

# **STATUTES**



### **CONTENTS:**

PREAMBLE	3
CHAPTER I - DENOMINATION, HEADQUARTERS AND MISSION	4
CHAPTER II - MEMBERS	7
CHAPTER III - CORPORATE BODIES	9
SECTION I - Plenary Assembly	10
SECTION II - Executive Committee	12
SECTION III - Supervisory Board	13
SECTION IV - Ethics Council	13
CHAPTER IV - INTEGRATED ENTITIES AND COMMITTEES	15
SECTION I - Olympic Academy of Portugal	15
SECTION II - Olympic Athletes' Committee	16
CHAPTER V - DISCIPLINARY REGIME	17
CHAPTER VI - PRIZES AND AWARDS	19
CHAPTER VII - AMENDMENTS AND TERMINATION	20
CHAPTER VIII - GENERAL PROVISIONS	21



# STATUTES OF THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF PORTUGAL

#### **PREAMBLE**

Portugal's links with the Olympic Movement date back to 1906 with the appointment of António Lancastre, a Portuguese citizen, to the International Olympic Committee, and continued with the Society Promoting National Physical Education, created in 1909. In 1912, the Portuguese Olympic Committee was created, which since 1993 has had its present name, the Olympic Committee of Portugal.

The mission of the Olympic Committee of Portugal is to develop, promote and protect the Olympic Movement in Portugal, in accordance with the Olympic Charter, and it is a constituent part of the Olympic Movement and recognised by the International Olympic Committee.

In the exercise of this mission, the Olympic Committee of Portugal has the essential task of promoting the fundamental principles and values of Olympism, in particular in the areas of sport and education, ensuring compliance with the Olympic Charter.

The Olympic Committee of Portugal considers the practice of sport as the right of all, opposing any form of discrimination and seeking in all its actions to give social value to sport.



#### CHAPTER I - DENOMINATION, HEADQUARTERS AND MISSION

### Article 1 (Name and legal nature)

The Olympic Committee of Portugal (COP) is a non-profit civil association with legal personality and a sporting nature, constituted in accordance with the rules established by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

# Article 2 (Autonomy and functioning)

- 1. The COP is an entity that must preserve its autonomy, refusing any influences, whether of a political, legal, economic, or religious nature, that might prevent it from complying with the provisions of the Olympic Charter.
- 2. The COP secures the resources indispensable for it to function through any revenue not prohibited by law or the Olympic Charter.

# Article 3 (Applicable standards)

The COP is ruled by the present Statutes, prepared in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter, by the regulations issued by the IOC, by the regulations approved by the Plenary Assembly and, in addition, by the Portuguese legislation applicable to associations.

# Article 4 (Symbols)

- 1. The COP adopts the flag, the emblem, and the motto approved by the IOC, as well as the expressions "Olympic Games", "Olympics", and other Olympic properties, the use and protection of which is up to the COP to ensure on national territory, according to the law and in harmony with the Olympic Charter.
- 2. The emblem adopted by the COP for use in its activities, including with respect to the Olympic Games, is subject to IOC approval.

# Article 5 (Headquarters and jurisdiction)

The COP has its headquarters at Travessa da Memória 36, 1300-403 Lisbon, and exercises jurisdiction throughout the territory of Portugal.

### Article 6 (Mission)

1. All the actions of the COP must observe the principles of legality, democracy, publicity, economy, efficiency, transparency, and sustainability, as well as the other defining principles of good governance in accordance with the Universal Basic Principles of Good



Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement.

- 2. For the development of its mission to promote and protect the Olympic Movement, pursuant to the Olympic Charter and other IOC guidelines and reference documents, the functions of the COP are:
  - a) to divulge, develop, and protect in obedience to the Olympic Charter, the Olympic Movement and sport in general in Portugal, committing itself to promoting the fundamental principles and values of Olympism and the civic and cultural enhancement of Portuguese society through sport;
  - b) to represent its members, particularly with regard to respect and defence of Olympism, to official bodies and private entities, coordinating and harmonising efforts to promote the Olympic Movement in the country;
  - c) to comply with and enforce the provisions of the Olympic Charter throughout Portuguese territory, its Statutes and regulations, and the decisions of the IOC and of international sport organisations with which it is a member or is bound;
  - d) to exclusively organise, coordinate and direct Portuguese participation in the Olympic Games and other multi-sport competitions organised under the aegis of the IOC, as well as the registration of their participants;
  - e) to supervise and coordinate the Olympic Preparation Programme in collaboration with the legally constituted national sports federations;
  - f) to represent, exclusively, in Portugal, the interests of the Olympic Movement and the IOC, notwithstanding the powers of the Portuguese IOC members, if any, and to protect the proper use throughout the national territory of Olympic symbols and denominations under the terms of the Olympic Charter and the national legislation in force, preventing any person, collective or individual, of public or private law, who does not have the express authorisation of the COP from using such symbols, denominations or titles, as well as anything that could cause doubtful interpretations in this area;
  - g) to license to any third party the use of its own brands, and/or the brands whose ownership is granted or transferred to it;
  - h) to represent Portuguese Olympic sport internationally, maintaining and reinforcing relationships with similar National Olympic Committees, National Olympic Committee associations and International Federations recognised by the IOC;
  - i) to encourage the development of high-performance sport and sport for all;
  - j) to designate the Portuguese city that may eventually submit its bid to host to organise the Olympic Games, or any other multi-sport events to be held under the aegis of the IOC and to organise them, together with the host city, whenever they take place on Portuguese territory, in compliance with the rules and regulations in force;
  - k) to promote the observance of sports ethics among national sports agents, in compliance with the IOC Code of Ethics, protecting clean athletes and the integrity of sport, through committed measures to combat all forms of manipulation of sports competitions and related corruption, namely, inter alia, the implementation of the Olympic Movement Code for the Prevention of Manipulation of Sports Competitions;
  - to oppose any form of abuse or harassment in sport, as well as all types of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, political, sexual orientation, religion, or other grounds;



- m) to encourage, support and collaborate in the preparation and training of sports people;
- n) to oppose all forms of violence in sport and the use of substances and procedures prohibited by the IOC and by Portuguese law, by adopting and implementing the World Anti-Doping Code, thereby ensuring that its policy and rules, membership and/or funding requirements, and results management processes conform to the role and responsibility assigned to National Olympic Committees listed in the Code;
- o) to promote and support measures related to the health and medical care of athletes;
- p) to promote and participate in actions in favour of development and peace, social integration through sport, gender equality in sport, and to responsibly consider the problems of sustainability from all points of view, in order to promote and spread the Olympic Ideal;
- q) to promote the fundamental principles and values of Olympism, enshrined in the Olympic Charter, within the scope of sporting activity, and to stimulate their dissemination in school programmes, particularly in the area of physical education and sport at all levels of education, encouraging the creation of entities dedicated to Olympic culture and education, as well as the development of their activities, following the example of the Olympic Academy of Portugal (AOP);
- r) to enforce the sanctions and penalties foreseen in these Statutes and other regulations of the COP, and issue, within the scope of its powers, rules, recommendations, and guidelines to be observed by its members;
- s) to maintain a relationship of harmonious cooperation with governmental or non-governmental bodies in charge of sport in the country, safeguarding full respect for the Olympic Charter in this relationship and preserving the COP free from any kind of influence of a political, economic, religious, ideological, or other nature.



#### **CHAPTER II - MEMBERS**

### Article 7 (Members)

- 1. Members of the COP may be ordinary, extraordinary, honorary or merit members.
- 2. The following are ordinary members with voting rights:
  - a) IOC members of Portuguese nationality, if any;
  - b) national sports federations members of international federations recognised by the IOC whose athletic disciplines are included in the Olympic programme, these having the majority of votes in the COP Plenary Assembly;
  - c) the Olympic Athletes' Commission (CAO), represented by two Olympic athletes, one male and one female, both with voting rights.
- 3. The extraordinary members, with voting rights, are:
  - a) national sports federations not covered by item b) above, or, in exceptional cases, the entities equivalent to them, in relation to the respective sport, members of the international federations recognised by the IOC;
  - b) associated and other representative bodies of school sport, military sport, sport at work and sport for disabled people, where they exist;
  - c) multi-sport federations and other entities of a sporting, cultural or scientific nature that may contribute to the achievement of the COP's goals.
- 4. Honorary members, without the right to vote, include former COP Presidents and former IOC members of Portuguese nationality, as well as other personalities or entities designated as honorary members for their work on behalf of the Olympic Movement.
- 5. The former general secretaries of the COP and the personalities recognised for their relevant services rendered to the Olympic cause and to the pursuit of the COP's goals are members by merit, without a right to vote.

# Article 8 (Incompatibilities)

- 1. The participation or representation of public bodies may be allowed on an exceptional basis if this is useful for the purposes of the COP.
- 2. The following are not to be accepted as members of the COP: representatives of members of the COP or holders of statutory bodies of the COP; those who have any legal disability: anyone in debt to a sports organisation; anyone sentenced for criminal, administrative or disciplinary offences in relation to violence doping, corruption, racism and xenophobia, up to five years after serving the sentence; those found guilty of crimes committed in the exercise of managerial positions in sports organisations or against their assets, up to five years after serving the sentence, unless a different penalty has been applied to them by judicial decision.
- 3. Other situations of incompatibilities or impediments must be analysed by the Ethics Council.



# Article 9 (Membership)

#### Membership is awarded by:

- a) Ex officio for former COP Presidents and Secretaries-General, as well as IOC members of Portuguese nationality;
- b) Other members must be approved by the Plenary Assembly, in all other situations.

# Article 10 (Loss of Membership)

#### Membership is lost by:

- a) dissolution of the represented collective entity;
- b) death or resignation;
- c) conviction provided for in Article 8(2), which has become res judicata;
- d) effect of disciplinary sanctions resulting in the expulsion of a member, under the terms provided for in the regulations and statutes;
- e) expulsion as a member of the IOC.



#### **CHAPTER III - CORPORATE BODIES**

### Article 11 (Organs)

The organs of the COP are:

- a) the Plenary Assembly;
- b) the Executive Committee;
- c) the Supervisory Board;
- d) the Ethics Council.

### Article 12 (Electoral Process)

- 1. The electoral process for the Executive Committee, the Supervisory Board and the Ethics Council takes place in the year following the Summer Olympic Games, under the terms established in the regulations and shall be held according to a single-list system, through direct and secret ballot.
- 2. The electoral process mentioned in the previous number shall be conducted by an independent Electoral Commission, to be elected by the Plenary Assembly, and shall be governed by the Electoral Regulations of the COP.

# Article 13 (Mandate)

- 1. The term of office of the members of the Executive Committee, the Supervisory Board, and the Ethics Board, with the exception of the IOC members, is four years.
- 2. No office holders of the bodies referred to in the preceding number may exercise more than three consecutive terms in the same position of a given body.
- 3. Honorary and merit members acquire this quality for life and may lose their quality as such by decision of the Plenary Assembly.
- 4. The members of the statutory bodies of the COP exercise their functions on a voluntary and gratuitous basis, whereby they must not accept any compensation in consideration for their services or for the performance of their duties, without prejudice to the reimbursement of justified expenses, or partial or total loss of income, incurred in the carrying out of their functions.
- 5. The provisions of the previous number shall not apply to the members of the statutory bodies of the COP who serve as professional sports administrators, in accordance with the provisions of the Olympic Charter.



#### **SECTION I - Plenary Assembly**

### Article 14 (Constitution)

- 1. The Plenary Assembly is composed of the ordinary and extraordinary members of the COP and is its supreme organ.
- 2. The President of the COP, or, by his indication, another member of the Executive Committee, convenes and chairs the Plenary Assembly.

#### Article 15

#### (Participation and assistance)

- 1. The following entities shall be entitled to participate in the meetings of the Plenary Assembly, without the right to vote:
  - a) the honorary members of the COP;
  - b) the meritorious members of the COP;
  - c) the members of the Executive Committee;
  - d) the members of the Supervisory Board;
  - e) the members of the Ethics Council;
  - f) the chairpersons of the existing Advisory Committees.
- 2. The meetings of the Plenary Assembly may be attended, without the right to vote, by any natural or legal persons invited by the Executive Committee and authorised by the said Assembly, provided that this is relevant to the conduct of the work.

# Article 16 (Competencies)

The competencies of the Plenary Assembly are:

- a) to consider and vote on the COP's broad strategic guidelines;
- b) to consider and vote on the annual plan of activities and budget;
- to consider and vote on the audited reports and accounts for the financial vears:
- d) to consider and vote on the report and accounts of the Mission to the Olympic Games;
- e) to elect and dismiss members of the Executive Committee, the Supervisory Board, and the Ethics Council;
- f) to consider and vote on proposals for the admission and exclusion of members of the COP;
- g) to set the amount of contributions, if any;
- h) to accept inheritances, legacies, and donations;
- i) to deliberate on proposals for the acquisition and disposal of property;
- j) to deliberate on disciplinary matters under the terms of the Ethics Council Regulation;
- k) to appraise and vote on proposals for alterations to the statutes or regulations of the COP, or new regulations, and to ratify the deliberations of



the Executive Committee on doubts and omissions in the statutes and regulations;

- to deliberate on the dissolution of the COP;
- m) to deliberate on all matters that are not the exclusive competence of other bodies.

# Article 17 (Convening and functioning)

- 1. The Plenary Assembly shall be convened in accordance with the law at least fifteen days in advance, indicating the date, time and place of the meeting and the agenda.
- 2. The quorum required for the Plenary Assembly to convene on first call is at least half of the members with the right to vote, including a voting majority of representatives of sports federations whose sports are included in the Olympic Games programme.
- 3. If the quorums provided for in the previous number do not occur at the same time, a second call shall be scheduled for at least half an hour later, and the Plenary Assembly may take place at the new time provided that a voting majority of the representatives of the sports federations whose sports are included in the Olympic Games programme are present.
- 4. In the setting up of the Plenary Assembly, the sports federations whose sports are part of the Olympic Games programme must hold a majority of votes, which cannot be less than two-thirds of the total votes to be counted in each term of office of the governing bodies.
- 5. For a resolution to be valid, it must obtain an absolute majority of the votes present, respecting the proportionality referred to in the preceding paragraph, except where the law provides for a qualified majority.
- 6. On matters relating to the Olympic Games, only the sports federations referred to in Paragraph 4 have voting rights, on an equal voting basis, and the CAO.

# Article 18 (Frequency and initiative of sessions)

- 1. The Plenary Assembly meets in ordinary session in the months of March for, at least, approval of the report and accounts of the previous year and in November for, at least, approval of the plan of activities and budget for the following year.
- 2. The Plenary Assembly may meet in extraordinary session at the request of the President of the COP, the Executive Committee or at the request of a minimum of ten ordinary members.



#### **SECTION II - Executive Committee**

### Article 19 (Constitution)

- 1. The Executive Committee comprises the President, three Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General and four other members, all elected, as well as the IOC members of Portuguese nationality, if any, and the Presidents of the AOP and CAO.
- 2. The representatives of the sports federations whose sports are included in the programme of the Olympic Games must hold a majority of votes in the Executive Committee.
- 3. The proportion of persons of either sex elected to the Executive Board shall not be less than  $30\,\%$
- 4. In the event of loss of office of any member of the Executive Committee, the vacancy shall be filled through a proposal by the remaining Executive Committee, voted by secret ballot by the Plenary Assembly.

### Article 20 (President)

The President of the Executive Committee is the President of the COP, being also, ex-officio, President of the COP Plenary Assembly and the CAO Elective Assembly, and also chairing the meetings of the AOP Plenary Assembly in an elective capacity.

### Article 21 (Binding of the COP)

The COP is bound by the signature of two members of the Executive Committee, one of whom is the President.

### Article 22 (Competencies)

The powers of the Executive Committee are:

- a) to comply with and enforce the regulations governing the Olympic Movement, particularly the Olympic Charter and other IOC regulations;
- b) to manage and run the COP in accordance with the strategic guidelines approved by the Plenary Assembly;
- c) to propose to the Plenary Assembly the appointment of new COP members;
- d) to propose to the Plenary Assembly, in case of loss of office of any member of the Executive Committee, the filling of the respective vacancy;
- e) to approve the operational and support grants for the activities of the COP and its integrated entities;
- f) to draft and submit the annual activities plan and budget, as well as the activities report and accounts for the financial years, for approval by the Plenary Assembly;



- g) to create and regulate the Commissions it deems necessary for the pursuit of the COP's goals;
- h) to approve the bestowal of COP awards and prizes, under the terms of the regulations in force;
- i) to darft and propose to the Plenary Assembly statutory and regulatory changes, as well as new regulations;
- j) to resolve doubts and omissions in the Statutes and regulations, submitting its deliberations to the Plenary Assembly for ratification;
- k) to adopt, for reasons of urgency and force majeure, decisions that, being within the competence of the Plenary Assembly, cannot be submitted for its approval in due time, which must be communicated and ratified in the following Plenary Assembly session.

#### **SECTION III - Supervisory Board**

### Article 23 (Constitution)

The Supervisory Board is composed of a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary, one of whom must be a Chartered Accountant or Certified Accountant.

# Article 24 (Competencies)

The powers of the Supervisory Board are:

- a) To examine, on a regular basis, the accounts and accounting documentation of the COP;
- b) To give an opinion on the COP accounts and budget before they are presented to the Plenary Assembly;
- c) Give the opinions requested by the Executive Committee or the Plenary Assembly on matters within its competence.

#### **SECTION IV - Ethics Council**

### Article 25 (Constitution)

- 1. The Ethics Council shall consist of a President, a Vice-President and three other members, at least two of whom shall hold degrees in law, including a representative of the CAO, to be appointed after the CAO's elections.
- 2. The Ethics Council reports to the Executive Committee and to the Plenary Assembly under the terms of its Regulations.
- 3. The Ethics Council meets when convened by its President, at least once every six months, and the required quorum is constituted if at least three members are present.



### Article 26 (Competencies)

#### The powers of the Ethics Board are:

- a) to define and keep updated the framework of ethical principles enshrined in the IOC Code of Ethics, based on the fundamental values and principles enshrined in the Olympic Charter, of which the said Code is an integral part;
- b) to handle, appraise and inquire complaints regarding non-compliance with the aforementioned ethical principles, in particular breaches of the IOC Code of Ethics;
- to enforce and propose the enforcement of sanctions provided for in the present Statutes and associated regulations, in the exercise of its disciplinary power, in accordance with the provisions set out in the Regulations of the COP Ethics Council;
- d) to provide clarifications and recommendations to the remaining statutory bodies and advise the COP members on the cases submitted to it, under the terms of the regulation mentioned in the previous paragraph;
- e) to undertake any other task or function, related to the development and respect of ethical principles, assigned by the COP Executive Committee, or provided for in the regulation referred to in item c);
- f) Darft, at the end of each calendar year, a report on its activities, referring the same to the Executive Committee.



#### **CHAPTER IV - INTEGRATED ENTITIES AND COMMITTEES**

### Article 27 (Integrated entities)

- 1. The AOP and CAO are entities integrated in the COP.
- 2. The integrated entities have specific statutory attributions and their own organic structure, enjoying autonomy in the pursuit of the attributions reserved for them and financial support from the COP for their activities.

### Article 28 (Advisory Committees)

- 1. The Executive Committee may establish, on a permanent or ad hoc basis, Advisory Committees for specific purposes to assist it in carrying out its duties.
- 2. The composition, structure and duties of the Advisory Committees are established by the Executive Committee, which appoints their members.
- 3. Members of the Advisory Committees must perform their duties on a voluntary basis and free of charge, without prejudice to compensation for the expenses they incur in the performance of such duties.

#### SECTION I - Olympic Academy of Portugal

### Article 29 (Constitution)

- 1. The AOP is composed by the International Olympic Academy scholarship holders, by the graduates of the AOP courses, by the representatives of entities with intervention in the field of sports ethics and also by national or foreign personalities of recognised merit for relevant services rendered to the Olympic Movement, admitted by its Board.
- 2. The AOP drafts its General Regulations, which govern the granting and loss of membership and the rules of internal operation, as well as its Electoral Regulations, which shall be approved by the Plenary Assembly of the COP.

# Article 30 (Mission)

- 1. The AOP is responsible for the study, research and dissemination of Olympism, the training of Olympic officers, the organisation of national courses for scholarship holders and the tender for scholarships with the International Olympic Academy.
- 2. The AOP is also responsible for disseminating the principles of sportsmanship among all sports people and for promoting actions aimed at its public acknowledgement.

Article 31 (Bodies)



- 1. The AOP's bodies are the Plenary Assembly and the Board.
- 2. The Plenary Assembly meetings of an elective nature shall be convened and chaired by the President of the COP, under the terms laid down in the AOP Electoral Regulations.
- 3. The Board is composed of five members to be elected at the Plenary Assembly for a fouryear term, comprising a President, two Vice-Presidents and two voting members, with the possibility of electing up to two substitute members.

#### SECTION II - Olympic Athletes' Committee

# Article 32 (Constitution)

- The CAO is composed of athletes in accordance with its General Regulations, which are approved by the COP Plenary Assembly, and the IOC guidelines for Olympic athletes' commissions.
- 2. For the purposes of representation in the Plenary Assembly and the Executive Committee, only Olympic athletes may be elected, being considered for this purpose those athletes who have participated in the Olympic Games before the end of the third Olympiad following the last Games in which they participated.

# Article 33 (Mission)

It is the responsibility of the CAO to represent the rights and interests of athletes to the COP under the terms of these statutes and its General Regulations.

# Article 34 (Bodies)

- 1. The CAO's bodies are the Elective Assembly and the Board.
- 2. The Elective Assembly shall be convened and chaired by the President of the COP under the terms established by the General Regulations of the CAO.
- 3. The composition of the Board, its eligibility rules, and the length of its terms of office are established by the General Regulations of the CAO, in accordance with IOC guidelines and the principles of the Olympic Charter.



#### **CHAPTER V - DISCIPLINARY REGIME**

### Article 35 (Scope)

- Any failure to comply with any provision of these Statutes or of the Regulations of the COP, as well as the violation of the ethical principles enshrined in the IOC Code of Ethics, and, in general, any action or omission that affects the good name of the institution, is incompatible with the office of sports director, or offends the Olympic spirit, shall constitute disciplinary offences.
- 2. All members of the COP, as well as the members of its Governing Bodies and Advisory Committees are subject to the disciplinary regime.
- 3. Disciplinary action is provided for in the Ethics Council Regulation, which is approved by the Executive Committee and the Plenary Assembly.

# Article 36 (Disciplinary sanctions)

Disciplinary infractions shall be punished by the application of one of the following sanctions:

- a) warning;
- b) censorship;
- c) suspension;
- d) exclusion.

# Article 37 (Disciplinary power)

Disciplinary power is enforced, exclusively, by the Ethics Council and the Plenary Assembly, in accordance with the division of powers in the following article.

# Article 38 (Disciplinary competence)

- 1. It is incumbent upon the Ethics Council:
  - a) to carry out a set of steps aimed at inquire the existence of evidence of an offence and determining its perpetrators, in order to make it possible to decide whether to charge or close the case;
  - b) to ensure the right of any interested member to be heard before any sanction is enforced;
  - c) to carry out all the necessary measures of proof in order to establish the responsibility of the person concerned for the facts of which he is accused, as well as the final verdict;
    - i. to decide to close the disciplinary procedure; or,
    - ii. to decide on the application of one of the following sanctions: warning, reprimand, or suspension; or
    - iii. to propose to the Plenary Assembly the application of the sanction of exclusion.
- 2. It is the Plenary Assembly's responsibility to deliberate, on the proposal of the Ethics Council, on the application of the sanction of exclusion.



# Article 39 (Resources)

- 1. To express exclusion of any other jurisdiction, final disciplinary decisions shall be exclusively appealable to the arbitration courts referred to in Article 45.
- 2. The appeal shall be lodged within twenty-one days following notification to the interested party of the act being appealed against.



#### **CHAPTER VI - PRIZES AND AWARDS**

# Article 40 (Prizes and awards)

The COP shall establish, in its own regulations, prizes and awards aimed at recognising the merit of natural or legal persons, nationals or foreigners, who should be distinguished for their contribution, achievements or services related to the accomplishment of the purposes and functions of the COP.



#### **CHAPTER VII - AMENDMENTS AND TERMINATION**

### Article 41 (Olympic Charter)

- 1. The present Statutes shall at all times comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter, to which they refer directly.
- 2. In case of doubt in the interpretation of these Statutes, or in the event of a contradiction between the provisions of these Statutes and the Olympic Charter, the provisions of the latter shall take precedence.
- 3. The amendments to the Olympic Charter entail the revision and adaptation of the present Statutes.

# Article 42 (Amendments to the Statutes)

- 1. Amendments to the Statutes may only be approved at a Plenary Assembly specially convened for that purpose, requiring a majority of three-quarters of the votes of the members in attendance.
- 2. Statutory amendments require prior approval by the IOC for them to enter into force.

# Article 43 (Questions and omissions)

Doubts of interpretation and cases not covered by these Statutes and the General Regulations shall be resolved by deliberation of the Executive Committee, subject to ratification at the first Plenary Assembly held subsequently, in accordance with the legal and regulatory documentation referred to in Article 3, with the Rules of the Olympic Charter prevailing in the event of conflict.

### Article 44 (Dissolution)

The COP shall be dissolved by a decision of the Plenary Assembly specially convened for that purpose and approved by a three-fourths majority of the total votes of the COP members.



#### **CHAPTER VIII - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### Article 45 (Arbitration commitment)

- 1. The COP recognises the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland) as the ultimate international arbiter, in cases where the COP is an interested party, except when the law does not allow it.
- 2. The COP recognizes the Court of Arbitration for Sport Tribunal Arbitral do Desporto (TAD) with headquarters in Lisbon, as having jurisdiction in disputes in which it is an interested party, under the terms of the legislation in force and whenever the court referred to above is not competent.
- 3. Sanctions enforced by COP bodies may be appealed within twenty-one days.

# Article 46 (General Regulations)

The rules for the application of the Statute are laid down in the General Regulations, which are drawn up by the Executive Committee and approved by the Plenary Assembly.

### Article 47 (Entry into force)

The hereby amended Statutes shall enter into force after its approval by the Plenary Assembly and publication on the COP website.

The latest Statutes were approved at the Plenary Assembly of the Olympic Committee of Portugal on 7 May 1998, with amendments approved at the Plenary Assemblies of 31 August 2000, 17 December 2004, 28 June 2005, 27 September 2016, 26 November 2019 and 7 February 2023.