



IAU CONSTITUTION

**Revised by IAU Congress Taipei 1st December
2023**

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DEFINITIONS

IAU : International Association of Ultrarunners.

WA : World Athletics.

IAU Member (with a capital "M")

- An WA Member affiliated to the IAU, **OR**
- A National Ultrarunning Association (NUA) affiliated to the IAU that does not have the WA Member as the IAU Member.

IAU member (with a small "m")

An individual person, member of the IAU Executive Council or an Honorary member

IAU Associate Member

A National Ultrarunning Association affiliated to the IAU that does have the WA Member as the IAU Member.

WA Member : Any National Governing Body affiliated to the WA.

Ultradistance events

Road races, trail races or track running events either indoors or outdoors, beyond the distance of the Marathon; the standard distances recognised by the WA are 50K and 100km on road; the other standard distances and events recognised by IAU (on road and track) are , 6 hours, 100 miles, 12 hours, 24 hours, 48 hours, 6 days and 1000 miles, as well as 50Km and 100km on the track.

Simple Majority

A simple majority is the highest number of valid votes cast for a candidate, subject or motion in a specific vote.

Absolute Majority

An absolute majority is half the valid votes cast plus 1.

Special Majority

A two-third of the votes of those Members present voting at a Congress, such two-thirds to represent at least half of the total voting power of all IAU Members.

Valid Vote

The following shall not be counted as valid votes:

- (a) abstentions;
- (b) blank votes;
- (c) votes for more or fewer candidates than the number required;
- (d) votes declared void by the scrutineers whose decision shall be final, e.g., unintelligible votes.

PART I :
CONSTITUTION - NAME – OBJECTIVES – HEADQUARTERS -
RESOURCES

Article 1 : Constitution – Name

1.1

“The International Association of Ultrarunners” hereafter called IAU has been founded in Austria in 22 April 1984. The Congress of 8 September 2012 in Katowice, Poland has decided to move the IAU Headquarters to Monaco and has approved the new Constitution which is governed by general principles of law applicable to contracts and obligations, the provisions hereof and respects the terms of the Law N° 1.355 of December 23, 2008.

1.2

The IAU works under the Patronage of the WA and is dedicated to developing ultradistance running internationally within WA Rules & Regulations.

1.3

The IAU shall be a non-profit organisation.

1.4.

The IAU shall strive to ensure that no racial, religious, political or other kind of discrimination be allowed in Ultrarunning and take all practicable measures to stop such discrimination.

1.5

The language of reference for this Constitution is French. For all other IAU activities, the language of reference is English.

In cases of a difference in interpretation of these texts, the English version shall apply.

At the Congress, each Delegate may speak in his own language but has to arrange for the translation of the address into English.

Article 2 : Objectives

The objects of the IAU shall be:

2.1

to establish friendly and loyal co-operation between all Members, athletes, clubs and organisers for the benefit of ultra-distance running throughout the world.

2.2

to compile rules, regulations and guidelines governing ultra-distance international competitions (in the event of the IAU not having a rule, regulation or guideline to cover a specific instance, the rule and regulations of the WA shall be applicable).

2.3

to approve the date, the venue and conditions for the IAU global and continental championships.

2.4

to decide the creation of other major IAU (MIAUC) competitions and approve their dates, venues and conditions.

2.5

to frame regulations for the establishment of IAU World Records and World Age Group Performances and to ratify these performances.

2.6

to promote and develop ultra-distance running in each Continent by encouraging specific activities in each of the WA Continental Areas: Africa, Asia, Europe, North and Central America and Caribbean, Oceania and South America.

2.7

to assist with the international development of ultra-distance running by providing technical advice, other information and assistance when requested.

2.8

To produce guidelines for ultradistance competitions and championships and fixture lists and make available on line.

2.9 to ensure that all disputes arising within the IAU shall be resolved by arbitration or other means of alternative dispute resolution.

2.10 Protect clean athletes in Athletics by applying and enforcing the Anti-Doping Code including implement rules, programs and systems.

2.11 Promote gender equality throughout the sport, including all bodies of the IAU.

Article 3 : Duration - Financial year

3.1

The duration of the IAU is unlimited

3.2

The financial year begins January 1st and ends December 31st.

Article 4 : Headquarters

4.1

A Bureau shall be established in Monaco (6-8 Quai Antoine,) to carry out the administration of the IAU in accordance with the decisions of Congress and Executive Council. It may be transferred to any other place in the territory of the Principality of Monaco by resolution of the Executive Council.

Article 5 : Resources

5.1

The annual income of the IAU include the:

- 1) WA administration grant;
- 2) annual membership fees;
- 3) income from the IAU events that IAU organises or grant authorisations for, including the contribution of the public institutions, partners and similar organisations;
- 4) other exceptional sources of income such as collections, raffles, subject to the approval of the Executive Council;
- 5) donations granted in its favor, subject to authorisation under sections 778 and 804 of the Civil Code

and generally, all receipts that are not prohibited by law and regulations.

PART II : MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 6 : Members

The IAU is composed of national bodies:

- 6.1 as IAU Members, the WA members which apply to be IAU Members.
- 6.2 as IAU Members, the National Ultrarunning Associations (NUA) of WA Member countries that do not have the WA Member as the IAU Member. Membership is obtained by application.
- 6.3 as IAU Associate Member, the National Ultrarunning Associations of WA Member countries that do have WA Members as the IAU Member and individual race organisations. Membership is obtained by application.

Article 7 : Membership

7.1

Normally There can be only one IAU Member per country however there can be more than one IAU Member per country, if and only if, these Members are all separate WA Members.

7.2

The WA Member in any country shall be eligible and take precedence for IAU Membership;

OR, in the absence of the WA Member, the National Ultrarunning Association (NUA) recognised by the WA Member and authorised by the WA Member to be the IAU Member.

7.3

Membership applications should be addressed to the IAU General Secretary . They must support this Constitution.

7.4

The Executive Council shall act on such application without having to justify its decision whatsoever.

7.5

The Executive Council reports on admissions of new members to the Congress.

7.6

Only IAU Members affiliated at least 120 days before the date of a Congress may vote during this specific Congress. The IAU General Secretary shall establish a list of these Members.

7.7

The Membership is permanent unless there would be a resignation or exclusion (see Article 8)

7.8

Any abbreviation used for the names of IAU Members must be in conformity with

the WA abbreviations.

7.9

National Ultrarunning Associations which have an WA Member as the IAU Member shall be eligible for IAU Associate Membership and Application has to be renewed every 4 years. They will not have a vote.

7.11

Members shall respect the Objects set out in Article 2 and comply with the Constitution and all applicable Rules and Regulations.

Article 8: Rights of Membership

IAU members have the right to:

- 8.1 Attend, participate and vote at Congress
- 8.2 Make proposals for consideration by the Congress
- 8.3 Nominate eligible candidate (as per Art 15.6) for election to the Council
- 8.4 Nominate candidates for IAU committees
- 8.5 Take part in IAU competitions and other IAU activities
- 8.6 Receive benefits (financial or otherwise) from the IAU
- 8.7. Exercise any other rights arising from this Constitution.

Article 9 Membership Fee.

9.1 Members shall pay any Membership Fee(s) set by Congress on the recommendation of Council by March 31st each year otherwise the fee will be deducted from the IAU travel grant to that federation for the following year.

9.2 A member may be suspended or expelled from Membership in accordance with the Constitution if any Membership Fees or other fees or payments to the IAU are due and outstanding for more than ninety (90) days after the due date or any later date approved by council upon application by the Member Federation . A suspended or expelled Member cannot vote in elections or Congress.

Article 10 : Termination of Membership

10.1 A member that is not in default of any payments specified in Article 9.2 may withdraw its Membership to the IAU by giving written notice of not less than three (3) months to the IAU

10.2 Failure to observe the constitution or any other serious reason, at the discretion of the IAU council . The IAU member has been invited to rectify and/or provide written explanations. The decision can be appealed before Congress.

Article 11 : Liability of members

11.1

The IAU is responsible for the assets used in its name and in no way can the Members nor the Executive Council members be personally liable for the IAU's commitments.

PART III : ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION – THE COUNCIL

Article 12 : Executive Council

12.1

The Executive Council is responsible for the administration of the IAU and carrying out decisions made by the Congress. By derogation to the Monegasque law, Executive Council members are not obliged to be Monegasque residents.

12.2

The Executive Council shall consist of

(a) 8 members elected by Congress as follows:

A President

A Vice President

A General Secretary

A Treasurer

4 other members

(at its first meeting of a new term of office, the Executive Council shall nominate Executive Council members to cover specific responsibilities, see below)

(b) Continental Associations Representatives (see Article 13)

(c) One WA representative, appointed by the WA.

12.3

The Executive Council shall meet at least once a year.

12.4

The Executive Council meets as convened by its President or by a quarter of its members as often as the interests of the IAU so requires, either at headquarters or at any other place or virtually on line.

12.5

The President, or the Vice President in his absence, will preside at all meetings of the Executive Council.

12.6

For the validity of the proceedings, the presence of 4 members listed under Article 10.2.a as well as one member elected under 10.2.b is required.

102.7

No proxy will be allowed.

12.8

Decisions are taken by absolute majority of members present. Only members listed under 10.2.a can take part to the votes; members listed under 10.2.b & c can take part to the discussion but cannot vote. The presiding member will have a casting vote in the event of a tie.

12.9

Minutes of Executive Council meetings must be taken.

12.10

Meetings of the IAU Executive Council shall be attended only by members of the Executive Council. The President may however invite to the meetings working party members in a consulting capacity without the right to vote.

Article 13 : Duties and authorities of the Executive Council

The Executive Council shall have the following duties and authorities

13.1

to be vested with powers to act on behalf of the IAU.

13.2

to accept (or refuse) applications for Membership as well to suspend members in accordance with the terms of this current Constitution.

13.3

to appoint and dismiss all employees, fix their remuneration, lease premises for the needs of the IAU, buy and sell all furniture and furnish-things, make use of the funds of the IAU.

13.4

to submit to each Congress a report, together with audited sheets for the preceding period, and a budget for the succeeding year.

13.5

in case of vacancy in the Executive Council during the first two years of the term of office, to appoint a member of the Executive Council in the interim.

13.6

An election for such vacancies in the first two years of the term of office can be held at the next Congress. The position of any current EC members standing in those elections will also, therefore, be deemed to be vacant and subject to the same election procedures. Article 13 (Elections) – will apply to these mid-term elections. The successful candidates' term of office will be for two years until the next full term elections.

13.7

- . to decide, at its first meeting after Congress or soon after, which Committees have to be established,
- . to define their duties as well as the period of their activities and to appoint the members of these Committees from the valid nominations sent by the IAU Members or received from the IAU Council.
- . the IAU President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees.
- . the list of Committees can cover the following areas:
 - finances,
 - technical,
 - organisational aspects of the competitions
 - records,
 - development
 - statistics,
 - medical,
 - women,
 - protocol
 - communications,
 - marketing,
 -

13.8

to delegate such of its powers to one of its members by special mandate in writing for one or more specific purposes.

13.9

to decide to set up an IAU Arbitration Panel.

13.10

to decide on the creation of a Code of Ethics.

13.11

to supervise all aspects of the preparation of the Congresses.

13.12

to summon an Extraordinary Congress in accordance with this Constitution.

13.13

to establish, approve, reject or amend regulations for IAU World Records and World Age Group Performances and to maintain a register of such;

Article 14 : Duties and authorities of the Executive Council Members

14.1

The President

- represents the IAU in all matters; he is the representative in court when, authorised by the Executive Council and takes legal action on its behalf;
- chairs the Congress and Council meetings as well as other meetings as Council may decide;
- ensures that the decisions taken by Congress and Council are implemented;
- acts as signatory to any contracts entered into by the IAU;
- takes all necessary decisions with regard to unforeseen or urgent matters (after taking advice from relevant members of Council) arising between Council meetings and such decisions will be reported during the next Council meeting;

14.2

The Vice-President assists the President in his functions and has full authority to replace the President in his absence.

14.3

The General Secretary

- has the responsibility for conducting the IAU Administration including the Congress preparation
- works with the Executive Council members to undertake the necessary technical and organisational responsibilities of the IAU.
- records and distributes the meeting minutes;
- responds to or allocates general enquiries;

14.4

The Treasurer They

- are responsible for financial matters.
- ensure that the Finances shall be conducted in a prudent manner which will assure the continuation of IAU activities and programmes.
- administer the financial affairs of IAU in accordance with the decisions of the Council to whom he will report at all meetings;
- prepare the annual budget (accompanied by a financial forecast for the four year cycle) for approval by the Executive Council.
- liaise with and helps the Auditor in order to prepare the Audited Accounts of the previous year, to be submitted to Congress;
- operate the bank account opened in the name of IAU and signs cheques or bank transfers.

Article 15 - Elections

15.1

The eight members of the Executive Council and the Continental Associations Representatives shall be elected for a period of four years and may stand for re-election if their IAU Member proposes them as a candidate.

15.2

All nominations for any Executive Council and Continental Association Representative positions shall have been submitted to the IAU General Secretary at least 60 days prior to the date of the Congress.

15.3

Nominations for any Executive Council and Continental Association Representative positions must be made by the candidates' IAU Member.

15.4

Nominations for Committee positions can be made by any Member of the IAU Executive Council or IAU Executive Council member.

15.5

A candidate can be nominated for several positions in the IAU Executive Committee or Continental Association Representatives but elected to only one.

15.6

To be eligible, a candidate must be 21 year old with full civil rights; the IAU member who nominated the candidate is not in arrears for membership or other fees. And any member of the Executive Council no longer fulfilling any of these conditions is deemed to have automatically resigned.

15.7

The elections shall be held in the following order:

- President
- Vice President
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- 4 Members
- Continental Associations' Representatives

15.8

No election shall take effect until the end of the IAU World Championships at which the Congress is held.

15.9

Election votes will be by written ballot papers or validated on-line voting, unless there is only one candidate.

15.10

For all elections, an absolute majority is required on the first round and a simple majority is required on the second round.

15.11

In the case of a tie on the second round, another ballot involving the two or more persons concerned will take place. The post shall be filled by the candidate obtaining a simple majority of the valid votes cast. If a tie occurs on the second vote, the candidature shall be filled by the drawing of lots.

15.12

As the IAU is under the patronage of the WA, canvassing follow the protocols, conventions, routines and procedures of the WA.

15.13

During an elective Congress, the IAU Members of each of the six WA Continental Associations will elect their Continental Association Representative.

In the event of a Continental Association being represented at the Congress by less than 50% of the IAU Members in the area, the election shall be held over and the Secretary-General shall send an invitation calling on all the IAU Members of that area to vote for their Representative. The invitation may be transmitted by electronic means and shall state the time period within which the ballots may be cast.

If a Continental Association does not have five IAU Members, the Executive Council can decide to combine two Areas.

15.14

When electing the President, the Congress is chaired by the WA Representative.(nominated scrutineer?)

PART IV: ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION – THE CONGRESSES

Article 16 : Organisation of the Congresses

16.1

Congresses are classified as Extraordinary when their decisions relate to a change in Constitution or termination, or Ordinary in all other cases.

16.2

The Congress of the IAU shall consist of

- Delegates of the IAU Members;
- the IAU Executive Council members;
- the Chairpersons of the IAU Committees;
- IAU Honorary members.

16.3

An IAU Member may have no more than three Delegates present at the Congress. The IAU Members must certify the names of the Delegate(s) to the IAU General Secretary prior to the commencement of the Congress meeting. Delegates may be present on line after email registration and validation with the IAU.

16.4

A Delegate may only represent one member and must be a citizen of that country.

16.5

Each IAU Member has one vote.

16.6

No proxy will be allowed.

146.7

Invitations to attend the Congress will be sent to the Members 90 days before the date of the Congress by the IAU Bureau. The invitation will show a Preliminary Agenda which will be amended should members wish items to be added.

16.8

The Congress is chaired by the President of the Executive Council or, failing that, by the Vice-President.

16.9

The post of Secretary is filled by the General Secretary or failing that a person designated by the President.

16.10

Immediately after the number of Members present and on line has been confirmed, the first voting strength shall be announced, and the appointment of scrutineers nominated by the Executive Council from the Delegates at the Congress shall be approved.

16.11

The votes are cast by show of hands or online ballot unless a secret ballot is requested by a quarter of the members of the Congress or by a member of the Executive Council.

16.12

In case of a tie regarding a proposal, this proposal will be considered as rejected

16.13

The resolutions of the Congress are recorded in the Minutes drawn up on a special register which may be the same as the one containing the Minutes of the Executive Council and signed by the Secretary. This register must be submitted on request of the Minister of State or judicial authorities.

16.14

Copies or extracts of such minutes to be produced in court or elsewhere, shall be signed by the President or, in the event of he not being able to do so, by two Members of the Executive Council.

Article 17 : The Ordinary Congresses

17.1

An Ordinary Congress shall be convened every two years at an IAU World Championships.

17.2

The date and venues of this Congress shall be confirmed at the preceding meeting of the Congress, if known.

17.3

One Congress taking place every four years will deal with elections.

17.4

In general, it discusses any matters of general interest, and on all matters submitted to it by the Executive Council, except those involving the amendment of the Constitution. To this effect, it shall consider and make decisions on all proposals of general interest and especially those items submitted by the Executive Council on the Agenda. Where a member raises a point that is not on the Agenda, it can accept the immediate discussion in an emergency, or ask the Executive Council to provide a report.

17.5

For resolutions to be valid, the Congress must be composed of at least half of the members eligible to vote. If this condition is not fulfilled, the Congress may be reconvened immediately and, during this second meeting, resolutions shall be valid whatever the number of members present, but only on issues on the agenda of the first meeting.

17.6

The resolutions of the Congress are taken by an absolute majority vote of members present.

17.7

The final Agenda will be completed 30 days before the date of the Congress. It

shall include at least the following items:

- Opening by the President;
- Appointment of scrutineers;
- Approval of the Executive Council' Report;
- Approval of the Audited Accounts of the previous year;
- Approval of the budget for the next year;
- Proposals of the Members;
- Proposals of the Executive Council;
- Election (every four years) of the Executive Council;
- (eventually) Nominations of IAU Honorary Members and granting of awards (see below)

17.8

On the recommendation of the Executive Council, Congress shall be entitled to elect IAU Honorary Members (Honorary Life Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents and Honorary Life Personal Members) who have rendered valued services to the IAU and who contribute to its success. The Honorary Members may attend the Congress as observers, without taking part in the vote.

1579

In addition, the Congress on the recommendation of the Executive Council may grant the following awards for long and meritorious members to the cause of International Ultrarunning:

- a. IAU Veteran Diploma to those who dedicated their efforts within IAU activities;
- b. IAU Diploma of Merit to those who were involved within WA Continental Associations (to be proposed by thee Associations);
- c. Admittance to the IAU Hall of Fame for exceptional performances of outstanding athletes and other persons within the IAU activities.

Article 18 : The Extraordinary Congresses

18.1

The Extraordinary Congress has the authority to:

- amend the Constitution;
- declare the voluntary dissolution of the IAU, at the condition that the item has been placed on the agenda in due time.

18.2

An Extraordinary Congress may be convened by the Executive Council and shall be so convened if at two thirds of the IAU members give notice in writing to the IAU General Secretary stating that they desire such a meeting and the reasons therefore. The Executive Council shall summon an Extraordinary Congress to be held within three months from any receipt of the aforementioned notice.

18.3

For resolutions to be valid, the Extraordinary Congress must be composed of at least two thirds of the IAU Members eligible to vote. If this condition is not fulfilled, the Congress may be reconvened immediately and, during this second meeting, resolutions shall be valid whatever the number of members present, but only on issues on the agenda of the first meeting.

18.4

A proposal to amend the Constitution, unless this is proposed by Executive Council, must be submitted to the IAU General Secretary by a Member at least 60 days prior to the Congress at which it is to be considered.

18.5

In case of voluntary, statutory or forcible dissolution of the IAU, the Extraordinary Congress shall appoint one or more liquidators, who shall have full powers to realise the assets and pay the liabilities after the eventual collection of monies from existing contributors or their heirs or eligible known parties.

18.6

Otherwise, the Court of First Instance shall appoint, at the behest of the Crown or any person, one or more liquidators.

18.7

If IAU is dissolved, the Congress will decide on the allocation of its financial means -for example, for the promotion of ultra-running world-wide.

18.8

The resolutions of the Extraordinary Congress are taken by the special majority (see Definitions).

PART IV: GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 19 : Advertising & Registry

19.1

Pursuant to Article 10 of Law N° 1.355 of December 23, 2008, the President or, failing that, a member of the Executive Council shall, within one month, notify the Department of State who shall acknowledge receipt:

- 1 any change in name, purpose or address of the registered office;
- 2 any change in the composition of the governing body or the functions of its members;
- 3 any acquisition or disposal of property, a description & price in case of acquisition or sale must be attached to the declaration;
- 4 any changes in statutes other than those referred to in section 1;

5 any decision of a voluntary dissolution of the IAU.

18.2

Pursuant to Article 11 of Law N° 1.355 of December 23, 2008, the President or, failing that a member of the Executive Council is required to publish in the Journal de Monaco, besides the receipt of declaration, a notice stating:

1. any change in name, purpose or address of the registered office;
2. the decision to dissolve the IAU.

The publication must be made within one month following the declaration.

18.3

The amendments referred to in Article 19.1.2, 19.1.3 and 19.1.4 are effective against third parties from the date they were declared. The amendments referred to in Article 17.1.1 and 17.1.5 shall have effect against third parties until the date of their publication in the Journal de Monaco.

17.4

Pursuant to Article 12 of Law No. 1.355 of December 23, 2008, amendments to the statutes and changes in the administration of the IAU are entered in a register kept at the headquarters. The dates of receipt on the amendments and changes are listed in the register.

Article 20 : Dispute Resolution

20.1

Congress grants the Executive Council the power to create a system for the resolution of disputes arising within the IAU, including by means of mediation and/or arbitration.

20.2

The Executive Council shall have the express power to create an Arbitration Panel and to adopt regulations governing its establishment, function and procedure.

20.3

Any decision made by the Arbitration Panel shall be considered final by all parties.

Article 21 : Bylaws

21.1

Any cases not provided for herein shall be dealt by the IAU Executive Council who can decide to establish Bylaws.