



IBTF MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA POLICY

1. The IBTF shall have a minimum of three National Member Countries.
2. Membership in the IBTF is open to countries actively involved in the promotion of the sport of baton twirling and who meet the following criteria:
3. Applicant National Associations shall send to IBTF all required information in English (the official language of IBTF) and in the required format, notably:
 - i. The Member Association's official address and contact details
 - ii. A copy of the Member Association's current Constitution (Statutes), Rules and Regulations
 - iii. A list of the Member Association's main officers
 - iv. A list of the Member Association's active membership numbers (i.e. number of clubs, athlete members, coaches, officials affiliated to the Member Association)
 - v. A formal undertaking by the Member Association to observe and comply with the IBTF Rules and Regulations, notably creation of the following policies:
 - a. A copy of the Member Association's Code of Conduct
 - b. A copy of the Member Association's Code of Ethics
 - c. A copy of the Member Association's Safe Sport or Child Protection Policy
 - d. A copy of the Federation's Anti-Doping Statement-Policy
 - e. Acceptance of the World Anti-Doping Code into the member association's Constitution (Statutes) as well as the jurisdiction and decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport.
4. Decisions on application for membership are made by the IBTF Managing Committee. The Managing Committee can provisionally agree to a membership request filed between two General Assembly Meetings. The National Association may be accepted as a temporary member of the IBTF. To become final, the General Assembly must ratify the decision.
5. The IBTF Constitution (Statutes), Rules and Regulations are automatically accepted by and binding on a Member Country when membership is granted.

MEMBER ASSOCIATION CLASSIFICATIONS AND RIGHTS

1. **FULL MEMBER:** (Voting Member at General Assembly Meetings)
2. New Full Members are required to begin as a Provisional Member.
3. Full Members must abide by the Constitution (Statutes) of the IBTF.
4. To be approved as a FULL MEMBER in the IBTF the organization must have approved Constitution (statutes), a board of directors, democratic procedures with an electoral process, required policies listed above under Membership Criteria
5. Candidate for Full Membership must provide the IBTF with their Constitutions, Statutes or By-Laws in English.
6. Full Members may participate in all meetings, make proposals and shall have a vote.
7. Must pay yearly membership dues to the IBTF determined by the IBTF General Assembly.
8. May appeal and be consulted in all matters specifically concerning the Full Membership; enter its athletes in all competitions approved by the International Baton Twirling Federation, in accordance with the entry rules for these competitions; and organize international baton twirling competitions approved by the IBTF.
9. May examine the content of all contracts made by the IBTF which concern the interests of Full Members or which put them under obligations.

ASSOCIATE FULL MEMBER: (Voting Member at General Assembly Meetings)

1. The classification of Associate Full Member is for associations that practice the discipline of baton twirling as a commission inside another sports federation in their country. Examples of another sports federation would be a multi-sport federation.
2. New Associate Members are required to begin as a Provisional Member, however, on becoming an Associate Member, they have all the same rights and obligations of membership and pay the same fees as Full Members
3. Associate Full Members meet all required criteria to be the IBTF member: sport recognition inside the country, number of years in existence and number of members will prevail. An annual review may be conducted as to the status of associate members inside the sport organization they are affiliated with.

PROVISIONAL MEMBER: (Non- voting Member at Annual General Meetings)

1. The classification of Provisional Member is for Member Countries that practice the discipline of baton twirling as:
 - a. A non-profit association that does not meet the requirements of Full or Associate Membership status
 - b. New and developing countries are eligible for the IBTF's Provisional membership upon receiving a simple majority vote of the Board.
 - c. Provisional Membership is open to countries who are in the preliminary stages of Development of:
 - ✓ National Team Members
 - ✓ Coaches, Trainers of Baton Twirling
 - ✓ Officials, Judges of Baton Twirling
 - ✓ Status to be determined by the IBTF Managing Committee.
2. Must have a designated National headquarters in their Country.
3. Provisional Members must abide by the Statutes of the IBTF.
4. Provisional Members must be making efforts towards full membership on an on-going basis.
5. Must provide the IBTF with their Constitutions, Statutes and By-Laws in English as soon as they are completed and registered.
6. Provisional Members must pay yearly membership dues to the IBTF as determined by the IBTF.
7. Eligible countries, approved by the Managing Committee as Provisional Members, shall have no vote.
8. Eligible countries may not participate in any meeting discussions; however, they shall have the opportunity to ask questions and have the questions answered at the appropriate time during meetings.
9. Provisional Members will not be eligible to have a judge on the judges' panel, however, may be represented at the judges' meetings. Their judge may practice judge during an international event.
10. A Provisional member country may petition for a waiver to compete in an IBTF event or have a judge on the judges' panel immediately upon acceptance.
11. On an annual basis, the Managing Committee will review all Provisional Memberships and will determine whether to continue or terminate the membership. Final approval to terminate a provisional membership shall be by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly without cause.

OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

1. All member countries must abide by the following principles:
 - a. the principles of gender equality in the political and sport acts of their association
 - b. the fundamental principles of fair play and good sportsmanship
 - c. the provision of due process to permit resolution of disputes in the sport
2. All Member Associations will undertake to request the same of their individual members participating baton twirling.
3. All Member Associations agree to respect each other's mutual autonomy and shall in no way harm the development of other members.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY VOTING RIGHTS & PROCEDURES

1. Only one (1) from each Member Country represented at the meeting shall have the privilege to speak and be entitled to vote.
2. At any General Assembly meeting, a Member which has not paid its dues in full prior to the General Assembly is not entitled to vote.
3. Each representative may be assisted by up to two advisors, at the discretion of the Member Country.
4. In the event of a tie vote, the President shall break the tie.
5. Power of Attorney or Proxy voting will not be allowed.

DURATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. The Board shall determine the duration of membership for Member Associations and may terminate a membership without cause by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly without cause.

FEES

1. The following fees are to be established by the Board Executive, each year, and approved
by the IBTF's General Assembly at the Annual General Meeting:
 - 1.1 Entry Fees
 - 1.2 Annual Dues
 - 1.3 Assessment Fees
 - 1.4 Penalty Fees
 - 1.5 Any other fees established by the Board

MEMBER TERMINATION

1. Any Member Country wishing to terminate membership shall inform the IBTF Office in writing before the end of April of that year. Fees for the current year remain payable in full.

EXCLUSION OF A MEMBER ASSOCIATION

1. The affiliation shall end automatically, but no refund of fees will be made, if a:
 - Member Association withdraws its affiliation
 - Member Association no longer exists
 - Member Association is terminated
2. Any Member Association may be excluded or suspended from the IBTF by the General Assembly:
 - for non-payment of any liabilities to the International Baton Twirling Federation
 - for infringement of these or other Regulations of the International Baton Twirling Federation
 - for conduct detrimental to the welfare of baton twirling or the IBTF
 - for any other reason considered as just cause by the General Assembly.

3. The decision to exclude or suspend or terminate a Member Association requires a simple majority of the General Assembly having the right to vote and be present. To be adopted, such items must receive the approval of two thirds of the votes cast. Re-entry into the IBTF is only possible if the Member Association has fulfilled its financial and/or other obligations towards the IBTF, or meets any other conditions set by the Managing Committee. As a condition of membership, a Member Association which ends its membership has no claim against the funds of the IBTF.

RELEASE/SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OF INDIVIDUALS

1. All IBTF Officers, Member Country Delegates(s), Technical Advisor/Delegate and Judges may be subject to disciplinary action for any conduct which conflicts with the Statutes, Policies and Procedures, Rules and Regulations of the International Baton Twirling Federation, including suspension, removal, or expulsion. A decision to expel or remove requires a two third vote at any meeting of the General Assembly. A decision to suspend requires a majority vote of the Managing Committee. Decisions to expel, remove, or suspend shall be based only on cause.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER AWARDS

1. The General Assembly may confer the title of Honorary President of the International Baton Twirling Federation; as well as conferring the title of Honorary Member. Other awards may be conferred by the Managing Committee.