

BYE-LAWS OF HOCKEY MAHARASHTRA

Preamble

Pursuant to the enactment of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 (Act No. 25 of 2025), these bye-laws set out the foundational principles governing the administration, regulation, and promotion of the sport of Hockey within the State of **Maharashtra** by **Hockey Maharashtra** (“**Association**”). These bye-laws embody the Association’s commitment to ethical administration, democratic functioning, institutional autonomy, transparency, and accountability, in alignment with the governance framework prescribed by Hockey India. The Association shall function as the recognised State Unit from the State of **Maharashtra**, affiliated to Hockey India and shall ensure that its affairs are conducted in a fair, transparent, and athlete-centric manner, consistent with:

- (a) the bye-Laws, statutes, regulations, and directives of Hockey India;
- (b) the Olympic Charter and the applicable statutes of the International Hockey Federation (FIH); and
- (c) all applicable laws, rules, and regulations in force in India.

The Association shall promote and develop the sport of Hockey at all levels within its jurisdiction and shall act in furtherance of the objects and policies of Hockey India, while ensuring good governance and the welfare of athletes.

Chapter I: Definitions and General Provisions

Article 1: Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, capitalized terms used in these bye-laws shall have the meanings assigned to them herein. Words in the singular shall include the plural and vice versa, references to any gender shall include all genders, and



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references to a “person” shall include an individual, legal person, corporation, or any other entity.

- 1.1 **“Act”** means the National Sports Governance Act, 2025(Act No. 25 of 2025).
- 1.2 **“Academy Member”** means any academy, training institution, or entity engaged in the development of Hockey within the State of **Maharashtra**, which is admitted as a member of the Association in accordance with these bye-laws.
- 1.3 **“Affiliation Committee”** means a committee constituted by the Executive Committee of this Association in accordance with these bye-laws for the purpose of examining, scrutinising and verifying applications for admission, continuation, renewal or re-affiliation of members, including District Associations and other categories of membership.
- 1.4 **“AHF”** shall mean the Asian Hockey Federation, presently situated at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 1.5 **“Associate Member”** means any government body, public sector undertaking, club, institution, or any other entity engaged in, or intending to promote and develop, the sport of Hockey within the State of **Maharashtra** , or any Permanent Member reclassified as such in accordance with these bye-laws, which is admitted or continues as an Associate Member of the Association in accordance with these bye-laws and which shall not be a member of the General Body, shall have no voting rights, and shall not be eligible to nominate candidates to contest elections to the Executive Committee.
- 1.6 **“Athletes Committee”** means the committee constituted by the Association under Article18 in accordance with these bye-laws, applicable



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law, and the regulations framed thereunder, to represent the interests of athletes and to perform such roles and functions as may be prescribed.

- 1.7 **“Bye-laws”** means these bye-laws, including rules and regulations framed there under and shall include the Schedule(s) to these bye-laws.
- 1.8 **“Committees or Commissions”** mean the committees or commissions constituted by the Executive Committee under these bye-laws and applicable law, for carrying out such functions and responsibilities as may be assigned to it from time to time.
- 1.9 **“Congress”** means the Annual General Meeting of the General Body of the Association.
- 1.10 **“Disqualification Event(s)”** means the occurrence of any of the following events in relation to a person, as a result of which such person shall be disqualified from being a member of the General Body in his/her individual capacity, acting as a representative of a Permanent Member, being a member of any committee of this Association, and/or from contesting elections to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee.
- a) the person being declared insolvent under applicable law;
 - b) the person being convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for a criminal offence followed by a sentence of imprisonment; or
 - c) the person being subject to a ban from holding any such position pursuant to an order passed by the Ethics Committee of Hockey India, or any competent authority under applicable law.

Provided that the disqualification under -

- (i) clause (a) shall operate for the period of insolvency, as applicable;
- (ii) clause (b) shall operate for a period of 1 (one) full term of the Executive Committee after completion of such sentence; and


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(iii) clause (c) shall operate for the duration of such ban.

Provided further that a person shall be disqualified from participating in the General Body or being a member of any committee of the Association if such person has not completed the mandatory cooling-off period of 1 (one) full term after having held the office of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in the Association or in any other state level sports association or National Sports Federation.

Without prejudice to the foregoing, a person shall also be disqualified if such person is an Office Bearer of another state association for another sport, or of a National Sports Federation of another sport, except as may be permitted under applicable law or regulations. This disqualification will not apply to posts held in the Indian Olympic Association.

Explanation: For the avoidance of doubt, the disqualifications set out in this Article shall apply only to individuals in their personal capacity, including Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and individual representatives, and shall not apply to Member entities (including Permanent Members, Associate Members or Academy Members), whose suspension, disaffiliation or de-recognition shall be governed separately under Article 7 and Article 8 of these bye-laws.

- 1.11 “District Association”** means a hockey association at the district level, duly registered as a society, not-for-profit company or trust, as the case may be, under applicable laws, with the sole objective of promotion and development of the sport of Hockey within its territorial jurisdiction and affiliated to the Hockey Maharashtra in accordance with these bye-laws. Clubs and academies operating within the jurisdiction of the State of


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Maharashtra may, subject to the applicable rules and regulations of HI, be admitted as members of the District Association.

- 1.12 “Event”** means any match, tournament, competition, league, trial, camp or programme organised, recognised, sanctioned or controlled by the Association, or by any affiliated unit acting in accordance with these bye-laws, or conducted under the aegis of Hockey India, the International Hockey Federation (“**FIH**”), the Asian Hockey Federation (“**AHF**”), or the Indian Olympic Association (“**IOA**”).
- 1.13 “Executive Committee”** means the committee constituted under Article 11 of these bye-laws and the regulations framed thereunder.
- 1.14 “FIH”** means the International Hockey Federation, presently headquartered at Lausanne, Switzerland.
- 1.15 “General Body”** means the General Body of the Association constituted in accordance with these bye-laws and shall include representatives of affiliated Member units and Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.
- 1.16 “Grievance Redressal Committee”** means the committee constituted by the Association under Article 20 in accordance with these bye-laws, applicable law, and the regulations framed thereunder, for the purpose of receiving, examining and redressing grievances raised by athletes, officials, technical personnel, Office Bearers, members of the General Body, members of the Executive Committee, employees and other persons associated with Hockey Maharashtra.
- 1.17 “Hockey India” or “HI”** shall mean Hockey India, being the National Sports Body established to promote, develop, administer and govern the sport of Hockey in India.


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- 1.18 **“HI Bye-laws”** means the bye-laws of Hockey India, including any schedules, rules, regulations or amendments thereto.
- 1.19 **“Election Rules”** means the framework governing the conduct of elections of the Association under Article 15, including the rules, procedures and guidelines framed thereunder in accordance with these bye-laws and applicable law.
- 1.20 **“Hockey”** means the sport of Hockey in all its formats and disciplines, including any recognised variants, as governed by the statutes, rules and regulations of the FIH, for men and women in India.
- 1.21 **“IOA”** means the Indian Olympic Association.
- 1.22 **“League”** means a professional and/or amateur league or tournament comprising teams, organised, sanctioned or recognised by the Association, or conducted under the aegis of Hockey India.
- 1.23 **“Member”** means a member of the Association and includes a Permanent Member, Associate Member, Academy Member or Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit.
- 1.24 **“National Championship”** means any national-level Hockey championship, tournament or competition organised, conducted or recognised by Hockey India in accordance with its bye-laws, rules and regulations and applicable law.
- 1.25 **“Office Bearer”** means the President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer of the Association.
- 1.26 **“Permanent Member”** means a District Association admitted as a permanent member of the Association in accordance with these bye-laws and the regulations framed thereunder, which shall be a member of the



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General Body, shall have voting rights, and whose nominated representatives shall be eligible to contest elections to the Executive Committee.

- 1.27 **“Rules and Regulations”** means the subordinate rules and regulations framed by the Association for the regulation of its internal administration, governance and functioning, as amended from time to time.
- 1.28 **“Selection Committee”** means the committee constituted by the Executive Committee of the Association under Article 19 in accordance with these bye-laws, applicable law and the regulations framed thereunder, for the purpose of selection of players, and/or teams for participation in national or other recognised events, competitions or programmes.
- 1.29 **“Sportsperson”, “Athlete” or “Player”** means any individual who participates, or is eligible to participate, in any Hockey event, competition, match, league, trial, camp or programme organised, recognised or sanctioned by the Association, Hockey India, or any affiliated unit, or under the aegis of the FIH, AHF or IOA.
- 1.30 **“Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit”** means a sportsperson who meets the criteria and eligibility conditions prescribed under the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Eligibility Rules, framed under Article 17 of these bye-laws.
- 1.31 **“Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Eligibility Rules”** means the rules framed under Article 17 of these bye-laws and applicable Indian law governing the eligibility and recognition of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.
- 1.32 **“Term”** means the period for which an Office Bearer or a member of the Executive Committee holds office under these bye-laws and the rules and



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regulations framed thereunder, subject to a maximum period of 4 (four) years.

Article 2: Name, Headquarters and Affiliation

- 2.1 The Association is a legal entity duly registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and recognised as the governing body for the sport of Hockey within the State of Maharashtra.
- 2.2 The headquarters of the Association shall be situated at **Sunit Chintamani CHS, Ganesh Nagar, PO Mohopada, Tal Khalapur, District Raigad, 410222/ D 44/47, Isher Coop Society, Aundh road, Pune 411020**, or at such other place within the State as may be determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- 2.3 The Association shall be affiliated to Hockey India and shall function in accordance with the bye-laws, statutes, regulations and directives of Hockey India, applicable law, and these bye-laws.

Article 3: Objectives and Role of the Association

- 3.1 The Association shall be the recognised governing body for the sport of Hockey within the State of Maharashtra, for men and women, subject to the overall authority and control of Hockey India.
- 3.2 The Association shall engage in the governance, regulation, organisation, promotion and development of the sport of Hockey within its jurisdiction, in accordance with applicable law and the statutes, regulations and directives of Hockey India.


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- 3.3 The Association shall promote and encourage the sport of Hockey across the State of Maharashtra and take all necessary measures to stimulate public interest and participation at grassroots, amateur and elite levels.
- 3.4 The Association shall organise, regulate and control all forms of organised Hockey within the State of Maharashtra, subject to the authority and superintendence of Hockey India and applicable law.
- 3.5 The Association shall comply with and give effect to the statutes, bye-laws, rules, regulations and directives of Hockey India, and shall support and uphold the principles of the Olympic Movement.
- 3.6 The Association shall provide, facilitate and promote training, coaching and skill development for players, coaches, officials and technical personnel through camps, academies and other programmes.
- 3.7 The Association may, subject to availability of resources and applicable regulations, extend financial or other support to players, officials and affiliated units.
- 3.8 The Association shall be responsible for the selection, preparation and management of State teams for participation in National's and other recognised competitions/tournaments, in accordance with the regulations of Hockey India.
- 3.9 The Association shall encourage and facilitate the formation, recognition and development of District Associations and affiliated units, and prescribe transparent and objective norms for their functioning.



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- 3.10** The Association shall regulate the conduct of its members, affiliated units, officials, players and stakeholders, and may initiate disciplinary proceedings and impose sanctions in accordance with these bye-laws and applicable rules and regulations.
- 3.11** The Association shall oppose all forms of discrimination and promote equality, inclusion and fair opportunity in participation and governance of the sport.
- 3.12** The Association shall promote integrity, ethics and fair play in Hockey and adopt measures against doping, age fraud, abuse, harassment, corruption, match manipulation and other unethical practices, in accordance with applicable standards.
- 3.13** The Association shall promote transparency, accountability and professionalism in governance and administration.
- 3.14** The Association shall organise and regulate State-level competitions, championships and leagues, and coordinate participation in national competitions/tournaments and championships in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by Hockey India.
- 3.15** The Association shall promote development of infrastructure, facilities and support systems for Hockey within the State of Maharashtra.
- 3.16** The Association shall protect and promote the welfare and interests of players and may institute welfare schemes and support mechanisms.



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- 3.17** The Association may recognise and honour individuals and organisations for contributions to the sport.
- 3.18** The Association shall respect internationally recognised human rights and promote their protection within its activities.
- 3.19** The Association may establish committees and institutional mechanisms, including dispute resolution bodies, for governance and administration.
- 3.20** The Executive Committee may constitute committees, commissions or working groups and delegate functions, subject to oversight and accountability.
- 3.21** The Association may publish, compile, or disseminate books, manuals, periodicals, reports, and other materials relevant to the promotion, regulation and development of Hockey.
- 3.22** The Association may raise funds, accept grants, donations, or contributions, acquire, hold, manage, lease, mortgage, or dispose of movable and immovable property, and may create or participate in subsidiary or associated entities for the furtherance of its objects.
- 3.23** The Association may take over, merge with, or amalgamate with other institutions having similar objects, subject to the approval of Hockey India and compliance with applicable law.



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- 3.24 All income, funds, and properties of the Association, however derived, shall be applied solely towards the furtherance of its objects, and no portion thereof shall be distributed, directly or indirectly, to any member or individual by way of profit, dividend, or otherwise.
- 3.25 The Association may undertake all acts incidental or conducive to the attainment of its objectives.
- 3.26 The Association shall ensure continued compliance with the requirements of Hockey India, shall uphold the ideals of the Olympic movement, remain compliant with applicable law, and maintain its affiliation in good standing.

Chapter II: General Body

Article 4: Types of Membership and Rights

- 4.1 The General Body of the Association shall be comprised of only Permanent Members as defined in these bye-laws.
- 4.2 Permanent Members shall have the following rights:
- a) To be part of the General Body and participate fully in its meetings. each Permanent Member shall have 2 (two) votes each, exercised through their representatives (1 male and 1 female) nominated to attend the meeting.
 - b) To propose items for inclusion in the agenda of the General Body;
 - c) To nominate candidates for election to the posts of Office Bearers and other positions in the Executive Committee of the Association;
 - d) To participate in competitions organised, recognised or sanctioned by the Association;


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- e) To participate in development programmes conducted by the Association or Hockey India, subject to applicable regulations;
- f) To apply for and host State-level competitions and such other activities as may be permitted by the Association; and
- g) To exercise all other rights arising from these bye-laws.

4.3 Associate Members shall have the following rights:

- a) To participate in competitions organised, recognised or sanctioned by the Association, subject to applicable regulations; and
- b) As a Permanent Member that has been reclassified in accordance with these bye-laws and admitted or continued as an Associate Member of the Association, such Associate Member shall not be members of the General Body, shall have no voting rights, and shall not be eligible to nominate candidates to contest elections to the Executive Committee.

4.4 Academy Members shall be treated as Associate Members and shall have such rights and obligations as may be prescribed for Associate Members under these bye-laws and the regulations framed thereunder.

4.5 The rights of all members shall be subject to these bye-laws, the regulations framed thereunder, the directives of Hockey India, and applicable law.

4.6 All members affiliated with the Association as on the date of coming into force of these bye-laws shall continue in their respective categories of membership, subject to compliance with these bye-laws.


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- 4.7 Hockey Maharashtra shall, at all times, have affiliated as its permanent members not less than 50% (fifty percent) of the District Hockey Associations functioning within the State of Maharashtra.

Article 5: Admission of Members

5.1 Eligibility Criteria and Procedure for Admission of Permanent Members

A Permanent Member must:

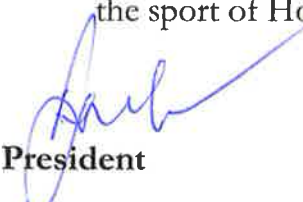
- 5.1.1 be a legal entity registered as a not-for-profit company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 or under the Companies Act, 1956, or a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, or a trust created under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 or an entity registered under state legislations governing societies and trusts, having the sole objective of promotion and development of the sport of Hockey;
- 5.1.2 be a District Association responsible for the organisation and development of Hockey within its district;
- 5.1.3 have made an application in writing to the Association for admission as a Permanent Member, in the prescribed format and be the only 1 (one) Permanent Member Association from its District;

5.2 Application Process

- 5.2.1 An applicant shall submit its constitutional documents, details of its members and affiliated units, and an undertaking confirming that it shall comply with these bye-laws, the regulations of the Association, the directives of Hockey India, and applicable law.

Such documents shall mandatorily provide an undertaking that the applicant:

- a) shall at all times comply with the bye-laws, statutes, regulations and decisions of HI, the FIH, the AHF, and all applicable laws and rules of the sport of Hockey, as applicable;


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- b) recognizes and submits to the jurisdiction of the dispute resolution mechanisms of HI; and

5.2.2 The Executive Committee shall constitute an Affiliation Committee consisting of 3 (three) members drawn from among its members, with a quorum of 2 (two), which shall be responsible for examining, scrutinising and verifying applications for grant of membership and placing its recommendations before the Executive Committee.

5.2.3 Upon being satisfied as to the *bona fides* and eligibility of an applicant, the Executive Committee shall recommend the application, together with its observations, to the General Body.

5.2.4 The power to grant, refuse or determine the category of affiliation shall vest exclusively in the General Body, and membership shall be deemed granted only upon approval by the General Body, in accordance with these bye-laws.

5.2.5 A Permanent Member may be reclassified as an Associate Member by the Executive Committee if such Permanent Member:

- a) fails to conduct district-level championships across required age groups and genders in accordance with the calendar and norms prescribed by the Association or Hockey India; and/or
- b) fails to participate in State-level competitions without reasonable cause.
- c) Does not abide by the rules and regulations of Hockey India, Hockey Maharashtra, fails to pay the Affiliation fees for two consecutive years.

5.2.6 No reclassification shall be affected unless:

- a) the concerned Permanent Member is issued a written notice by the Executive Committee specifying the grounds of proposed reclassification;


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- b) a reasonable opportunity of being heard is afforded to such Permanent Member before the Affiliation Committee;
- c) the Affiliation Committee shall, after hearing the Permanent Member, make a recommendation to the Executive Committee;
- c) should the Executive Committee recommend reclassification, the recommendation shall be placed before the General Body for a final decision.

5.2.7 Upon reclassification, such entity shall cease to enjoy the rights of a Permanent Member, including voting rights, for such period and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

5.2.8 The procedure for review, restoration or re-admission as a Permanent Member shall be governed by regulations framed by the Association.

5.3 Eligibility Criteria and Procedure for Admission of Associate Members

5.3.1 Associate Members may include government bodies, public sector undertakings, clubs, or other entities engaged in, or intending to promote and develop Hockey in Maharashtra, and may be admitted by the Association in accordance with these bye-laws.

5.3.2 Associate Members may field players for competitions in accordance with the applicable regulations, subject to limits prescribed by the Association or Hockey India. No Associate Member shall organise any competition without the prior approval of the Association or Hockey India, as the case may be and participation in competitions shall be subject to the eligibility criteria laid down for the said competition by the Association.

Article 6: Obligations of Permanent Members



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Permanent Members shall at all times comply with these bye-laws, the rules and regulations framed thereunder, the directives and decisions of the Association and Hockey India, and all applicable laws. Every Permanent Member shall:

- 6.1 frame, amend and maintain its bye-laws and governance structures in conformity with these bye-laws and applicable law, including provisions relating to democratic elections, composition of governing bodies, representation of women and athletes, age and tenure limits, cooling-off periods, disqualifications, transparency, disclosure, safe sport, and prevention of age fraud and sexual harassment, and shall submit such documents to the Association as may be prescribed.
- 6.2 ensure the effective functioning of affiliated clubs, academies and subordinate units within its jurisdiction, in accordance with the norms prescribed by the Association.
- 6.3 recognise the Association as the governing body for Hockey within the State of Maharashtra, and Hockey India as the national governing body.
- 6.4 conduct elections to its governing body and affiliated units in a fair, transparent and democratic manner, in accordance with these bye-laws, the Election Rules, the guidelines of Hockey India, and applicable law. Elections not conducted in accordance herewith may be declared invalid by the Association.
- 6.5 organise and conduct district-level competitions across age groups and genders, participate in State-level competitions, and release players for participation in State and national events in accordance with applicable regulations.
- 6.6 maintain proper accounts, ensure timely audits, and submit financial statements, utilisation certificates and reports as required by the Association, and publish such information where mandated.



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- 6.7 admit clubs, academies and affiliated units that meet prescribed criteria in a fair and transparent manner, and ensure compliance by such units with applicable regulations.
- 6.8 notify the Association of elections, amendments to statutes, changes in Office Bearers or members of the Executive Committee, and submit all required governance and statutory documents.
- 6.9 ensure that its affairs are conducted independently, without external interference, and in accordance with principles of integrity, transparency and good governance.
- 6.10 safeguard the welfare, safety and security of players, particularly women and minors, and implement appropriate development programmes for junior and youth Hockey.
- 6.11 constitute and cooperate with all committees, including the Athletes Committee and Grievance Redressal Committee, as required under these bye-laws and applicable law.
- 6.12 furnish true, complete and accurate information to the Association and to any statutory or regulatory authority, and refrain from furnishing false or misleading information.
- 6.13 ensure financial propriety and transparency, including proper utilisation of funds, maintenance of accounts, audits and disclosures in accordance with applicable law.
- 6.14 any breach of the obligations under this Article shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action, including suspension, reclassification or expulsion, in accordance with these bye-laws.
- 6.15 maintain registration with the National Sports Board as required in law, and/or all other compliances required under the Act and applicable law.



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Article 7: Grounds for Suspension, De-recognition and Withholding of Support

7.1 The recognition of a Member may be suspended/de-recognized or a Member may face withdrawal of support, if the Member fails to:

- a) comply with these bye-laws, the regulations, or the directions of the Association or Hockey India;
- b) hold elections for its Executive Committee and Office Bearers in a timely manner, or has committed gross irregularities in the election process or procedure;
- c) failed to publish annual audited accounts; or
- d) has misused, misapplied or misappropriated any public funds.

7.2 Where financial assistance to a member is withheld, the Association may, in the interest of the sport, utilise such funds for the development of Hockey within the concerned district or area, so that athletes are not adversely affected.

7.3 Where a Permanent Member continues in material non-compliance for a continuous period of 2 (two) years, the Association may withdraw its recognition in accordance with Article 8, and recognise another compliant District Association for the concerned district in accordance with these bye-laws.

7.4 In addition to the above, a Member shall in default and liable to disciplinary action, including suspension, reclassification or expulsion, where it:

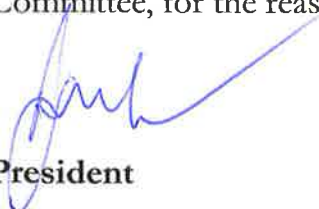

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- a) fails to pay affiliation, membership or renewal fees within the prescribed time, unless condoned by the Executive Committee;
- b) acts in a manner contrary to the objects of the Association or prejudicial to the interests of Hockey;
- c) fails, without justifiable cause, to organise mandatory district-level competitions across age groups and genders or to participate in State-level competitions;
- d) encourages, facilitates or fails to prevent doping, age fraud or other unethical practices within its jurisdiction;
- e) suffers from persistent mismanagement or governance failures detrimental to the sport;
- f) fails to comply with standards of good governance, transparency and ethical conduct;
- g) fails to conduct free, fair and timely elections in accordance with these bye-laws, the Election Rules and applicable law;
- h) fails to constitute or cooperate with committees as required under these bye-laws and applicable law;
- i) furnishes false, misleading or suppressed information to the Association or any authority;
- j) engages in financial impropriety or fails to maintain proper accounts, audits or disclosures; or
- k) commits any other act or omission which, in the opinion of the Association, is prejudicial to the interests of Hockey.

Article 8: Suspension, Expulsion and/or Disaffiliation

8.1 The General Body may initiate the process of suspension or expulsion of a Member, either *Suo motu* or upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, for the reasons specified under Article 7.


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- 8.2 Before a vote on disaffiliation is undertaken by the General Body, the Executive Committee shall issue a show-cause notice to the Member detailing the grounds on which its disaffiliation is being contemplated and inviting a response. Such show-cause notice shall be accompanied by relevant document(s) referenced in the show-cause notice or otherwise relevant to the grounds on which disaffiliation is being contemplated. The Member shall be granted a period of 30 (thirty) days from the date of issuance of such show cause notice to reply to the grounds on which its disaffiliation is being sought.
- 8.3 Pursuant to issuance of the show cause notice, the Executive Committee shall afford the Member a personal hearing before the Affiliation Committee of the Association. The Affiliation Committee shall issue and place the report and recommendation after such hearing to the Executive Committee. This report will then be transmitted to the General Body for their consideration prior to any vote for disaffiliation being undertaken, along with a recommendation from the Executive Committee.
- 8.4 A proposal to disaffiliate a member must receive approval from a simple majority of the votes taken.
- 8.5 Should the Member fail to cooperate with the process contemplated in this Article, by not replying to the show cause notice as prescribed in Article 8.2 or by failing to participate in a personal hearing as prescribed in Article 8.3, the Executive Committee will intimate the General Body, and deliberation and a vote may proceed nonetheless.



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Article 9: Membership and Affiliation Fees

- 9.1** Members shall pay such affiliation and/or membership fees as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time for each category of membership.
- 9.2** The Executive Committee may also prescribe annual fees, renewal fees, or any other charges applicable to different categories of members, as it may deem appropriate.

Chapter III: Organisation

Article 10: General Body and General Body Meeting

- 10.1** A General Body Meeting may be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or a Special General Meeting (SGM).
- 10.2** The General Body shall comprise of the following:
- a) 2 (two) representatives from each Permanent Member, of whom at least 1 (one) shall be a woman. Each Permanent Member shall have 2 (two) votes;
 - b) at least 4 (four) "Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit" nominated or elected in accordance with these bye-laws, of whom 50% (fifty percent) shall be men and 50% (fifty percent) shall be women. Each Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit shall have 1 (one) vote.
- 10.3** Attendance of an AGM or an SGM by video conference mode initiated by the Association or by any other means of communication as informed prior to such meetings, shall constitute presence. However, if an AGM or an SGM is being held physically, those attending on a virtual link/video conference



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initiated by the Association will not be entitled to vote in an AGM or SGM, unless specifically permitted by the President or Secretary General.

10.4 All notices, links and access credentials for meetings of the General Body or the Executive Committee, including meetings held through video conferencing or any electronic mode, shall be issued only to the registered email addresses of the authorised representatives or members, as recorded with the Association. No member, delegate or participant shall share, forward or otherwise circulate such links, access credentials or meeting materials to any third party. Participation in such meetings shall be strictly restricted to authorised individuals, and no unauthorised person shall be permitted to attend, observe or access the proceedings. Any breach of this provision shall constitute misconduct and may invite disciplinary action

10.5 Each affiliated Permanent Member shall have equal voting rights in the General Body, and no differentiation shall be made on the basis of size, geography or performance.

10.6 Powers of the General Body

The General Body shall perform/discharge the following responsibilities:

- a) Formulate policy and guiding principles governing the functioning, administration and activities of the Association;
- b) Give effect to and carry out the objects of the Association as set out in these bye-laws;
- c) Elect the Office Bearers and members of the Executive Committee once every 4 (four) years, in accordance with these bye-laws and the applicable Election Rules;


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- d) Grant, refuse or determine affiliation or membership of any organisation eligible under these bye-laws;
- e) Vote on recommendations for disaffiliation of any Member;
- f) Decide on the continuance or discontinuance of affiliation with any national or international organisation;
- g) Raise funds, hold and administer the assets and properties of the Association, and exercise overall financial control;
- h) Impose, confirm or enforce disciplinary measures or penalties for violations of these bye-laws, or Rules and Regulations;
- i) Appoint the statutory auditor(s) of the Association and approve the audited statement of its accounts and financial statements;
- j) Consider, approve and adopt the annual report, and budget estimates of the Association;
- k) Amend these bye-laws, including as and when required by Hockey India or applicable law, in accordance with the prescribed procedure;
- l) Interpret, clarify and decide upon the meaning and scope of these bye-laws, rules and regulations, and to decide any matter not expressly provided for herein;
- m) Frame, amend and approve Rules and Regulations, provided that the same are not inconsistent with these bye-laws or applicable law;
- n) Consider and ratify such decisions of the Executive Committee as are required under these bye-laws or as may be placed before the General Body;
- o) Prohibit proxy voting, it being expressly clarified that proxy voting shall not be permitted in meetings of the General Body or in elections.
- p) Delegate its powers related to the day-to-day functioning of the organization and conducting of activities and events to the Executive



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Committee as and when necessary, to ensure participation of teams or hosting of events is not impeded between meetings.

Article 11: Office Bearers and Composition of the Executive Committee

11.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- a) 1 (one) President;
- b) 1 (one) Secretary General;
- c) 1 (one) Treasurer;
- d) 3 (three) Vice-Presidents, of whom at least 1 (one) shall be of either gender
- e) 2 (two) Joint Secretaries, of whom at least 1 (one) shall be a woman;
- f) 7 (seven) members, of whom at least 2 (two) shall be Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, and at least 2 (two) shall be representatives from the Athletes Committee elected from amongst themselves, and in each of these categories at least 1 (one) shall be a woman.

11.2 The composition of the Executive Committee shall ensure that at least 4 (four) members are women at all times.

Provided that if any position on the Executive Committee falls vacant, the same shall be filled no later than the next AGM. In the interim, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall continue to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the Executive Committee as if fully constituted and in accordance with the provisions of these bye-laws.

Provided further that the President shall have a casting vote in the event of equal votes.

11.3 No person shall be eligible to contest for election or be nominated to the Executive Committee unless such person:


President


Secretary General

- a) is a citizen of India and has attained the age of 25 (twenty-five) years on the date of nomination;
- b) has been duly proposed and seconded by a voting member of the General Body;
- c) has not been declared of unsound mind by a competent court; and
- d) is not subject to any Disqualification Event under these bye-laws.

Provided further that where such candidate is a government servant, the necessary permissions, approvals or clearances, as applicable, will have to be obtained from the competent authority prior to filing of nomination.

11.4 No person shall be eligible to contest for election to the office of President, Secretary General or Treasurer unless such person:

- a) is a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit; or
- b) has previously served for at least 1 (one) full term as a member of the Executive Committee of the Association; or
- c) has previously served as President, Secretary General or Treasurer of a District Association affiliated to the Association.

Article 12: Term, Tenure and Age Limits of Office Bearers

12.1 The term of the Executive Committee and all Office Bearers shall be 4 (four) years.

12.2 For the sake of clarification, in the case of Office Bearers, it is clarified that a partial term of 2 (two) years or more shall be deemed to be the full term of 4 (four) years for the purposes of calculation of consecutive terms under Article 12.3.


President


Secretary General

- 12.3** The office of President, Secretary General or Treasurer shall be held for a maximum of 3 (three) consecutive terms, whether such terms are served in one office or in any combination thereof, and eligibility for election to any of these offices or to the Executive Committee shall arise only after completion of a mandatory cooling-off period of 1 (one) full Term of 4 (four) years, during which period the person shall not be a member of the General Body or of any committee of the Association. Any vacancy arising shall be filled in accordance with the Election Rules.
- 12.4** A person shall not be eligible to contest an election if he or she has attained the age of 70 (seventy) years on the last date of nomination. Notwithstanding the above, the eligibility and continuation of Office Bearers with respect to age shall be subject to the applicable law and the rules made thereunder. Provided if said person is serving in the executive committee or a similar body of a corresponding national and International Sports Body or is in the General Body of the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, such person shall deemed to be relaxed for age and tenure eligibility criteria for purposes of holding the position as the member of the Executive Committee.
- 12.5** For the purpose of computing maximum tenure of 12 (twelve) years, the terms served by an individual in a District Association and in the Association shall be considered separately, meaning that an individual may serve a total of upto 12 (twelve) years as an Office Bearer in a Member Unit and upto 12 (twelve) years separately and independently as an Office Bearer in the Association.



President



Secretary General

Article 13: Powers and Functions of the Executive Committee

13.1 The Executive Committee shall exercise general management, supervision and control over the affairs of the Association and shall have the following powers:

- a) to exercise all powers of governance, management and decision-making, and to delegate such powers to the President, Secretary General or any Committee as it deems fit;
- b) to carry out and give effect to the objects of the Association;
- c) to manage and direct the affairs of the Association between meetings of the General Body and place a report of its decisions before the General Body;
- d) to administer and manage the funds and financial affairs of the Association;
- e) to prepare and implement plans and programmes for the development of Hockey within the State of Maharashtra;
- f) to decide matters relating to indiscipline, misconduct or breach of regulations by members, players or officials, and impose appropriate sanctions, subject to these bye-laws;
- g) to authorise Office Bearers or members to act on behalf of the Association and execute documents;
- h) to regulate participation of teams and players in competitions in accordance with applicable regulations;
- i) to arrange infrastructure, facilities and resources necessary for the functioning of the Association;
- j) to enter into, modify and terminate contracts on behalf of the Association;
- k) to interpret these bye-laws, subject to the powers of the General Body;


President


Secretary General

- l) to exercise such powers as may be delegated by the General Body;
- m) to organise coaching, training, technical and development programmes, independently or in collaboration with other bodies;
- n) to acquire, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property of the Association;
- o) to appoint, manage and remove staff necessary for the functioning of the Association;
- p) to constitute Committees or Commissions, assign functions and delegate powers to them;
- q) to raise funds, accept grants, donations and contributions, and manage investments in accordance with applicable law;
- r) to co-opt experts or advisors, without voting rights, for specific purposes;
- s) to frame and implement administrative and financial guidelines;
- t) to suspend or take action against Members or players in accordance with these bye-laws, subject to ratification by the General Body;
- u) to recommend appointments to Selection Committees and oversee selection processes in accordance with applicable regulations;
- v) to constitute Committees or Commissions to inquire into disciplinary matters and make recommendations to the Executive Committee;
- w) to borrow funds, with appropriate approvals, and manage financial liabilities of the Association; and
- x) to do all such acts, deeds and things as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Association, and which are not expressly provided for in these bye-laws, subject to the overall supervision and control of the General Body.


President


Secretary General

- 13.2** Proxy voting shall not be permitted in meetings of the Executive Committee and members shall be required to be present in person or through permitted electronic means to participate and vote.

Article 14: Office Bearers

14.1 President

14.1.1 Role

The President shall be the constitutional head of the Association and shall ensure the effective implementation of these bye-laws and the rules and regulations framed thereunder.

14.1.2 Meetings

The President shall:

- a) determine the date, time and venue of meetings of the General Body, Executive Committee and such other meetings as may be necessary; and
- b) preside over all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee, and shall have a casting vote in the event of an equality of votes.

14.1.3 Executive Authority

The President shall exercise general supervision over the affairs of the Association and ensure due implementation of the decisions of the General Body and the Executive Committee.

14.1.4 Financial Oversight

The President shall ensure financial discipline and may, within limits prescribed by the Executive Committee, sanction expenditure not included in the approved budget, subject to ratification where required.



President



Secretary General

14.1.5 Nomination of Associate Vice President and Associate Joint Secretary

The President shall have the Power to Nominate 2 Honorary Associate Vice Presidents and 2 Honorary Associate Joint Secretaries, they will be Members of the Executive Board without voting rights. These Nominations will have to be Ratified by the Executive Board.

14.1.6 Emergency Powers

In cases of urgency, the President may take decisions on behalf of the Association, which shall be placed for ratification before the Executive Committee or the General Body, as appropriate, at the earliest opportunity.

14.2 Vice Presidents

14.2.1 Functions

The Vice Presidents shall perform such duties and functions as may be assigned to them from time to time by the General Body, the Executive Committee or the President.

14.2.2 Acting President

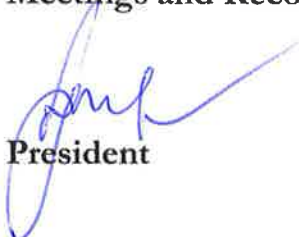
In the absence of the President, the senior-most Vice President by age shall preside over meetings of the General Body, the Executive Committee or any other meeting of the Association.

14.3 Secretary General

14.3.1 Role

The Secretary General shall be the Chief Administrative Officer of the Association and shall be responsible for implementing the decisions of the General Body, the Executive Committee and all Committees, subject to the overall control of the Executive Committee and the President.

14.3.2 Meetings and Records



President



Secretary General

The Secretary General shall:

- a) convene meetings of the General Body, Executive Committee and Committees as directed by the President;
- b) record, maintain and preserve accurate minutes of all meetings, which, upon being signed by the Chairperson, shall constitute conclusive evidence of the proceedings.

14.3.3 Correspondence

The Secretary General shall conduct official correspondence on behalf of the Association as directed by the President.

14.3.4 Records and Property

The Secretary General shall be responsible for:

- a) maintaining all records, registers and documents, including the register of members;
- b) the custody and upkeep of all properties, records and assets of the Association; and
- c) maintaining an updated inventory and ensuring periodic verification of assets.

14.3.5 Administration

The Secretary General shall:

- a) conduct the day-to-day affairs of the Association;
- b) act as the convener of the Executive Committee and Committees;
- c) exercise administrative supervision over employees; and
- d) ensure compliance with these bye-laws and applicable regulations.

14.3.6 Financial Coordination

The Secretary General shall:

- a) collect or cause to be collected all fees and monies due to the Association and remit the same to the Treasurer;


President


Secretary General

- b) process bills and vouchers for payment in accordance with the approved budget and necessary approvals; and
- c) ensure proper maintenance and audit of accounts.

14.3.7 Reporting

The Secretary General shall prepare the annual report of the Association and place it before the General Body after approval of the Executive Committee.

14.4 Treasurer

14.4.1 Role and Functions

- a) The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Association and shall be responsible for its finances and accounts;
- b) The Treasurer shall prepare the annual budget and place it before the General Body through the Executive Committee for approval;
- c) The Treasurer shall make payments on behalf of the Association after ensuring that all bills and vouchers have been duly scrutinised and approved in accordance with these bye-laws;
- d) The Treasurer shall ensure that all monies received are promptly deposited into the bank accounts of the Association;
- e) The Treasurer shall maintain proper books of accounts and financial records in accordance with applicable law and accounting standards.

14.5 Vacancies in the Executive Committee

14.5.1 Occurrence of Vacancy

The office of a member of the Executive Committee, including an Office Bearer but excluding Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and members of the Athletes Committee, shall become vacant upon the occurrence of any of the following:


President


Secretary General

- a) where the member ceases to be a member/affiliated with the Permanent Member from which such member was elected or nominated, as applicable;
- b) resignation from office by notice in writing addressed to the President, and acceptance of such resignation by the Executive Committee;
- c) death of the member; or
- d) any other Disqualification Event(s) as defined in Article 1.10, resulting in cessation of office under these bye-laws, or under applicable law

14.5.2 Manner of Filling Vacancies

Any vacancy arising under Clause 14.5.1 shall be filled only by election, and strictly in accordance with the Election Rules and applicable law.

14.5.3 Limited Scope of Replacement

Only the specific vacancy so arising shall be filled, and no fresh or additional elections to the Executive Committee shall be conducted beyond what is necessary to fill such vacancy.

14.5.4 Forum for Election

The election to fill a vacancy may be conducted at an SGM, or the next regular AGM, as may be decided by the Executive Committee, subject to compliance with Indian law and applicable rules.

14.6 Constitution of Committees

14.6.1 The Executive Committee may constitute such Committees or Commissions as may be necessary for the efficient administration, governance and development of Hockey, including but not limited to technical, selection, or advisory committees.



President



Secretary General

14.6.2 The composition, functions and tenure of such committees shall be determined by the Executive Committee, provided that the tenure shall not exceed 1 (one) year at a time.

14.6.3 Committees mandated under applicable law, including the Athletes Committee and the Grievance Redressal Committee shall be constituted by the Executive Committee.

14.7 Director General and Employees

14.7.1 The Association may appoint a Director General (“DG”) or such senior administrative officer as may be designated, who shall be responsible for implementation of the policies and decisions of the Executive Committee and the Office Bearers.

14.7.2 The DG shall oversee, supervise and manage the operations of the Association. He/she shall discharge such duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Executive Committee from time to time and shall ensure effective execution of all administrative and operational functions through the Officer Bearers and employees of the Association.

14.7.3 All employees shall function under the supervision of such officer, subject to the overall control of the Executive Committee.

14.7.4 The appointment, remuneration and terms of service of such officer and employees shall be determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with applicable law.


President


Secretary General

Chapter IV: Elections

Article 15: Elections

- 15.1 The procedure for elections to the General Body and Executive Committee of the Association shall be governed by the Election Rules of Hockey Maharashtra framed in accordance with these bye-laws, the guidelines of Hockey India, and applicable law. Any amendments to such procedure shall be made at least 3 (three) months prior to the conduct of elections.

Chapter V: Meetings

Article 16: Meetings

- 16.1 A General Body Meeting may be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or a Special General Meeting (SGM).
- 16.2 All meetings of the Association referred to under Articles 16.8.2, and all meetings of any committee constituted under these bye-laws, may be held through virtual meeting or video conferencing, subject to due notice being given in accordance with Article 16.8.2. Any decision taken at such virtual meeting shall have the same force and effect as a decision taken at a meeting held in person.
- 16.3 The minutes of every meeting, including meetings held through virtual or video conferencing, shall be duly recorded/ documented and maintained by the Secretary General in a register kept for that purpose. Such minutes shall be approved by the President and the Secretary General and shall be signed by the Chairperson of the meeting, if any.


President


Secretary General

16.4 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

16.4.1 The AGM of the General Body of the Association will be called the Congress and shall be held 1 (once) every calendar year at such place, date and time as may be determined by the Executive Committee. As far as practicable, the venue may be rotated within the State of Maharashtra.

16.4.2 The business of the AGM shall include:

- a) confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM or SGM, if any held;
- b) consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Secretary General;
- c) consideration and adoption of audited accounts and approval of the budget;
- d) appointment of auditors and fixation of their remuneration;
- e) election of the Executive Committee and Office Bearers, where due;
- f) approval of the annual calendar of activities;
- g) consideration of amendments to these bye-laws;
- h) consideration of any other business with due notice or with the permission of the Chair; and
- i) consideration of matters relating to the development and welfare of Hockey.

16.5 Special General Meeting (SGM)

16.5.1 A Special General Body Meeting (SGM) may be convened at any time upon the direction of the President and shall be convened by the Secretary General in accordance with these bye-laws. An SGM may transact any business which


President


Secretary General

may be taken up at an AGM, except the matters specified under Article 16.4.2 (b), 16.4.2 (c) and Article 16.4.2 (d).

16.6 Emergent Congress Meeting

Notwithstanding anything in these bye-laws, an emergent meeting of the Congress may be convened by the Secretary General if decided by the President on urgent specific matters.

16.7 Executive Committee Meetings

16.7.1 The Executive Committee shall meet at least 2 (two) times in a year.

16.7.2 The President may convene an emergent meeting of the Executive Committee, if required.

16.8 Notice, Quorum and Minutes

16.8.1 Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded and maintained by the Secretary General and, upon approval, signed by the Chairperson.

16.8.2 Notice and Quorum

Meeting	Notice Period	Quorum
16.8.2.1 – Annual General Body Meeting (Annual Congress)	21 (twenty-one) clear days	One-third of the members entitled to vote


President


Secretary General

Meeting	Notice Period	Quorum
16.8.2.2 – Special General Body Meeting (Special Congress)	10 (ten) clear days	One-third of the members entitled to vote
16.8.2.3 – Emergent Congress Meeting	7 (seven) clear days	One-fourth of the members entitled to vote
16.8.2.4 – Executive Board Meeting	4 (four) clear days	7 (seven)
16.8.2.5 – Emergent Executive Board Meeting	2 (two) clear days	5 (five)
16.8.2.6 – Other Committee Meetings	3 (three) clear days	2 (two)

16.8.3 Only voting members shall be counted for the purposes of quorum.

Explanation: For the purposes of computing any notice period under this Constitution, the term “clear days” shall mean that the date of dispatch or issuance of notice, whether by hand delivery, telephone, courier, speed post or electronic mail, shall be included in the computation of the number of days.

16.8.4 In urgent situations where a meeting cannot be convened, decisions may be taken by circulation with the approval of the President, provided that a majority of the members approve the proposal within the prescribed time. Such resolutions shall be placed before the next meeting for ratification.


President


Secretary General

16.8.5 No proxy voting shall be permitted at any meeting of the Executive Committee.

Chapter VI: Committees

Article 17: Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit

17.1 The eligibility, criteria, conditions and procedure for recognition of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit shall be governed by applicable law, and the relevant rules that may be framed by the Association in accordance with these bye-laws, the guidelines of Hockey India and applicable law.

17.2 Any amendment to such rules shall be made in accordance with applicable law.

Article 18: Athletes Committee

18.1 The Association shall constitute an Athletes Committee in accordance with these bye-laws, the guidelines of Hockey India and applicable law.

18.2 The composition, tenure, powers, functions and procedures of the Athletes Committee shall be governed by the regulations framed by the Association in accordance with these bye-laws and applicable law.

Article 19: Selection Committee

19.1 The Executive Committee shall constitute a Selection Committee for the selection of players, teams and officials for participation in State, national and other recognised competitions and programmes.

19.2 The Selection Committee shall function in a fair, transparent and objective manner based on merit and performance.

Article 20: Grievance Redressal Committee


President


Secretary General

- 20.1** The Association shall establish a grievance redressal mechanism, including the constitution of a Grievance Redressal Committee, in accordance with these bye-laws and applicable law.
- 20.2** The Grievance Redressal Committee shall address grievances raised by athletes, coaches and other persons associated with the Association in a fair, timely and transparent manner, in accordance with the procedure prescribed under the applicable regulations.
- 20.3** The composition, tenure, powers and procedures of the Committee shall be governed by regulations framed by the Association.
- 20.4** This mechanism shall operate without prejudice to any other remedy available under these bye-laws or applicable law.

Chapter VII: Miscellaneous and Final Provisions

Article 21: Source of Income

- 21.1** The funds of the Association shall comprise of:
- a) affiliation and membership fees;
 - b) donations and contributions;
 - c) grants or assistance from Hockey India, Government, Semi-Government or other bodies;
 - d) sponsorship and partnership revenues;
 - e) prize money and event-related income;
 - f) interest or income from investments; and
 - g) any other lawful income or receipts in furtherance of the objects of the Association.

Article 22: Bank Accounts


President


Secretary General

22.1 The bank accounts of the Association shall be operated jointly by any 2 (two) authorised signatories from amongst the President, Secretary General and Treasurer, or such other authorised officer as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

22.2 The Executive Committee shall have the power to modify or change the authorised signatories as provided in Article 22.1 from time to time, as may be necessary for the efficient functioning of the Association.

Article 23: Audit

23.1 The accounts of the Association shall be audited at least 1 (once) every financial year by a reputed auditor appointed by the Congress.

Article 24: Amendment of the Constitution and Bye-laws

24.1 The Congress shall have the power to amend, alter or modify these bye-laws in accordance with applicable law.

24.2 No amendment shall be made except at an AGM or SGM and unless approved by not less than 2/3rd(two-thirds) of the members present and voting. Rules and Regulations made under these bye-laws can also be amended at a meeting of the Congress/Special Congress convened for the purpose.

24.3 The Association shall ensure that its bye-laws remain in conformity with the guidelines and directions of Hockey India, and any amendments required to maintain such conformity shall be duly carried out, provided the same are not inconsistent with applicable law.


President


Secretary General

- 24.4 Any amendment to these bye-laws shall be communicated to Hockey India within a period of 7 (seven) days from the date of such amendment. The duly amended bye-laws, along with all relevant supporting documents, shall be submitted to Hockey India forthwith for its record and compliance review.

Article 25: Force of Rules, Regulations and Policies

- 25.1 All rules, regulations and policies framed under these bye-laws shall have the same force and effect as these bye-laws.

Article 26: Saving and Residuary Provisions

- 26.1 The Executive Committee shall have the final decision on any matter not provided for in these bye-laws or in regulations/rules/policies, or in cases of *force majeure*.
- 26.2 If any provision of these bye-laws is held to be invalid, unlawful or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable.
- 26.3 Departure from the requirements of these bye-laws (including but not limited to departures from procedural requirements) may be cured by Congress at its next meeting by ratifying the act(s) and/or the decision(s) in issue or calling for rectification, provided such departure is not contrary to applicable law.
- 26.4 Any matter not provided for in these rules, dealt with by the Executive Committee will require ratification by the AGM or SGM.

Article 27: Legal Proceedings



President



Secretary General

27.1 The Association may sue or be sued in the name of the Secretary General or any other authorised office bearer, in accordance with applicable law.

27.2 The Executive Committee is authorized to give authority to more persons to act as authorized signatories to file/defend cases against/by the association for smooth functioning.

Article 28: Statutory Compliance

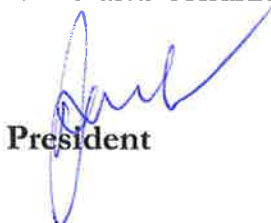
28.1 The Association shall comply with all applicable provisions of the **Maharashtra** Societies Registration Act, 1860 under which it is registered, including submission of annual returns and details of its governing body to the competent authority.

28.2 Once in every year, a list of Office Bearers and members of the Executive Committee shall be submitted with the Registrar of Societies, as required under the Maharashtra Societies Registration Act, 1860 as applicable, to the State of Maharashtra.

Article 29: Dissolution

29.1 The Association Society may be dissolved at the AGM or SGM specially called for the purpose either by the Congress or upon requisition of 2/3rd(two-thirds) number of members, provided that 2/3rd(two-thirds) of members present vote for the same.

29.2 If, upon the dissolution of the Association, there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the members of the society or any of them but shall be given to the society carrying on similar objects on such terms and conditions to be determined by votes of majority of members


President


Secretary General

present personally or in default thereof as the appropriate Court may determine on that behalf.

29.3 The dissolution shall be as per provisions laid down under applicable law.

Article 30: Compliance with Anti-Doping Codes

30.1 The Association shall comply with and abide by the World Anti-Doping Code, the National Anti-Doping Code as applicable to the Olympic Movement and the anti-doping rules and regulations of Hockey India, the International Hockey Federation, and shall take all necessary steps for their effective implementation.

Article 31: Enquiry and Appeal

31.1 The Association may refer to the Grievance Redressal Committee, grievances or disputes raised by athletes, members, Office Bearers, members of the Executive Committee, officials of the Association or its affiliated units, and technical officials for the purpose of examining the said grievances/complaints or resolution of disputes, in accordance with these bye-laws.

31.2 The Executive Committee may refer complaints or grievances for an enquiry, when facts are in dispute or if members of the Grievance Redressal Committee are conflicted. Persons or entities against whom an enquiry has been initiated shall appear before the Enquiry Committee as follows:

- (a) individuals shall appear in person;
- (b) member organizations shall appear through their duly authorised officers/representatives.


President


Secretary General

- 31.3** Audio or video recording of the proceedings of the Grievance Redressal Committee or appellate bodies shall be strictly prohibited.
- 31.4** Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Grievance Redressal Committee may prefer an appeal before the Executive Committee of the Association.
- 31.5** Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Executive Committee may prefer a further appeal before the Congress, whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.
- 31.6** Complaints ought to be raised in a timely manner for proper adjudication. Save where expressly provided to the contrary in these bye-laws or by applicable law, no complaint, claim or challenge of any kind may be commenced before the Association or any other body formed by the Association based on any alleged act or omission of the Association or of any constituent body, official, employee or representative of the Association, more than 30 (thirty) days after the aggrieved party acquires actual or constructive knowledge of such act or omission. Any complaint or challenge brought after this deadline should be accompanied by a detailed explanation seeking condonation of such delay and citing the reasons for delay.

Article 32: Indemnity

- 32.1** Every member of the Executive Committee, all Office Bearers, every member of a committee of working group, every person appointed by the Association including honorary and *ex-officio* to perform a special assignment, and every employee, every official and every officer of the Association shall be indemnified by the Association in respect of any claim (whether civil or criminal) that is made against him/her and/or any liability that he/she incurs


President


Secretary General

as a result of his/her office or the exercise of his powers or the execution of his/her duties, whether or not judgment is given in his/her favour or he/she

is acquitted, provided that he/she has acted at all times in good faith and should have taken the necessary permissions / authorisations in writing. All

legal expenses for defending such officer/employee in a legal claim shall be borne by Association, within pre-approved limits.

Article 33: Adoption of the Constitution

- 33.1** These bye-laws, together with any schedules annexed hereto, are adopted by the General Body of the Association at its meeting held on 25 July 2026 at the Special Annual General Meeting, held at Palette Hotel, MIDC, Pune and shall supersede all previous constitutions, bye-laws or rules of the Association.

Article 34: Residual Powers

- 34.1** Notwithstanding anything contained in these bye-laws, in the event of any ambiguity, inconsistency, conflict, omission or contradiction between the provisions of these bye-laws and the provisions of any applicable law, rules, regulations, directions, guidelines or governance framework issued by any competent authority, including but not limited to Hockey India, the applicable law shall prevail to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.
- 34.2** These bye-laws shall at all times be construed, interpreted and implemented in a manner consistent with the applicable legal and regulatory framework governing sports administration and hockey governance in India, and any provision incapable of being so construed shall, to the extent necessary, be



President



Secretary General

read down, modified or severed without affecting the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions of these bye-laws.



President



Secretary General