

FMJD Statutes

Approved 25 and 26 October 1984.

Amended 29 and 30 November 1986, 5 November 1994, 4 November 1996, 18 August 2001, 23 October 2005 and 10 November 2007.

The original statutes which are written in French, are juridical superior to other translations.

Each federation has the duty to provide his members with these statutes, bye-laws, regulations and updates, systematically or on demand, eventually translated in her proper language.

Chapter 1. Aims and composition of the FMJD

1.1. Name, headquarters and motto

The World Draughts Federation (officially Fédération Mondiale du Jeu de Dames, FMJD for short in the following text) is a non-profit organisation, member of G.A.I.S.F. (General Association of International Sports Federations) and I.M.S.A. (International Mind Sports Association).

The FMJD was founded on 16 September 1947 in Paris, has its official headquarters in Utrecht, Netherlands.

The FMJD has its official flag, hymn and motto: "Our strength is in the unity of draughts".

1.2. Duration

The Federation is established for an unlimited time.

1.3. Members

Members of the FMJD are all national draughts federations who acknowledge officially the statutes and bye-laws of the FMJD and develop activities not contrary to those statutes.

Applicants granted membership must have fulfilled any of the following conditions:

1.3.1. The Federation must belong to a country or a territory that is a member of the International Olympic Committee. (http://www.olympic.org/uk/organisation/noc/index_uk.asp)

1.3.2. The Federation must belong to a country or a territory with a membership or an observer status in the United Nations (GA'97) (<http://www.un.org/members/>)

1.4. Aims

The FMJD has as its aims:

1.4.1. The creation of, help for and development of any type of national draughts federations and continental confederations.

1.4.2. The development of the game in all countries.

1.4.3. The unification of regulations for international competitions between all member federations of the FMJD in the various variants of the game.

1.4.4. To publish the regulations of world championships, qualifying tournaments, world title matches and all other official FMJD competitions.

1.4.5. To publish the regulations for official titles.

1.4.6. To organise championships, congresses, conferences, and publicity promotions.

1.4.7. To distribute draughts publicity internationally.

1.4.8. To elevate the level of draughts culture and knowledge on a scientific, creative and cultural basis among devotees of draughts, in all genres of draughts activities, also to ameliorate the friendship between peoples.

1.4.9. To promote all activities stimulating the Draughts game.

1.4.10. The FMJD is organised in sections, managing the major versions of the Draughts game (100 squares, 64 squares, Checkers...)

1.5. The FMJD forbids all political, racial, social or religious discrimination in all its activities.

1.6. Every national federation that meets the above standards will be admitted to the FMJD. This admission has to be approved by the General Assembly. In every section, only one federation can be admitted. This admission will be confirmed by the General Assembly. The FMJD will support members to have recognition by their Government, National Olympic Committee or other official institutions. Sections can have organization allowance.

1.7. Each national federation has to honour its financial obligations, including the yearly subscription, which is decided upon by the General Assembly.

1.8. Member federations may lose membership by their own formal withdrawal, by default on their financial obligations, or by sanction imposed by the General Assembly when guilty of serious offences against the Bye-Laws (see Chapter IX), which may lead to suspension or exclusion.

1.9. Doping and Drug Use

FMJD, its affiliated member Federations, bodies and players hereby subscribe where appropriate for draughts players, to be bound by the relevant rules and guidelines prescribed by the International Olympic Committee and other relevant agencies or bodies set up for the monitoring of drug use and doping by athletes in all FMJD competitions.

A Medical Commission comprising medical experts and laymen chosen on the basis of their personal merits shall be appointed by the Board to liaise with the relevant organs of the International Olympic Committee and agree from time to time on the list (<http://www.wada-ama.org>) of prohibited substances and methods of doping that are applicable to draughts players in FMJD competitions.

1.10. Ethics

1.10.1. The game and concept of draughts is based on the assumption that everyone involved / concerned observes existing rules and regulations and attaches the greatest importance to fair play and good sportsmanship.

1.10.2. It is not possible to define exactly and in all circumstances the standard of conduct expected from all parties involved in FMJD tournaments and events, or to list all sets which would amount to a breach of the Code of Ethics and lead to disciplinary sanctions. In most cases, common sense will tell the participants the standards of behaviour that are required. If any of the participants in an FMJD event has any doubt as to the conduct which is expected of him or her, the FMJD officials present should be contacted or the local organizer who has been put in charge of the event.

1.10.3. Disputes arising during a game or tournament shall be resolved in accordance with the rules of play in existence at the time and with the tournament regulations.

1.10.4. The Code of Ethics is applicable to:

- FMJD office personnel,
- The members of the Board,
- Members of sections and committees,
- member federations, delegates and counsellors,
- affiliated organizations
- organizers, sponsors
- referees
- all competitors and accompanying persons in FMJD registered tournaments.

This Code of Ethics shall govern what action may be taken against any person or organization who deliberately or through gross negligence violates the rules and regulations of the game or neglects to observe the precepts of fair play.

1.11. The reporting year for the FMJD is from January 1st to December 31st.

Chapter 2. Executive Board and General Assembly

Executive Board

2.1. Executive Board Composition

The FMJD is led by an Executive Board composed of the following functionaries, each a member of their national federation:

- The President;
- The Executive Vice-President;
- The General Secretary;
- The Treasurer;
- The Tournament Director(s) of the 100 squares Section;
- The representatives of the continental confederations (Vice-presidents of the Board);
- The representatives of the sectional confederations Checkers and, 64 Russian/Brazilian (Vice-presidents of the Board);
- The representatives of the Problemism Committee and the Technical Committee;
- The representative of the male players;
- The representative of the female players;

The President presides, opens and closes the Executive Board but the Executive Vice-President convenes and conducts the meeting. The representative of the European Confederation, as first vice-president, replaces the Executive Vice-President when needed. He in turn, when needed, is replaced by the representative of the 64 squares Russian/Brazilian Section (second vice-president).

If no representative of the players is designated, the reigning world champions (male and female) are invited to fill the vacant seats.

Other representatives of the continental confederations, of the various committees and sections, the founding members, the members of honour and the players may, at the invitation of the President or the Executive Vice-President and for a consultative voice, be invited to sit in on the meetings of the Executive Board.

Sectional representatives cannot vote about items that only concern another section.

2.2. Board Members: Conditions

Each member of the Executive Board has to be member of his or her national federation for at least two years, be an adult, and enjoy all civil and political rights as such.

2.3. Costs of Board Members

No Board member will receive a salary for his or her work as member of the Executive Board. The reimbursement of travel, communication and representation costs have to be approved by the General Assembly. The financial report has to mention these expenses.

2.4. Meetings of the Executive Board

The Board meets four times a year, at least twice with full attendance, at dates decided by the Executive Vice-President, or at the instigation of a third of the members. Whenever they are needed, the Board invites the representatives of various confederations, sections and committees, as have been elected by the General Assembly or appointed by their own assembly, as well as the founding members, the members of honour and the players. These people are all invited at least once a year.

2.5. Decisions of the Board

The decisions of the Board are valid only if at least one third of its members are present or represented. In case of a tie, the President decides.

2.6. Office

To help the Board in its daily work, in an administrative capacity, the FMJD has an office. The Board decides where to house the office. The personnel of the office is appointed by the Board, as Office Manager ("Chef de Bureau") and in that particular capacity is not a member of the Board.

2.7. General Assembly Composition

The General Assembly, regular or Extraordinary, consists of accredited representatives of all national member federations, respecting chapter 4 of the Bye-Laws.

2.8. General Assembly Preparation

The FMJD meets each two years in the General Assembly, during a World Championship or another official tournament, and each time convened by the Executive Board or at the initiative of at least half of the members federations. The Assembly is presided over by the President of the FMJD, but conducted by the Executive Vice-President.

The office of the Executive Vice-President is that of the Board. The agenda is prepared by the Board. The reports on activities, the financial report have to be communicated at least one month in advance of the Assembly.

2.9. General Assembly Elections

- The General Assembly elects the President, the Executive Vice-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer and the Tournament Director(s) of the Executive Board following the rules and procedures of Chapter 4 of the Bye-Laws.

2.10. The General Assembly hears the reports on the activities of the Board members and the financial situation of the Federation. The Assembly gives its opinion and eventually approves the reports, approves the budget for the following period, decides on the issues in question on the agenda, elects the eligible members of the Board, nominates the financial committee and affirms titles and records.

Chapter 3. Financial Resources

3.1. Finance

Federation finances are taken care of by the Treasurer, who is accountable to the General Assembly. The expenses have to be approved by the President or by the Executive Vice-President or by the majority of the Board members. The President or, in case the President is unavailable, the Executive Vice-President represents the FMJD in all civil and juridical matters.

3.2. Resources

The resources of the FMJD accrue from the yearly subscriptions of the member federations, enrolment fees and organisation fees; gifts and other contributions of donors and international or national cultural or sportive organisations, incidental resources created in agreement with relevant authorities.

Chapter 4. Changes in the statutes and dissolution

4.1. Modification of Statutes

The statutes can only be modified by a proposition of the Executive Board or one third of the General Assembly. These modifications have to be submitted before the Board at least two months before the General Assembly. For the modification of the statutes an Extraordinary General Assembly has to be called, together with at least one third of the member federations (see 1.8 of the Statutes). If this number is not met, a new Extraordinary General Assembly has to be scheduled as soon as possible, and whatever the number of federations present, the latter meeting has the right to take binding decisions.

4.2. Dissolution

An Extraordinary General Assembly convened to end the existence of the FMJD has to contain at least half of the number of the member federations. If this number is not met, the meeting is convened again as soon as possible, and then can decide whatever the attendance. In any case, dissolution can only be decided on the sustaining vote of a two-thirds majority of all present.

4.3. Dissolution, Liquidation of Assets

In the case of dissolution, the Extraordinary General Assembly donates the remaining assets to one or more similar associations and designates one or more trustees to liquidate the assets of the Federation.

Chapter 5. Control and Bye-Laws

5.1. In the three months after the General Assembly, the President or, in case the President is unavailable, the Executive Vice-President of the FMJD informs the authorities of its social seat of all modifications in the administration of the FMJD.

5.2. Bye-Laws : The Bye-Laws and Annexes, drawn up by the Executive Board, have to be put before the ordinary General Assembly for approval.