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Membership - Bylaw 2

Fourth (4) December 2025

Membership - Bylaw 2

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Amendments

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Changes / summary</u>
17 July 2021	Approved	Major review, Board composition, name change
4 December 2025	Amended	3. Classes of Membership 4. Application for Membership 8. Transfer of Membership Change of address

Adopted by a Special Assembly held on 4 December 2025.

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 organizations 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 a Members' Meeting.
- 3.1.2. Only one organization per country may become a Full Member of WWR. Full Members are expected to be recognised, attached or connected with their countries' National Paralympic Committees.
- 3.1.3. Full Members must be active participants in international competitions, or be actively working towards competition of WWR. They are expected to maintain active national Wheelchair Rugby programs in the Paralympic discipline of the sport, including holding national championships.
- 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' rights are outlined in the WWR Statutes Section 5. Members Meetings.
- 3.1.7. The term National Member Organization may be used by WWR to refer to all classes of Membership.

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. Affiliate Members are developing the sport of Wheelchair Rugby and its disciplines and are promoting, and where able are 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. An Affiliate Member may only compete up to a level determined by the WWR Board, and / or its regulations or competition rules.
- 3.2.5. Affiliate Members' rights are outlined in the WWR Statutes Section 5. Members Meetings.

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. They are not competing internationally.
- 3.3.2. Associate Members' rights are outlined in the WWR Statutes Section 5. Members Meetings.

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. The Board may waive the fee where it feels it is in the best interest of developing the sport.
- 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:
- 4.3. Completed Membership application (This may include the submission of information into WWR's online Membership and Licensing System - MALS);
 - a) Copy of applicant Member organization's Constitution;
 - b) List of Directors/Board Members;
 - c) Letter from NPC confirming affiliation; and
 - d) Membership fee
- 4.4. 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. A membership that is provisional is subject to the conditions laid out in the WWR Statutes (Section 5) with the exception of their rights at a Members Meeting. These are laid out in Section 5.

- 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 approval of the transfer by the WWR Board. The organization 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 take effect immediately.
- 8.5. In exceptional circumstances, should the Board consider that the transfer of membership to another organization requires the approval of the membership, it reserves the right to submit this procedure to the corresponding admission procedure for Full, Affiliate or Associate membership.
- 8.6. 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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