FMJD
Statutes

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CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Name and headquarters

a. The World Draughts Federation FMJD, originally Fédération Mondiale du Jeu de Dames, is a non-profit association, composed of autonomous and independent national draughts federations.
b. FMJD is the principal governing body for international draughts on 100 squares, sections are responsible for other variants
c. FMJD is constituted according to art. 26-52 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, and is formed for an unlimited period of time.
d. The registered office of FMJD is located in the Netherlands.

Article 2. Objectives

2.1 The objectives of FMJD are

1. To promote and develop all variants of draughts at all levels, as a means to contribute to the positive development of society;
2. To develop specific services for its Members and all draughts players, and provide them with assistance, training and support;
3. To increase the level of recognition of FMJD and its Members by the Olympic Movement stakeholders as well as by other entities involved in sport;
4. To fight against doping and promote Peace in and through sport
5. to organise high level tournaments such as World Championships and actively support the organisation of tournaments by its Members;
6. To set and publish regulations for titles and grant them to those entitled to receive them
7. To be a modern, flexible, transparent and accountable organisation;
8. To organise, at least once every two years, a gathering of all of its Members, and of other stakeholders of the draughts movement, called the General Assembly;
9. To recognise unconditionally the autonomy of its Members and their authority within their organisation;
10. To promote closer links among its Members, and between its Members
11. To coordinate and protect the common interests of its Members;
12. To collaborate with and where possible be a member of organisations having as (one of) their objective(s) the promotion of mind sports on a world-wide basis;
13. To collect, collate and circulate information to and among its Members.

2.2 Other objectives may be defined by the General Assembly.

Article 3. Non-discrimination, representation of women

3.1 FMJD and its Members reject all forms and means of discrimination against individuals, groups of people, organisations or countries on grounds of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion or politics.

3.2 FMJD supports a fair representation of women in its activities and in the management of sport.

Article 4. Official languages

4.1 The official languages of FMJD are English, French and Russian.

4.2 Its Members in their relations with FMJD shall use English as much as possible. For the interpretation of the Statutes and all other official documents of FMJD the original English language shall prevail

CHAPTER II MEMBERSHIP

Article 5. Categories of Members

The Members of FMJD are the countries represented by:

a) The Full Members whose admission has been approved by the General Assembly.
b) Members of Sections
c) The Provisional Members
d) The Candidate Members

Article 6. Conditions for Membership

6.1 Full Members

Full Members are those National Organisations that are accepted by the General Assembly as the representing Draughts Organisation for their country or territory

Candidate organisations for full membership shall fulfil the following conditions:

Structure and Governance

1. Be the national representative for draughts
2. Be a registered non-profit organisation
3. Support the fight against doping
4. Take measures to promote the participation of women and persons with disabilities, apply fair play, look after players health and safety, have high standard arbitration and clear competition rules;
5. Take measures to protect the players and their entourage from corruption, illegal and irregular betting, fraud, and other harmful practices linked to sport.
6. Take measures to incorporate and implement sustainability principles both with regard to the environment and society
7. Apply in all aspects of its daily business the principles of good governance

The FMJD accepts the membership of all national federations who acknowledge officially the statutes and internal regulations of the FMJD and do not develop activities contrary to those statutes. Any national federation applying for membership, sends a written request to the Executive Board, with the signatures of its president and general secretary, and a copy of the statutes of the federation.

6.2 Sections

Sections are organisations representing other variants of draughts such as, but not limited to:

- Russian and/or Brazilian draughts on 64 squares
- Checkers
- Turkish draughts

Or other variants with whom the FMJD are committed to working in partnership with towards a better shared future to the discretion of the General Assembly.

Sections may have different organisation forms varying from independent organisations having their own council, members, finances, general assembly, statutes and elections to sections fully integrated in FMJD.

FMJD can collaborate with the sections in the organisation of all-encompassing international mind sport events in which the organisation accepts draughts such as IMSA and Sport Accord.

Sections can use the FMJD logo but always need to mention 'section of FMJD'

6.3 Regional members are local associations governing Draughts in a distant territory that falls within the authority of an affiliated National Federation

6.4 Provisional members are national organisations who have applied for full membership and have been accepted by the Executive Council but still need confirmation by the General Assembly to become full member.

6.5 Candidate members are national organisations from which players have participated in official FMJD tournaments but which have not yet applied for full membership

Article 7. Application procedure and conditions for membership

7.1 Applications for membership must be submitted 3 months prior to the General Assembly at which they are to be considered.

7.2 The FMJD Executive Council reviews each application and recommends or does not recommend an applicant to the General Assembly.

7.3 The FMJD Executive Council can decide to grant provisional membership to an applicant

Article 8. Honorary Members

The General Assembly may, upon a proposal by the Council, grant the title of "Honorary President" or "Honorary Member" respectively to a retiring President or a retiring Council Member for their outstanding services to FMJD. They may attend the General Assembly, but do not have the right to vote. Also other persons that have been active for FMJD and rendered outstanding services can be granted the title of "Honorary Member"

Article 9. Members' rights

Members have the right:

9.1 To receive in advance the agenda of the General Assembly, to be called to the meeting within the prescribed time, to take part to the meeting and, if full members and sections, to exercise their right to participate in voting and elections;

9.2 To be informed about the current state of FMJD;

9.3 To draw up proposals regarding the Agenda of the General Assembly;

9.4 To nominate candidates for all functions within FMJD to the Presidency of FMJD;

9.5 To exercise any other right arising from the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FMJD.

Article 10. Members' obligations

Members have the obligation:

10.1. To comply at any time unreservedly with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FMJD;

10.2. To have at all times their executive organs, and, if applicable, their disciplinary organs, elected by their respective General Assembly;

10.3. To notify FMJD, in writing of any modification in their constitution or/statutes, or of the inclusion or hiving off of any new draughts discipline to their program and any change that affects the conditions of admission;

10.4. To pay their membership subscription in due time.

Article 11. Resignation

11.1 An FMJD Member may resign at any time, but shall have the responsibility for outstanding liabilities to FMJD, including members' subscription debt redemption.

11.2 Such resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt of a notice of resignation signed by the authorised person(s), and shall be reported to the next General Assembly by the Administration of FMJD

Article 12. Revision of Membership

Modifications of its constitution/statutes, regulations and directives by a Member or ceasing to comply with the conditions of membership, may result in the revision by the General Assembly of its membership of FMJD.

As a result of such revision the General Assembly may set a deadline within which the Member shall comply with any directions that the General Assembly may give failing which the General Assembly may decide to suspend or expel the Member.

Article 13. Suspension

The Executive Council may, by a majority decision, suspend until the next General Assembly a Member who fails to comply with a provision of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FMJD, and in particular for the following reasons:

1. Non-payment of any liabilities due to FMJD;
2. Owing 2 (two) years of overdue annual membership fee to FMJD;
3. A final decision must be made by the next General Assembly, provided the suspension is still in force at that time.

Article 14. Expulsion

A Member shall lose its membership of FMJD on a resolution passed by the FMJD General Assembly, notably for the following reasons:

1. Refusal to pay any liabilities due to FMJD;
2. Non-payment of any membership fees due to FMJD for 4 (four) or more years;
3. Refusal to comply with the provisions of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FMJD;
4. Loss of its status of representative of its sport at the international level.
5. When the General Assembly decides that a federation in a country does not represent the interests of international draughts on 100 squares sufficiently, the General Assembly can accept another federation in that country as full member

Article 15. Notices

15.1 A notice or notification to a Member shall be deemed to have been properly received provided it was sent to the last address indicated by the Member to the Administration.

15.2 Notification regarding suspension or expulsion of the Member concerned or dissolution of FMJD shall always be sent by registered mail.

CHAPTER III. ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 16. Organs

16.1 The General Assembly is the supreme organ of FMJD

16.2 The Council is the governing body of FMJD and consists of members elected by the General Assembly that form the Executive council and members that are elected otherwise

16.3 Committees support the General Assembly. These are the financial committee and the ethics committee . Their members are elected by the General Assembly.

16.4 Committees that support the Council. They are mentioned in the internal regulations. Their members are nominated by the Council.

A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 17. Definition, organisation

17.1 The General Assembly is the meeting attended by the Members of FMJD, and a delegation of each of the sections. It is the supreme organ of FMJD.

17.2 Only a General Assembly regularly convened has the authority to exercise its powers.

17.3 The General Assembly may be Ordinary or Extraordinary.

17.4 The meetings of the General Assembly are open to the public except when decided otherwise by General Assembly. When justified by the circumstances, the chairman of the assembly may under decision of the General Assembly request individual members of the public to leave the conference room.

Article 18. Powers of the General Assembly

18.1 The General Assembly adopts or amends the Statutes, regulations and directives of FMJD.

18.2 The General Assembly may amend or revoke the regulations and directives of the Council to the extent that they affect the Members directly.

18.3 The General Assembly approves the minutes of the last meeting.

18.4 The General Assembly admits, suspends (subject to article 13.1) or expels a Member.

18.5 The General Assembly elects the President, the vice president, the general secretary, the treasurer and the directors of tournaments International draughts on 100 squares.

18.6 The General Assembly appoints the independent auditors.

18.7 The General Assembly approves the budgets, financial statements and the activity report.

18.8 The General Assembly discharges the treasurer for his financial policy and discharges all members of the Council for their activities and decisions.

18.9 The General Assembly sets the amount of the subscription for Members;

18.10 The General Assembly bestows, on a proposal by the Council, the title of Honorary President or Honorary Member on a retiring President or retiring Council Member who rendered outstanding services to FMJD

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18.11 The General Assembly exercises any other competence specifically attributed to it by the Statutes, regulations and directives of FMJD.

18.12 The General Assembly nominates committee member of the committees that support the General Assembly

18.13 On each point or proposal in the General Assembly a maximum speaking time of 5 minutes is allotted for each federation including translations

Article 19. Delegates

19.1 Each Member's delegation is limited to a maximum of 3 (three) persons.

19.2. All delegates other than the President/Chair, Vice-President or Secretary General/Director General of the Member shall send to the Administration a power of attorney document signed by one of the above mentioned three Officers, which he must carry on the day of the General Assembly.

19.3 Each Section shall be entitled to send a delegation.

Article 20. Quorums

20.1 The quorum for general business of the General Assembly shall be the majority of the Members having voting rights.

20.2 The quorum for business entailing changes of these Statutes shall be the majority of the members having voting right

20.3 The quorum for the dissolution of FMJD shall be 2/3 (two third) of the Members having voting rights.

Article 21. Voting

21.1 Each Full Member who has satisfied all its financial obligations toward FMJD at the time of the meeting is entitled to one vote.

21.2 A delegate may represent 1 (one) more Member that has given his voting rights in an official letter to the delegate. The original letter needs to be presented to the council before the meeting starts.

21.3 Save any indication to the contrary in these Statutes, all decisions shall be made by the majority of the votes validly cast

21.4 Illegible, void, and blank votes, and abstentions shall not be included in the count of validly cast votes

21.5 Except in the case of elections, voting shall always be conducted by a show of hands or voting machines, unless 2 (two) or more Members having voting rights should request a secret ballot; in that case, voting machines may also be used, provided they allow secrecy in voting. When the General Assembly rejects a candidate for a position, the General Assembly needs to come with an alternative candidate.

21.6 Dissolution of FMJD requires 2/3 of the votes validly cast

21.7 In exceptional cases, or when circumstances force a quick decision, the Executive Council can issue a vote by correspondence among the members of FMJD. For such a vote, the members need at least a month for internal consultation before answering. The vote is by the majority of the votes actually cast. The decision has to be ratified at the next meeting of the General Assembly.

21.8 Every federation has the right to ask for a vote about a proposal at the General Assembly, even when it may seem clear what the outcome of such a vote may be

Article 22. Elections

22.1 A candidate is elected if he/she obtains the majority of the votes validly cast.

22.2 Voting for elections shall always be carried out by secret ballot whenever there is more than 1 (one) candidate for the office up for election. Voting machines may be used provided they allow secrecy in voting.

22.3 In the event there is only one candidate for the position being filled, the election will be carried out by acclamation, unless an election by secret ballot is requested by at least 2 (two) Members having voting rights.

Article 23. Election of the President

23.1 During the election of the President, the out-going President shall, if seeking re-election, surrender the chair to a "chairman pro-tempore", elected by the Assembly, who will then conduct the election.

23.2 The out-going President subject to the provision of article 23.1 resumes his position after the election and continues to chair the General Assembly.

23.3 The newly elected President and Council members take office after the close of the General Assembly unless the General Assembly decides otherwise.

Article 24. Ordinary General Assembly

24.1 The Ordinary General Assembly is convened by the Council once every 2 (two) years, preferably on the occasion of the World Championship all categories.

24.2 All proposals by Members or by the Council to modify the FMJD Statutes should be communicated in writing to the Administration at least 6 (six) months prior to the General Assembly.
Proposals by the members to modify the statutes will only be considered by the Executive Council when they are signed by at least 5 members with voting right.
After consideration, the Council will pass on the proposal to the Members along with its comments at the latest 4 (four) months before the General Assembly.

24.3 At least 4 (four) months before the date of the opening of the General Assembly, the Administration shall send a formal call to the meeting to all Members. The notice shall stipulate that any Member willing to add a new item on the agenda must submit it to the FMJD Administration no later than 2 months prior to the meeting. Also proposed changes of Statutes will be sent to all members.

24.4 At least 1 (one) month before the General Assembly meets, the Administration shall circulate the agenda as prepared by the Council, together with the activity report and any other relevant documents. The budget and the accounts will be circulated immediately after having been audited, but, in any case, at least one month before the General Assembly.

24.5 Together with the agenda, the Administration shall circulate details of any membership applications and a brief description and results of any investigations made to that effect by the Administration as well as any recommendations by the Council. Objections to or reservations held regarding such membership applications must be communicated to the Administration together with the reasons for such objection or reservation, no later than 15 days prior to the General Assembly.

Article 25. Agenda for Ordinary General Assembly

25.1 The agenda shall contain but is not limited to the following items:

1. Opening of the meeting;
2. Roll call
3. Adoption of the agenda subject to article 25.2;
4. President's address;
5. Appointment of scrutinisers (if applicable);
6. Suspension or expulsion of a Member (if applicable)
7. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting;
8. Activity reports;
9. Reports of the committees
10. Financial matters (balance sheet, accounts, auditing report, budget, auditor…);
11. Discharge of the members of the Council;
12. Statutes modifications (if applicable);
13. Proposals by council and members
14. Voting and elections (if applicable);
15. New membership applications;
16. Items presented for information;
17. Items brought forward from meetings among Members;
18. Date and place of next meeting.

25.2 The Council and the members may add any urgent matter to the agenda of the General Assembly at the start of the meeting. In any other cases, the agenda may be modified by the General Assembly provided this is supported by a majority of the votes validly cast

Article 26. Nominations for election in the Council

26.1 Nominations for the functions in the council for which there are elections at the General Assembly must be notified in writing to the Administration at the latest 30 (thirty) days before the beginning of the meeting at which the elections will take place. The General Secretary will issue a note indicating the deadline to be observed at the latest 60 days before the meeting at which the elections will take place.

26.2 Candidates must be nominated by a fully paid-up Member.

26.3 Candidates must have reached the age of 18 at the date of the election, and be in full possession of their civil rights

26.4 Nominations that arrive after the deadline shall not be taken into consideration. If no candidate has been nominated within the deadline or if a nominee is no longer a candidate on the day of the General Assembly, candidates may be nominated at the General Assembly. If there is no candidate for president the Vice-President shall act as Chair until the next General Assembly.

26.5 After the deadline for receiving nominations has been reached, the list of nominees for President will be distributed immediately to the Members.

26.6 The General Assembly elects the President for a 4 (four) year term. He/she is eligible for re-election.

Article 27. Extraordinary General Assembly

27.1 An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened at the request of the Council or shall be convened upon receipt of a written request from at least 1/3 (one third) of the Members having the right to vote, no later than two months after the request. Notification of the meeting will be sent out to the Members at least 30 (thirty) days in advance.

27.2 The notification shall detail the reasons for convening an Extraordinary General Assembly. No business other than that specified in the notification shall be conducted at such an Extraordinary Assembly except for any urgent matter that the Council may add to the agenda if approved by the majority of the Extraordinary General Assembly.

Article 28. Conduct of meetings

The President presides over every meeting of the General Assembly and of the Council and the Executive Council. If the President is absent, unable or unwilling to preside the Vice-President shall preside for the duration of the meeting as Chairman unless the General Assembly decides otherwise

Article 29. Minutes

29.1 The full minutes of the meetings are recorded by the Administration and submitted for approval by the Council within 2 (two) months of the meeting. No later than 4 months after the meeting the full minutes will be made available to the Members

29.2 Brief minutes of the meeting will be made available to the Members within 3 (three) weeks after the end of the meeting

29.3 No correction of or alteration to the minutes will be accepted without written notification to the Administration received in writing or by e-mail and acknowledged by the administration, within 4 (four) months of the date of circulation of the minutes to the Members.

29.4 The minutes are submitted for approval at the next General Assembly.

B. COUNCIL

Article 30. Composition and election, full council and executive council

30.1 The Council is the governing organ of FMJD. The full council consists of 10-16 members:

1. The President, elected by the General Assembly;
2. The Vice President, elected by the General Assembly
3. The General Secretary, elected by the General Assembly
4. The Treasurer, elected by the General Assembly
5. The Tournament Director, elected by the General Assembly
6. The Tournament Director Youth, elected by the General Assembly
7. The representatives of the continental federations of FMJD, assigned by those federations
8. Representatives of those sections who want to have a representative in the FMJD council
9. The representatives of the male and female players, normally the World Champions International draughts

30.2 The Executive Council, which takes care of the day-to-day business of FMJD and decides about urgent matters consists of the President, the Vice-president, the General Secretary, the treasurer and the Tournament Directors.

30.3 The President can ask the Vice President to be Executive Vice President in fact taking over a number of the Presidential tasks in accordance and agreement with the President.

Article 31 Eligibility, term of office

31.1 The candidates Council Members must have reached the age of 18 when taking office, and be in full possession of their civil rights.

31.2 Council members are appointed for a term of 4 (four) years. They may be reappointed.

31.3 Representatives of a section are chosen by the section whenever they see fit.

Article 32. Meetings, quorums

32.1 The full council shall meet in principle once a year unless a majority of the council members asks for an additional meeting or the President decides that an additional meeting is necessary.
The council members involved in the organisation of International draughts 100 may meet more often at their own discretion discussing interests of International Draughts 100 only.

32.2 The quorum for meetings of the Full Council is met when 1/3 (one third) of the council members inclusive the President are present. In the circumstance where the President is unable to attend and does not wish or is unable to cancel the meeting, the quorum shall be satisfied only with at least the simple majority of the council members being present.

32.3 The President or the Chair of the meeting has a casting vote in case of a tie.

32.4 A simple majority of the Executive Council can veto a decision by the council

32.5 The Executive council communicates mainly via Internet. The Executive Council meets whenever the President or 1/2 of the members considers it necessary. The quorum shall be satisfied with at least 2/3 of the Executive Council members being present.

32.6 when circumstances force a quick decision or when only a formal decision is needed about an unimportant issue, the Executive Council can issue a vote by correspondence among the Council members. For such a vote, the members will be given one week or more, depending on the issue at hand, before answering. The vote is by the majority of the votes actually cast. The decision has to be ratified at the next Council meeting.

Article 33. Powers of the Council

33.1. The Council is competent in all matters that are not reserved to other bodies by the Statutes, regulations and directives of FMJD.

33.2 The Council lays down the regulations and directives of FMJD subject to article 18.2.

33.3 The Executive Council represents and commits FMJD with regard to third parties. Subject to article 37.1 the Council shall decide through which individuals FMJD shall be committed towards third parties.

33.4 The Executive Council is responsible for the day to day business of FMJD and can take decisions that are within the budget allotted by the General Assembly. It also takes decisions as it deems to be necessary to the benefit of FMJD and is responsible for these decisions to the General Assembly

33.5 The Executive Council prepares and convenes Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assemblies.

33.6 The Executive Council nominates committee members of the committees which support the Council

33.7 The Council appoints any committee it deems necessary at any time.

C. ADMINISTRATION

Article 34. Mission

34.1 The mission of the Administration is to implement the decisions made by the General Assembly and the Council, and carry out all the administrative duties of FMJD.

34.2 Members of the Administration do not have voting rights.

Article 35. Director General

35.1 The FMJD council may appoint a Director General, on the basis of a contract governed by private law. He/she shall be accountable to the Council for the running of the Administration and such other duties as may be required.

35.2 He/she hires FMJD staff with the approval of the Council.

CHAPTER IV FINANCES

Article 36. Subscriptions

36.1 All Members of FMJD shall pay an annual subscription according to the following scale:

* Full Members: 100% (one hundred per cent) of the subscription
* Sections: 25 % of the subscription for every member of the section which is not already full member of FMJD

36.2 New Members shall pay a partial subscription for the current year, as of the month of their membership acceptance.

36.3 The amount of the subscription shall be decided by each General Assembly on a proposal from the Council and shall be payable no later than the next 31st of January.

36.4 Should a General Assembly not be held in any one or more years, the same amount of subscription as the previous year shall become due on the 31st of January as appropriate.

Article 37. Finances, liability

37.1 FMJD shall be financially bound, within the limits of the approved budget, by the joint signatures of the President and a Executive Council Member or of any two Executive Council Members.
The President supported by at least two Executive Council members can make non-budgeted payments deemed beneficial and necessary for the well-being of the Federation.

37.2 Members shall only be legally and financially liable, toward FMJD and third parties, up to the limit of their annual subscription to FMJD.

37.3 The financial year of FMJD shall run from the 1st January to the 31st of December annually.

Article 38. Auditors

38.1 The accounts must be audited each year by external qualified professional auditors, totally independent from FMJD. Their duty is to check the accounts and present their report to the General Assembly, with their conclusions and recommendations, notably with regards to the approval of the financial statements by the General Assembly.

38.2 The auditors must be appointed by the General Assembly, generally for a period of 4 (four) years. Their mandate may be renewed.

CHAPTER V. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 39. Dispute resolution

39.1 Disputes will be treated first by a special committee within FMJD and will be escalated, if necessary, to the General Assembly. Any dispute remaining for which there is no competent internal body, will be submitted exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), in Lausanne, Switzerland, applying its own procedural rules. Its decisions are final.

39.2 Any appeal against a final and binding decision from any FMJD organ shall exclusively be submitted to the CAS, to the exclusion of any ordinary court of any country.

Article 40. Interpretation

The authority for settling any dispute arising out of the interpretation of these Statutes shall reside with the President, or Chair for the time being, who shall seek the advice of the Executive Council or General Assembly before taking the final decision.

Article 41. Modification of the Statutes

41.1 These Statutes may only be modified by the General Assembly or by an Extraordinary Assembly convened especially for that purpose.

41.2 The amendments to the Statutes require 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes validly cast

Article 42. Dissolution

42.1 The intended dissolution of FMJD shall require an Extraordinary Meeting of the General Assembly at which the proposed dissolution shall be the sole item on the agenda.

42.2 Dissolution requires 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes validly cast

42.3 Any assets remaining after the dissolution of FMJD, shall, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, be applied to the furtherance of any objective(s) of FMJD as determined by the General Assembly at, or before, the time of dissolution. If effect cannot be given to the foregoing provisions, they shall be given to a charitable organisation. Under no circumstances shall they be paid to, or distributed among the Members of the Association.

Article 43. Independence of Members

No discussion or voting by FMJD shall infringe in any way on the freedom and independence of any Member, who shall, at all time, retain complete independence and control over all matters falling within their field of activity.

Article 44. Enforcement

This version of the statutes has been adopted at the General Assembly in Izmir on October 11, 2015 and came into force immediately.