

Policy for Constitution of the IFDS Board

A submission from the IFDS Executive

Purpose or Objective:

To establish an IFDS Policy that clarifies the constitution of the IFDS Board and increases the Board number by one non-executive position.

Proposal:

That the Annual General Meeting of IFDS adopt the following Policy Document for future reference by the IFDS Board and the Ordinary Members of IFDS (RNAs):

IFDS Policy for Constitution of the IFDS Board

1. The IFDS Board is appointed annually by the General Meeting (in accordance with Article 14.1 of the Deed of Incorporation). The General Meeting may suspend or dismiss any member of the Board (DoI 15.1).
2. The IFDS Board shall comprise 7 Executive Members and 2 Non-Executive Members.
3. The 7 Executive Members shall:
 - a) Be nominated by RNAs (RoI 14.2).
 - b) Serve 4 year terms on a staggered rotational basis with a maximum of 8 consecutive years (RoI 15.2).
 - c) Be elected by rotation commencing with 2 vacancies in the November of the Paralympic year, 2 vacancies in the subsequent year , 2 vacancies in the third year, and 1 vacancy in the fourth year.
 - d) Soon after the Annual General Meeting, the Board shall appoint a President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Delegate to the International Paralympic Committee from among the Executive Members (RoI 16.1).
 - e) The role of the Executive Members of the Board shall be operational management, preparation of the decision making process and the implementation of the decisions taken by the Board (RoI 17.3).
4. The 2 Non-Executive Members shall include:
 - a) The Immediate Past President of IFDS.
 - (i) The term of the Immediate Past President of IFDS as a Non-Executive Member of the Board shall cease upon the resignation or end of terms of the subsequent IFDS President unless that person is dismissed by the Executive Committee or chooses to resign from the position.

- (ii) Where the most recent Past President of IFDS is unavailable or ineligible for membership of the Board, the General Meeting may appoint a suitable person to fulfil the role or the position may left vacant.
- b) International Sailing Federation (ISAF) Representative.
 - (i) Every four years, the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) appoints a Vice-President as the representative to the IFDS Board to serve as a liaison to IFDS.
- c) The role of the Non-Executive Members of the Board shall be to supervise the policy and the fulfilment of duties of the Executive Members of the Board, and the general affairs of the Association (RoI 17.3).

Current Position:

There is only one Non-Executive member and six Executive members of the Board and the differing roles of the Executive and Non-Executive Members are not well understood.

Reason:

The additional Non-Executive role employs the experience of Past IFDS Presidents to supervise and guide the Board.

The Policy clarifies the differing roles of Executive and Non-Executive Members of the IFDS Board.

The Policy clarifies the process for election or appointment of the Executive and Non-Executive Members of the IFDS Board.

The Policy establishes a consistent pattern for elections that maintains a stable composition of the Board.