



CONSTITUTION

I.A.A.D.S.

International Athletic Association for
Persons with Down Syndrome

Approved in Puerto Vallarta (Mexico) on September 10, 2010.

Amended in Madeira (Portugal) on November 2, 2018

Amended in Nymburk (Czech Rep.) on June 24, 2022

Amended in Sofia (Bulgaria) on June 18, 2026

Article 1 - Name and address

- 1.1 The sports association called "IAADS - International Athletic Association for Persons with Down Syndrome," is based in Italy, op. Castelnuovo di Porto (RM), Via Tenth Street nr. 5, governed by Articles 27 and following of the Italian Civil Code.
- 1.2 IAADS abides by the technical regulations of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), amended as appropriate.

Article 2 - Objectives

- 2.1 The purpose of IAADS is to develop and spread throughout the world the practice of sport in athletics as a means of psychological, physical and moral training of persons with Down syndrome, through the management of all forms of activity athletic, recreational or any other type of motor activity. Also to promote the knowledge and practice in athletics among people with Down syndrome.
- 2.2 IAADS will not allow any discrimination against national sports organizations that are members; or against individuals, on the basis of nationality, race, sex, disability, religion or political opinions.
- 2.3 IAADS is a not profit association. During the life of the Association there may not be distributed, even indirectly, its funds, reserves or capital.
- 2.4 IAADS rejects any practice intended to improve the performance of athletes by intake of drugs.
- 2.5 IAADS may carry on business throughout the Italian territory and abroad.
- 2.6 IAADS is also characterized by the democratic nature of the structure with free elections. It will be free of charges and services provided by association members and from an obligatory budget It must rely mainly on voluntary benefits, personal and free of its members and cannot hire workers employees or use the services of self-employment except to ensure the smooth functioning of the structures or for specialized activities.

Article 3 - Duration

- 3.1 The duration of IAADS is unlimited and can be dissolved only by a resolution at a General Assembly or a special meeting of members.

Article 4 - Language

- 4.1 The official language of IAADS is English, except for its business in Italy as the registered office of the Association.

Article 5 - Privacy

5.1 Data held by IAADS is protected by Italian Law nr. 196 of 30 June 2003.

Article 6 - Associates

- 6.1 IAADS might be present, acting as members, in all national sports organizations for people with Down syndrome. Located in or outside Italy, who share its goals, that commit to and participate in the activities of the Association.
- 6.2 All those who wish to be part of IAADS must submit an application for admission on the appropriate form and pay the membership fee determined by the Executive Board. Only one member association of any country will be allowed. All competitors shall be registered with their National Member/Organization/National Federation/National Sports Organization to be eligible to compete and be in good standing with IAADS. Entry to events can only be made by said Member Organisation.
- 6.3 Associations will be a member of IAADS as long as they continue to pay their membership fees and abide by the rules.
- 6.4 The recognition of new members is subject to acceptance of the application by the Executive Board of IAADS. Appeals against decisions of the Executive Board must be made at General Assembly.
- 6.5 The membership fee cannot be transferred to third parties or refunded.

Article 7 - Rights and duties of members

- 7.1 All members shall, from the time of admission, have the right to participate and vote in General Assemblies.
- 7.2 All members are entitled to participate in all initiatives and activities promoted by the Executive Board, as stipulated in the appropriate regulations.
- 7.3 Members are committed to accept, unconditionally and in every respect the constitution and regulations of the Association, and all decisions, rules and decisions of the bodies of the Association.

Article 8 - Revocation of members

- 8.1 Members shall cease to belong to the group in the following cases:
- For voluntary withdrawal;
 - For arrears have lasted over six months after expiry of the required payment of membership dues;

- A decision to exclude by the absolute majority of members of the Executive Board, who rule against the member who commits actions considered dishonorable within and outside the association, or who, by his conduct, obstructs the smooth progress of the association.

8.2 The degree of exclusion given by the Executive Board must be ratified by the General Assembly. During that meeting, which must be attended by member concerned, there will be a discussion regarding the reasons and appeals against exclusion. The member remains suspended until the next General Assembly.

8.3 Members can be excluded permanently without re-admission.

Article 9 – Organization

- 9.1 The organization of IAADS:
- The General Assembly
 - President
 - Executive Board

Article 10 – General Assembly

10.1 The General Assembly of members of IAADS is the highest deliberative body of the association and is called in both ordinary sessions and extraordinary sessions. When it is regularly called and constituted it represents all the members and the resolutions adopted by it legitimately apply to all members, whether they agree or not.

10.2 The General Assembly in ordinary session will deliberate on the broad general directives concerning the approval of the association and social regulation, the appointment of the governing bodies of the association and on all matters pertaining to the life and business of the Association. But for an Extraordinary General Assembly only the business for which that meeting was called can be discussed.

Art.11 – Assembly call

11.1 The calling of an Assembly will take place after giving 30 days prior notice to members through electronic mail. The meeting notice must indicate the date, place, time and the Agenda.

11.2 The General Assembly should be called by the Executive Board, at least every two years, during the World Championships.

11.3 The calling of an extraordinary General Assembly can be requested of the Executive Board by at least half plus one of members in good standing with the payment of dues, who will propose the agenda. An Extraordinary General Assembly may also be requested by half plus one of the members of the Executive Board.

- 11.4 The calling of an Assembly will take place after giving 30 days prior notice to members through electronic mail. The meeting notice must indicate the date, place, time and the Agenda. The extraordinary meeting shall decide on the following matters: adoption and amendment of bylaws, acts and contracts relating to immovable property rights, dissolution of the association and providing for the liquidation.
- 11.5 The Assembly should be called at the headquarters of the association or otherwise in a suitable place to ensure maximum participation of the members.

Art.12 - Right to participate

- 12.1 Members can only attend the regular and special meetings of IAADS if they have paid the current membership fee.

Art.13 Formality of the Assembly

- 13.1 The Assemblies are called by the President of the Association, or, in the event of his absence or impediment, by the Vice President, or, by a person entitled to appear before the assembly and designated by the majority of those present.
- 13.2 The Assembly shall appoint a secretary and, if necessary, two tellers.
- 13.3 The assistance of the Secretary is not required when the minutes of the Assembly is drawn up by a notary.
- 13.4 The President oversees and regulates debates and establishes the procedures and order of voting.
- 13.5 For each assembly a special report, signed by its President, the Secretary and, if appointed, the two tellers will be drawn up. Copy there of shall be made available to all members in a way deemed most suitable by the Executive Board to ensure the widest possible dissemination.
- 13.6 The General Assembly is duly constituted at the first call with the presence of an absolute majority of members with voting right and at the second call regardless of the number of members present, and shall be effective with the approval of a majority of those present. Each member is entitled to one vote and may not delegate this vote.
- 13.7 An Extraordinary Assembly is duly constituted on first call when you have two thirds of the members entitled to vote and act with the favorable vote of a majority of those present.

Article 14 - Executive Board

- 14.1 The Executive Board of IAADS, elected by the Assembly, is composed of the following members:
- a) President*
 - b) Two (2) Vice President*
 - c) Six (6) Members at Large*
- 14.2 The elected Executive Board remains in office for four years and its members are reelected.
- 14.3 To the Executive Board participates also one member (Competition Manager), unelected and without the right to vote, nominated by the World Championships Organizers, that remains in office for two years.
- 14.4 All positions are without remuneration.
- 14.5 Members may nominate to the Executive Board only candidates proposed by members in good standing with the payment of dues and who are of age and have no sporting convictions that have become final; are not culpable for crimes; are not subjects to sporting disqualification or suspension periods for a total not exceeding one year.
- 14.6 Applications must be submitted on the official form which should explicitly state the position for which candidates are nominated and should reach the secretariat of IAADS within 60 days preceding the date of the assembly.
- 14.7 The Executive Board is only duly constituted with the presence of a majority of your members and shall be effective with the favorable vote of a majority of those present. In the event of a tie the vote of the President will decide.
- 14.8 Minutes of each meeting must be drawn up and signed by one of the presents. The minutes must be made available to all members in a method most suitable to ensure the widest possible dissemination.

Article 15 – Resignation

- 15.1 In the event that for any reason during the course of the four years, one or more members of the Executive Board are missing, the Executive Board will co-opt someone who will remain in office until the next General Assembly.
- 15.2 The Executive Board should be considered dissolved and no longer in office if through resignations or for any other reasons to loses the majority of its members.

Article 16 – Call of the Executive Board

16.1 The Executive Board shall meet whenever the President deems necessary, or if it is requested by at least half of the members, without formality.

Article 17 – Duties of the Executive Board

17.1 The duties of the Executive Board:

- a) to decide upon applications for admission of members;
- b) to approve the annual financial report;
- c) to fix the dates of General Assemblies of members to be held at least once every two years and to call an extraordinary general assembly if it considers it necessary or is requested by members;
- d) to draw any procedure relating to social approval by the General Assembly of members;
- e) to adopt measures for the exclusion of members if necessary;
- f) to implement the goals contained in the Constitution and the implementation of decisions of the General Meeting;
- g) to approve the calendar of international events;
- h) to appoint committees and assign tasks.
- i) to propose the presentation of awards and distinctions to individuals and/or groups that contributes to the development of the Association. All proposals must be sanctioned by the General Assembly.

Article 18 – The President

18.1 The President heads the Association, and monitors the operation while respecting the autonomy of other social bodies and is the legal representative in any eventuality. The oldest Vice President replaces the President in the event of his absence or temporary impediment.

Article 19 – The Executive Board

19.1 The Executive Board assigns its members specific tasks for the best management of the Association, such as: secretariat, treasury, technical direction, medical direction, development and educational direction, training, and other.

19.2 The assignment must clearly specify the tasks to be performed.

19.2 In carrying out the assigned tasks, the member must keep the President and the Executive Committee constantly informed.

Article 20 - Financial Year

20.1 The fiscal year will begin on January 1 and ending December 31 of each year.

Article 21 - Assets

21.1 The assets of IAADS consists of movable and immovable property which is received in any capacity, from donations or contributions by public and private organizations or individuals, from net operating surpluses.

21.2 Those assets consist of the fees determined by the Executive Board, the contributions of organizations and associations, bequests and donations from the proceeds arising from the activities organized by the Association.

Article 22 - Regional Branches

22.1 IAADS can establish regional branches in places deemed most appropriate in order to promote their goals.

Article 23 - Arbitration

23.1 All disputes between IAADS members and between individuals will be referred to the Executive Board who will establish an Arbitration Committee of three members. 1 from each of the parties in dispute and 1 nominated by the Executive Board.

23.2 The party in dispute who wishes to submit the matter to arbitration shall notify the other party by electronic mail to be sent within a deadline of 20 days after the date of the originating the action or the date on which the party believes to have suffered injury or is aware of the dispute.

23.3 The Arbitration Meeting will be based at the headquarters of IAADS and report their decision to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will determine what action to take and will consider for all purposes, an amicable outcome.

Article 24 - Dissolution

24.1 The dissolution of IAADS is resolved by in an Extraordinary Assembly with the approval either in first or second call, with at least 4 / 5 vote of the members. Likewise the demand by the extraordinary assembly of members relating to the dissolution of IAADS must be submitted at least 4 / 5 of members voting.

24.2 The Assembly, upon the dissolution of IAADS, will decide on the allocation of any surplus assets of the association.

24.3 The destination of the remaining property will be in favor of another body pursuing similar purposes or for public purposes, subject to different destination required by law.
