



WWR Bylaw 2 - Membership

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Membership - Bylaw 2

Seventeenth (17) July 2021

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Adopted by the Members' meeting held on 17th July 2021.

1. Interpretation

- 1.1. In the event of any questions of interpretation between this Bylaw and the relevant Articles of the WWR Statutes, the wording in the Statutes shall take precedence.
- 1.2. In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires, words importing the singular number shall include the plural number; and words importing the neutral gender shall include the feminine gender, the masculine gender, and any other gender to which an individual identifies; as the case may be, and vice versa.

2. Membership Principles

- 2.1. WWR is open to Membership by organizations interested in furthering the objectives of WWR as the international governing body for the sport of Wheelchair Rugby and its disciplines.
- 2.2. abide by all relevant Statutes, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Policies and decisions of WWR and, wherever applicable, of the Court of Arbitration for Sport, in force from time to time; and to place such requirements on their own members as may be necessary for the Members to meet such requirements of WWR Membership.

3. Classes of Membership

There are three classes of membership in WWR:

3.1. Full Members

- 3.1.1. Full Members are National Member Organizations (NMOs) recognized as having the responsibility to govern the sport of Wheelchair Rugby and its disciplines within their countries. As the organizations with primary responsibility for the sport in their respective countries, it is the Full Members that provide the overall direction to WWR through the General Assembly.
- 3.1.2. Only one National Member Organization per country may become a Full Member of WWR. Full Members must be affiliated with their countries' National Paralympic Committees.
- 3.1.3. Full Members are active participants in the international competitions of WWR. They are expected to maintain active national Wheelchair Rugby programs in the Paralympic discipline of the sport, including holding national championships, and are expected to participate in their Zone competitions.
- 3.1.4. Full Members may bid to host official WWR competitions including the Zone and World Championships. Full Members are eligible to participate in qualification for official WWR Championships and the Paralympic Games.
- 3.1.5. All Full Members are required to include an Athlete Representative in their governance structure. The Athlete Representative should be selected through a process that includes the active Wheelchair Rugby athletes in the Full Member's country.
- 3.1.6. Full Members have nominating, voting, and speaking rights at the WWR General Assembly.

3.2. Affiliate Members

- 3.2.1. Affiliate Members are national organizations recognized as having the responsibility to govern the sport of Wheelchair Rugby and its disciplines within their countries.
- 3.2.2. Only one organization per country may become an Affiliate Member of WWR.
- 3.2.3. These Affiliate Members are developing the sport of Wheelchair Rugby and its disciplines and are promoting, but not yet competing internationally in, the Paralympic discipline of the sport. They may or may not have developed national programs and national championships. Affiliate Members are expected to be actively working towards meeting the requirements for Full Membership.
- 3.2.4. Affiliate Members may attend the General Assembly with speaking rights but do not have nominating or voting rights.

3.3. Associate Members

- 3.3.1. Associate Members are organizations with an interest in the promotion and development of the sport of Wheelchair Rugby, and its disciplines, worldwide.
- 3.3.2. Associate Members may attend the General Assembly, with speaking rights, but they do not have nominating or voting rights.

4. Application for Membership

- 4.1. Members will be provisionally admitted to WWR on application and following the approval of the Board of Directors and payment of the appropriate membership fee.
- 4.2. Applicants for Full or Affiliate Membership must submit the following to the WWR Secretary General using the relevant Application Form approved by the the WWR Board:
 - a) Copy of applicant Member organization's Constitution;
 - b) List of Directors/Board Members;
 - c) Letter from NPC confirming affiliation; and
 - d) Membership fee
- 4.3. Completed Membership application (This may include the submission of information into WWR's online Membership and Licensing System - MALS);
- 4.4. Applicants for Associate Membership must submit the documentation in the list above, with the exception of the letter confirming NPC affiliation.
- 4.5. Upon review of the application, the Board will either provide reasons for rejection or confirm the applicant organisation's provisional Membership which will take effect immediately upon approval.
- 4.6. Memberships approved by the WWR Board will remain provisional unless and until confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Full Members at a General or Special Assembly.
- 4.7. Exceptionally, the WWR Board may seek such confirmation by a written resolution. Such written resolutions require the consent of a two-thirds majority of all Full Members.

5. Renewal of Membership

- 5.1. Membership in WWR is on an annual basis from 1 January to 31 December.

- 5.2. Existing Members will be sent a Membership renewal form and Membership fee invoice prior to the expiration of their Membership. The deadline for Membership renewal will be 31 December each year.

6. Suspension of Membership

- 6.1. Members who have not paid their annual Membership fee or submitted their renewal application will be placed under suspension, by the WWR Board, until such time as the fee is paid and the application received.
- 6.2. Members who are assessed, by WWR disciplinary procedures, to have failed to meet the Responsibilities of WWR Membership as set out in WWR Statutes, and/or to have brought the sport of Wheelchair Rugby into disrepute, will be placed under suspension by the WWR Board.
- 6.3. Members under suspension will not have any of the usual rights and privileges of their class of Membership. This includes the rights to participate in, qualify for, or bid for official WWR competitions.
- 6.4. Members engaged in a bid process for an official WWR competition will be considered to have withdrawn from that process, in the event that their Membership is under suspension. Members involved in qualification for an official WWR championship will be considered to have forfeited their right to qualify, in the event that their Membership is under suspension.
- 6.5. Members under suspension have a right of appeal against such suspension under the relevant procedures of the WWR Appeals Policy.
- 6.6. Members who have been under suspension for two consecutive years may be subject to removal by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Full Members at a General or Special Assembly.

7. Termination of Membership

- 7.1. Any Member may terminate their Membership in WWR by delivering, to the WWR Secretary General, three months advance written notification of their withdrawal.
- 7.2. Members may be removed from WWR, for justifiable reasons as set out in the WWR Statutes, by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the voting Full Members at a General Assembly or Special Assembly.

8. Transfer of Membership

- 8.1. Full and Affiliate Members may transfer their membership to another national organization upon application to, and approval by, the WWR Board.
- 8.2. The new National Member Organization is required to complete the application process as for a new Member, less payment of the Membership fee, accompanied by a letter from the former National Member Organization granting the Membership to the new Member.
- 8.3. Membership will be transferred upon receipt of the application package and provisional approval of the transfer by the WWR Board. The new Member will be invoiced for the following year's Membership fee during the annual renewal process.
- 8.4. Transfers of Membership approved by the WWR Board will remain provisional unless and until confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Full Members at a General or Special Assembly.

- 8.5. Exceptionally, WWR Board may seek such confirmation by a written resolution. Such written resolutions require the consent of a two-thirds majority of all Full Members.

9. Membership Fees

- 9.1. Membership fees for each class of Member shall be set by the Board of Directors, subject to ratification by the Full Members during a General or Special Assembly. Membership fees shall be reviewed by the Board on an annual basis.

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