-FNI events.
2. Only ordinary members have voting and election rights.
3. The ordinary and extraordinary members agree to support the INF-FNI activities and promptly pay their membership fees.
4. A minimum of one tenth of the ordinary members can direct the Committee to convene a General Assembly.
5. The INF-FNI shall provide ordinary members with international naturist cards.
6. The members need to have an ID-Card with a valid INF-FNI yearly stamp.

## § 8: Organs of the Association

The organs of the INF-FNI are:

1. The **G**eneral **A**ssembly (GA)
2. The **E**xecutive **C**ommittee and **C**entral **C**ommittee (EC/CC)
3. The **L**aw **C**ouncil (LC)
4. The **A**ccount **C**heckers (AC)

## § 9: General Assemblies

### I. General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the INF-FNI and has the power to:
  - a. determine the contributions of the ordinary and extraordinary members and the price of the INF-FNI stamp;
  - b. approve the annual accounts, the budget and the report of the CC, to grant discharge to the CC;
  - c. to appoint the President, both Vice-Presidents and other members of the Central Committee, the Law Council and the Account Checkers;
  - d. to take decisions on the proposals of members concerning the activities of the INF-FNI;
  - e. to take decisions on proposals from the other organs of the INF-FNI relating to their area of authority;
  - f. to modify the statutes;
  - g. to dissolve the INF-FNI.
2. The General Assembly is constituted of the delegates of the ordinary members.
3. It meets every two years for the purposes set out in these statutes. The convocation is made by the Central Committee.
4. In the years in which no General Assembly is held, the Central Committee has the authority to provisionally approve the annual accounts after approval by the account checkers. The Central Committee will submit the provisionally approved accounts to the next forthcoming General Assembly for approval.
5. The Central Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly or organize a postal vote. The invitations may be sent by ordinary post, by electronic mail or faxes, on condition that when the invitation is sent by email or faxes the member confirms its receipt either electronically or by fax. In case of missing receipt, the invitation must be sent by registered mail. An extraordinary assembly must be convened upon request of 1 tenth of the ordinary members.

6. During the General Assembly, each ordinary member has one country vote and as many membership votes as it gets for INF-FNI stamps during the two years prior to the INF-FNI General Assembly. The amount of votes is calculated so that the number of the stamps is divided by one hundred and from the result, the square root is calculated. Each ordinary member has at least one vote.
7. Unless otherwise provided by the statutes, the GA takes its decisions with the majority of votes, abstentions are not counted. This also applies to votes by regular post. Upon request of a member, a second vote will be conducted according to the country votes. If the results of the two vote casts are contradictory, no decision is taken.
8. The voting by membership votes and country votes may only be exercised if the set contributions were paid by the end of each fiscal year.
9. The ordinary members can be represented in the vote by another ordinary member. An ordinary member may not represent more than two other ordinary members. The power of representing other members must be submitted in written form.
10. No ordinary member representing another ordinary member can gather more than 20 votes for representation purposes, its own federation votes included.
11. The General Assembly can take legal decisions if at least one third of the possible votes are present or represented.

## **II. The extraordinary general assembly**

An extraordinary general assembly takes place if:

- a. at least a tenth of the members require such in a written form,
- b. asked for by the account checkers (§ 21 Paragraph. 5 first sentence, (Associations laws)
- c. Decided by the CC/EC (check § 21 Paragraph. 5 second sentence of association laws and § 11, point 2, third sentence of these statutes within 4 weeks of receipt of the letter.

## **§ 10: Tasks of the General Assembly**

Following tasks are reserved to the G.A.

- a) Decision about the provisional budget;
- b) Receipt and approval of the annual report and accounts with the involvement of the account checkers;
- c) Election and dismissal of Committee members and the account checkers;
- d) Approval of transactions between the account checkers and the Association;
- e) Discharge of the Central Committee;
- f ) Determination of the entry fee and fees for ordinary and extraordinary members
- g) Award and withdrawal of honorary membership;
- h) Approval of statute modifications and voluntary dissolution of the association;
- i) Discussion and decision on other questions of the agenda;
- j) Withdrawal of an ordinary membership.

## **§ 11: Central Committee**

1. The EC/CC handles the affairs of the INF-FNI in accordance with the statutes and the resolutions of the General Assembly. It has all powers with the exception of those reserved to the other organs of the INF-FNI. A secretariat is attached to the EC/CC to handle current business.

2. The EC/CC consists of a President, two Vice-Presidents and Committee members whose number shall be determined by the General Assembly. The number of members of the EC may in no case be less than two. In case the number of members of the EC falls below two, an Extraordinary General Assembly must be convened by the remaining CC members in order to appoint new board members.
3. The mandate duration of the EC/CC members is four years. Members may be re-elected
4. The Board is empowered to order activities for the association at a reasonable price. However, the budget situation is decisive.
5. In order to perform the management tasks and to manage the office, the CC is authorized to hire full-time employees within the budgetary possibilities.
6. The President represents the INF-FNI internally and externally. He chairs the meetings of the General Assembly and the EC/CC. Should he not be able to assist; he will be represented by one of his two vice presidents. The President may delegate his powers partly or entirely to his vice-presidents.
7. One of the two vice presidents is responsible for the secretariat, the other one for the finances. The remaining allocations are determined by the EC/CC.
8. The president and his two vice presidents form the Executive Committee (EC). The EC will prepare the meetings of the Central Committee (CC) and carry-out the decisions of the CC. The EC can take urgent decisions between the meetings of the Central Committee.
9. If a member of the EC/CC leaves, the EC/CC can appoint a substitute member until the next Annual General Assembly.
10. The Central Committee writes a report on its activities, which consists of the annual accounts and annual report, which must be approved by the GA.
11. The CC has the right and obligation, with a two-thirds majority, provided that at least two thirds of the members of the CC attend the meeting, to relieve the mandate of a member of the Central Committee if the following reasons are given:
  - a. Violation of § 2 of the INF-FNI Statutes;
  - b. Not performing of the assigned tasks;
  - c. Loss of confidence.

The concerned member must be heard, but he must abstain himself from voting. A protocol about the decision must be issued. Within two months after the Central Committee's decision, the member who has been relieved from his function can submit a non-suspensive appeal during the next GA.

12. The CC meets at least once a year or more, if necessary.

## **§ 12: Special Powers and Duties of Individual Committee Members**

1. The EC/CC is authorized to call upon experts or panels to handle tasks that require particular expertise or skills for reaching the necessary agreements with them.
2. They shall be accountable to the EC/CC.

## **§ 13: Account checkers (AC)**

1. The General Assembly shall elect two financial account checkers and one substitute account checker for a term of two years to audit the association's management and accounts and monitor the use of financial resources in accordance with the statutes. Account checkers may be reelected.
2. They shall submit a report to the GA and make a motion on whether to approve the annual accounts and discharge the EC/CC.

## **§ 14: Law Council (LC)**

1. The LC judges in accordance with laws and equity on complaints of ordinary or extraordinary members against decisions of the CC/EC or GA concerning:
  - a. Revocation of membership in the INF-FNI;
  - b. Transfer to another membership category;
  - c. Amount of voting rights based on contributions in the GA;
  - d. Violation of statutory membership rights;
  - e. Violation by the EC/CC of the statutes passed by the GA.
2. The LC consists of a President, a Vice-President and one substitute member. In the event that in the case to be decided, the decision ends in abeyance, the vote of the president casts.
3. The members of the LC are elected individually for a term of four years and should preferably be composed of practicing lawyers who belong to different federations. The Central Committee of the General Assembly may propose suitable candidates.
4. A member of the LC must abstain in a case the federation, of which he is a member, is involved.
5. The LC takes their decisions with a majority of votes either in a meeting or at the congress.
6. The complaint must be brought to the LC-President's attention within two months after the member became aware of the decision.
7. If the LC considers the complaint as justified, it cancels the decision and issues binding instructions for a corrected decision where necessary or reasonable.
8. The LC also decides as an adjudicator on disputes between the INF-FNI and its members, as long as they are jointly submitted by the parties. The decision of the LC as arbitrator is binding for the parties.
9. The President of the LC advises the organs of the INF-FNI, especially the CC and the GA, to the best of his knowledge and in good faith, based on the statutes and the laws that apply to them.

## **§ 15: Statute modifications**

1. Decisions on amending the statutes require a 2 / 3<sup>rd</sup> majority of the contributors' votes and the simple majority of the country votes being present.
2. Motions for statute modifications must be sent to the secretariat at least four months before the General Assembly, whenever possible in the three INF languages, and it must be delivered by the INF to the ordinary members at least three months before the General Assembly.

## **§ 16: Limitation of liability**

The liability of all organs of the INF / FNI is limited, in the exercise of their statutory activities and tasks, to intent and gross negligence. Should these persons be called for liability from third parties without intent or gross negligence, they are entitled to reimbursement by the INF-FNI for their expenses to defend against the claims and to indemnity for third party claims. The organs of the INF-FNI shall not be liable towards their inner members for negligently caused damages or losses suffered by members in the performance of sport events or during events organized by the association, where such encountered damages or losses are not covered by the Federation's insurance.

## **§ 17: Voluntary Dissolution of the Association**

1. A written ballot in which at least 4/5 of the ordinary members participate is required to dissolve the INF-FNI.
2. The self-dissolution shall be passed if 4/5 of the participating ordinary members (country votes) support the resolution.
3. The resolution to dissolve the association is only valid if it includes a provision on how to dispose of the remaining liquid funds. Any funds remaining after liquidation shall be disposed of in accordance with the purpose of the INF-FNI.
4. Unless stipulated otherwise in the resolution to dissolve the association, the GA shall carry out the dissolution.
5. The voluntary dissolution of the association can only be decided in a general assembly and only with a two-thirds majority of valid votes.
6. This General Assembly also has - if the association has assets - to decide on the settlement. In particular, a liquidator must be appointed and a decision must be taken on where the remaining assets should be transferred to after having covered all the liabilities.

## **§ 18: Languages**

The INF languages are English, German and French. Accordingly, the statutes and all other working papers, information and documents are written in these 3 languages.

Since the head office of the INF-FNI has its social seat in Austria, only the German text is legally valid.

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Adopted on 13.09.2014 during the INF World Congress 2014 in Ireland.