

# The Constitution of NACAC as approved by the Extraordinary Congress of the organization on 23 March 2023.

#### Rule 1 -- Title

- In conformity with the Constitution of World Athletics (formerly the International Association of Athletics Federations - the IAAF), The North America, Central America And Caribbean Athletics Association (hereinafter referred to as NACAC Athletics) was constituted on 10 December 1988 at the Teatro del Patio in San Juan, Puerto Rico and on 17 November 2020 was officially registered in The Bahamas as an Unincorporated, Non-Profit Organization (NPO) by the Registrar General of Companies.
- 2. The Association is one of the six Area Associations of World Athletics (WA).

#### Rule 2 — Composition of the Association

- The Association includes as Members all those National Governing Bodies for athletics within the North and Central America and Caribbean geographic area (NACAC or the Area) that are recognized as Members in good standing by World Athletics by virtue of their compliance with the requirements of the WA Constitution and policies applicable to Member Federations adopted by WA.
- 2. The Association may grant Associate Member status to governing bodies for territories within the Area in the case of territories not recognized as Members by World Athletics. The WA Constitution stipulates that Associate Members are not permitted to vote at the Area Congress. Associate Members may not nominate candidates for NACAC-elected positions nor be elected to such positions. Individuals affiliated with Associate Members may, however, be appointed to and serve on NACAC Athletics Commissions and Working Groups. Athletes affiliated to Associate Members may participate in competitions within the Area, subject to applicable WA and NACAC Athletics Rules.

#### Rule 3 — Aims

1. To represent World Athletics within the Area, actively fulfil the rights, roles and obligations of WA as stipulated in the extant World Athletics Constitution or as directed by the World Athletics Council, and ensure that the purposes, policies, and programs of WA are widely disseminated among and respected by all its Members.

- 2. To promote the sport of Athletics and its ethical values as an educational, life affirming and life enhancing activity.
- 3. To reflect and promote good governance and high ethical standards in the conduct of the Association's activities and in the practices and behaviours of NACAC Member Federations, NACAC Athletics officials and NACAC Athletics Member Federation officials.
- 4. To ensure that no discrimination on the basis gender, race, religious, political or any other unfair basis exists, or is allowed to develop in Athletics in any form, and that participation in Athletics in any role is open to all persons on an equal basis.
- 5. To develop and maintain friendly and loyal cooperation between all its Members for the promotion and development of athletics.
- 6. To support World Athletics' objectives of promoting fair play in sport, in particular, by playing a leading role in the fight against doping both within Athletics, by ensuring protection that all participants in athletics in any role are free and protected from harassment, abuse and exploitation, and by working to eliminate manipulation in any form from Athletics.
- 7. To coordinate such activities within the Area as the Congress may assign to the Association and to do so in a manner that respects the jurisdiction of its members and conforms to the Constitution and applicable Rules of World Athletics.
- 8. To provide its Members with a forum where they may freely express their concerns and seek amicable means to further the development of athletics within their respective countries and throughout the Area.
- 9. To foster and support the dissemination of technical, medical, logistical, financial, statistical, or other information and material for the purpose of developing athletics throughout the Area.
- 10. To investigate and resolve or assist in resolving any dispute or infraction that may arise within a Member Federation or between Members, if called upon to do so by a Member or Members, by World Athletics, or if directed to do so by the NACAC Athletics Council.
- 11. To foster and develop links with other International and Area Federations, National Governments and Non-Governmental Organizations to promote the interests of sport in general and Athletics in particular.
- 12. To organize and promote Area Championships and any other athletics championships, competition or event, the Congress and/or Council (following consultation with MFs) considers desirable.

### Rule 4 – Congress

### 1. General Regulations

A. Congresses of the Association, both ordinary and extraordinary, will comprise the members of the Association's Council, the delegates of the Member Federations of the Association, members of the WA Council and Executive Board affiliated with Area MFs, and guests or observers invited by the NACAC Athletics Council.

- B. An ordinary Congress will take place every odd year at a date and place to be announced at least six months in advance. Congresses in which elections are held, pursuant to Rule 4.1.I, shall take place prior to the WA Congress in the same year and shall be notified to MFs at least six months in advance.
- C. Invitations to attend the Congress will be addressed to the Secretariat of each Member by the NACAC Athletics Chief Executive Officer, at least 120 days before the date of the Congress. The invitation will be accompanied by a preliminary agenda. If Council has determined that because of extraordinary circumstances, an in-person Congress is not practicable, the invitation shall specify that the Congress will be held via electronic means that enable the participation of all invitees. If this determination is made less than 120 days prior to the date of the Congress, revised invitations shall be sent to each Member.
- D. Propositions of any kind submitted by Members must reach the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Association at least 60 days before the date of the Congress.
- E. The final agenda, together with all documentation (reports, accounts, balance sheets, budgets, proposals, nominations on the occasion of an Election Congress etc.) for the Congress will be sent to the Secretariat of each Member by e-mail at least 30 days before the date of Congress.
- F. The President of the Council of the Association or, in his absence, a Vice President designated by the Council shall preside at the Congress. The part of any Congress that consists of elections shall be presided over by a Council member who is not a candidate for any position in the elections at the same Congress or by another independent person specifically delegated to oversee and chair the election procedure. The selection of the person presiding over the elections shall be made by the NACAC Athletics Council.
- G. Rules of Debate applicable to the Congress of the Association are set forth in a separate NACAC Athletics Congress Rules document approved by the NACAC Athletics Council..
- H. The business of each ordinary Congress shall include the following items:
  - i. Report of the President on the activities of Association and the Council since the previous Congress
  - ii. Report of the Treasurer,
  - iii. Approval of the Reports, Accounts, Balance Sheets, etc., for the past two accounting periods
  - iv. Proposals of the Council, including any proposals to amend the Constitution.
  - v. Proposals of Members, including any proposals to amend the Constitution.
  - vi. Constitutional and technical matters to be considered at, or brought to the attention of the next World Athletics Congress
  - vii. Date and place of next Congress.

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Congress, the Congress Chair shall preside over the following items:

- Opening remarks and welcome,
- Roll call, including identification of any members not in good standing with NACAC Athletics or World Athletics,
- Confirmation of voting strength, and
- Appointment of scrutineers.

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- I. NACAC Athletics Congresses held in the same year as a WA Election Congress will include elections for the following positions:
  - a. President/WA Area Representative
  - b. 2 Vice Presidents
  - c. Treasurer
  - d. 4 other members of the Council

On the occasion of a NACAC Athletics election Congress, Council at its discretion may arrange for an information session outside of the regular Congress agenda to introduce candidates for NACAC Athletics positions to delegates and to allow such candidates to make short remarks under rules set out by Council. Similarly, Council may make arrangements for an information session for delegates to introduce NACAC Athletics candidates for World Athletics positions.

At Council's discretion, candidates for World Athletics positions from outside NACAC may be accredited as guests at a NACAC Athletics Congress. Council reserves the right to restrict the attendance of such guests to specific Congress sessions and activities.

At Council's discretion, candidates for the position of WA President may be invited to make brief remarks during an information session convened for that purpose.

- J. Each Congress will incorporate in its agenda the Area Calendar for the next two years.
- K. An extraordinary Congress will be called by the President upon request from 20 Member Federations or by majority decision of the Council and may be convened on an in-person or virtual basis. Notice of said Congress shall be circularized at least 45 days prior to the date of the meeting.

### 2. Delegates qualified to attend Congress

A. Each Member shall have the right to be represented by a maximum of three delegates, who must be affiliated to the Member that they represent. Members must certify the names of their delegates to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the commencement of the Congress meeting. A delegate shall represent only one Member. No person who is currently suspended or provisionally suspended by a Member Federation, by NACAC Athletics or by World Athletics may attend or participate in a Congress.

B. Only Members that are in good standing may take part in any Congress.

C. A Member or individual who is otherwise ineligible to attend or participate in a Congress may be invited by Council to be present for and/or participate in a specific agenda item.

### 3. Voting power of Members

Each Member shall have one vote.

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Quorum

A quorum at any Congress shall comprise 50% of the Members. Proxy voting is not permitted.

**5. Scrutineers.** At any election Congress, three scrutineers – one from each region of NACAC – will be appointed from among the non-voting delegates to oversee voting and validate the result of any ballot. The scrutineers will be proposed by Council and approved by Members in attendance at Congress. Scrutineers may also be appointed to determine the result of any votes other than elections.

## 6. Minutes of Congress

A. The minutes shall be sent to the Secretariat of each Member and to members of the Council by the Secretary within 30 days of the conclusion of the Congress.

B. Any request for correction thereto must be received within 60 days following the issue of the minutes. Any dispute arising from the minutes will be decided by the Council.

## 7. Organization of Congress

A. The Organizing Member is responsible for the technical organization (place of meeting, accommodation, equipment, etc.) of the Congress.

B. The Organizing Member will defray only the expenses of organizing the Congress.

C. Expenses of delegates of Members (including transportation, lodging, and incidental costs) will be the responsibility of those Members.

## 8. Special Authority of Congress

Congress shall have the power to remove Officers and Council Members for good cause shown. Congress can exercise this power only after the removal has been agreed by the Council, or by the Council on the basis of a recommendation from an independent Disciplinary and Disputes Tribunal in situations where the matter has been referred to such a body. The Council may provisionally suspend a Council member, but the decision must be ratified by Members at the next Congress.

## Rule 5 – Votes and Elections

## 1. Rules for Voting

A. All decisions shall require a simple majority of votes cast except that amendments to the Constitution and these Rules must obtain two-thirds of the votes cast, and such two thirds must also represent at least one half of the total membership.

B. In the event of a tie, the proposition will be considered as rejected.

## 2. Procedures for Elections

A. Nominations of candidates for election as President, Vice President, Treasurer or Member of the Council must be made by Members and received by the Chief Executive Officer at least 45 days before the date of the election. If no candidate, or insufficient candidate(s), is/are proposed, nominations may be made from the floor of the Congress.

B. Elections will be by secret ballot. The election for President requires an absolute. majority of the votes cast on the first round and a simple majority on the second round. (An absolute

majority means half the votes cast plus one). The election for all other Council members requires only a simple majority. (A simple majority means the highest number of votes).

In the event of a tie among two (2) or more candidates where the tie must be broken to reach the stipulated number of persons to be elected for a given position, a further vote will be held among the tied candidates only. If after two (2) further rounds of voting a tie remains, the following process will ensue:

If after the third round of voting (the initial ballot plus the two tie-breaking ballots), the tie remains, and the tied candidates indicate their wish to remain in contention for the position, the decision on the elected candidate will be made through a coin toss conducted by the Chair of the election process observed by the scrutineers.

C. In order to stand for election, each person proposed to be a Candidate must have been nominated by the Member to which that person is affiliated. All Candidates must, at the time of their nomination and at the time of the election, be individuals who would be eligible to apply for positions as an Official under the World Athletics Constitution.

D. Candidates and others who may be involved in NACAC Athletics elections shall comply with the Guidance for Candidates based on guidance from World Athletics, set forth in a separate document approved by Council.

E. For the purposes of meeting the gender and regional requirement of Rule 6.1, voting shall proceed in four stages. The first ballot shall include candidates for President. The second ballot shall include candidates for the two Vice Presidents and each valid ballot must include votes for one male and one female candidate. The male and female with the most votes will be considered elected. The third ballot shall include candidates for Treasurer; and, the fourth ballot shall include candidates for the remaining four Council positions and each valid ballot must include two males and two females. On that ballot, the two males and the two females with the most votes shall be considered elected. If, after the fourth ballot, there is no person elected from one of the three NACAC Athletics Regions (North America, Central America and the Caribbean), the individual from that Region with the highest number of votes in the fourth ballot shall be deemed elected as an additional Council member. For the purposes of this Rule, Mexico is considered a part of Central America and Bermuda is considered a part of the Caribbean.

F. Votes will not be considered as valid if they include names other than those of the candidates, contain more or fewer names than the number and composition to be elected on that ballot, or bear any marks permitting the recognition of the voter.

G After each ballot, the President shall announce the number of votes cast and the results of the ballot. The signed scrutineers' sheet shall be preserved. The actual ballots shall be destroyed immediately after the closing of the respective meeting of Congress, except where the results are challenged. Any such protest must be made in writing and presented to the President before the close of the respective meeting of Congress.

# Rule 6 — Administration and Leadership of the North America, Central America and Caribbean Association (NACAC Athletics)

### 1. Council

The affairs of the Association shall be overseen by a body to be known as the Council and shall be presided over by the President. The nine or ten Members of the Council\_shall include at least three males and at least three females and shall include at least one member from each of the three regions within the Association as specified in Rule 5.2.E.

A. The Council shall consist of:

- i. President, who shall also serve as the World Athletics Area Representative
- ii. Two (2) Vice Presidents
- iii. Treasurer
- iv. At least four other members
- v. An athlete elected by the Athletes Commission by the athletes in attendance at the NACAC Area Championships held in the year preceding the election Congress.

B. A Chief Executive Officer (CEO) shall be appointed through a transparent process, including a Hiring Board chaired by the President and composed of Council members. The Hiring Board's nomination for CEO and the terms and conditions of the hire shall be subject to approval by Council.

C, No two (2) members of the Council shall be from the same Member except that the athlete elected under Rule 6.1.A.v. may be from the same Member as another member of the Council.

D. No member of the Council shall simultaneously hold more than one of the positions listed in Rule 6.1.A.

E, A quorum for any Council meeting shall comprise five (5) elected members, of whom no less than two (2) shall be officers.

F. The Council shall meet at least six (6) times a year and, additionally, when considered necessary by the President or upon the request of a minimum of three (3) members of the Council. Council meetings may be held on an in-person, virtual or hybrid (in-person and virtual participation) basis.

G. Meetings of the Council shall be attended only by elected members of the Council, the CEO, by members of the World Athletics Council and/or Executive Board from the NACAC Area (who shall be invited to attend and participate in all NACAC Athletics Council meetings) and such additional persons as the President, with the consent of the Council, may invite to attend in a consultative capacity. In the first term of a President, the Immediate Past President shall also be invited to participate in all NACAC Council meetings. In subsequent terms of a President, the Immediate Past President may be invited to attend and participate in NACAC Athletics Council meetings, at the discretion of the Council. Only members of the NACAC Athletics Council elected at a NACAC Athletics Congress or as the NACAC Athletics Athlete Representative shall be\_entitled to vote.

Any Council members may participate in any meeting of the Council without being physically present. Such participation may be by telephone, video conference or other means of virtual communications that allow all participants to hear each other effectively and simultaneously.

H. Terms of office and Vacancies

i. The term of office for the Council shall be four (4) years and shall <u>take effect upon</u> the conclusion of the Congress at which the Council is elected.

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ii. The maximum number of terms of office for any elected Council member other than the President is three (3) terms, except that any Council member who served prior to the 2023 election may (if re-elected) serve two (2) further terms. The three-term maximum applies whether or not these terms are consecutive. The maximum number of terms of office of the President is four (4) terms as President, but if the President has previously served as a Council member, the maximum number of terms of office shall be five (5) terms, counting terms both as a Council member and as President.

iii. Any vacant positions other than the position of the President shall be temporarily filled by decision of the Council and the Members shall be informed accordingly. If the vacancy occurs between an election Congress and an ordinary Congress, there shall be an election for the position at the next ordinary Congress. If the position of President becomes vacant, the Council may designate one of the Vice Presidents as the Acting Area President, and Council shall inform World Athletics of this designation. At the next ordinary Congress, there shall be an election of President.

If the President is temporarily unable to fulfil the duties of President, the President in consultation with Council, may designate one of the Vice Presidents to act as President until the President is able to resume the President's responsibilities. If the President is unable to participate in this process, Council is authorized to appoint an interim President from among the Vice Presidents. Council shall review any interim appointment every six (6) months. In the event the elected President is unable to resume duties as President, an election will be held at the next Congress.

iv. Following every election, Council members whose terms of office have concluded shall cooperate with their successors to assure an orderly transition of leadership. The outgoing President and the CEO shall assure that World Athletics is apprised of the results of any election or interim appointment and shall assist in introducing World Athletics personnel to all new NACAC Athletics Council members.

- I. Powers and duties of the Council
  - i. To oversee all of the administrative, technical, and financial affairs of the Association.
  - ii. To maintain relations with World Athletics, with Members of the Association, with other WA Area Associations and with other regional groupings within the area.
  - iii. To make preparations for the Congress and any other meetings of the Association.
  - iv. To ensure that decisions made by the World Athletics Council applicable to NACAC and/or its Members and by the Congress of the Association are respected and implemented.
  - v. To ratify Area records and maintain a register of such records.
  - vi. To facilitate and coordinate the compilation and publication of an Area calendar of International Meetings and National Championships to be held within the Area in conjunction with Member Federations and World Athletics.

- vii. In cooperation with World Athletics, to promote and deliver a Development Program for the benefit of Members in administration, marketing, antidoping education, sports medicine, the training of coaches, technical officials, etc.
- viii. viii.To decide on procedures, including any bidding procedures, for establishing dates and venues for Association Championships and other competitions that are directly organized by the Association, decide on the dates, venues and host for such competition, and authorize the Association to enter into contracts or Memoranda of Understanding with Member Federations and/or Local Organizing Committees for the hosting of such competitions, provided however, that the Council shall continue to oversee all important elements of the competition, including ensuring the maintenance of proper standards in the organization of such competitions, controlling and supervising the technical organization, and making the necessary appointments, including Organizational Delegates and Technical Delegates, for such competitions.
- ix. To co-operate with other World Athletics Area Associations in seeking WA approval for inter-Area competitions involving NACAC Athletics members, and to negotiate and conclude agreements for the staging of such competitions.
- x. To determine the location of the Area office and to determine venues for various activities of the Association.
- xi. To approve annual plans and budgets, financial arrangements, spending and contracting limits, signing authorities etc. as are appropriate for the various activities of the Association on the recommendation of the Finance Committee.
- xii. To approve hosting arrangements and contracts with LOCs selected to stage NACAC Athletics Championships and other major events organized under NACAC Athletics' auspices.
- xiii. To develop or propose policies, rules, or regulations applicable to NACAC Athletics and its Members when required by World Athletics and on Council's own initiative for the furtherance of NACAC's mandate and objectives.
- xiv. To propose to Congress NACAC Athletics Members of Honour and nominees to receive the World Athletics Plaque of Merit, both awards being given for meritorious service to the cause of track and field athletics within the Area.
- xv. To serve as a vehicle through which World Athletics resources may be channelled to the Area for general and specific purposes.
- xvi. To attend Congress and participate in its deliberations.
- xvii. To decide which of the Vice Presidents shall take on the duties of the President in the absence or non-availability of the President.

- xviii. To decide whether an investigation and/or intervention by the Association in the affairs of a Member or concerning a dispute involving a Member or Members is warranted. No such intervention can be undertaken without the concurrence of Council following consultations with the Member or Members concerned.
- J. It is the duty of Council members to participate in all Council meetings and deliberations, and to undertake the general duties of Council members as well as any specific tasks assigned to them unless urgent personal circumstances prevent such participation and are reported to the President as soon as they are known. Any Council member missing three or more consecutive Council meetings without justifiable reason is liable to provisional sanction, suspension, or replacement by Council which fact must be reported without delay to the Members of the Association.
- K. Whenever the agenda of a Council meeting includes a decision item in which a Council member has a financial or other personal interest, that member shall disclose that interest at the beginning of the meeting or as soon thereafter as the member becomes aware of the financial or other personal interest. A Council member who declares a conflict of interest shall not speak or vote on any matter in which their conflict is implicated. Council members should indicate if they believe there may be a perception of a conflict of interest. In this situation, with the agreement of other Council members they may participate in the deliberations and vote on the matter.

## 2. Duties and Responsibilities of the President

The President shall:

- A. Act as World Athletics Area Representative
- B. Be responsible for ensuring that all decisions taken by the Congress, or the Council of the Association are carried out.
- C. Chair and provide leadership to the Council, including collaborating with the CEO on the preparation of agendas for Council meetings.
- D. Take any necessary decisions on matters which may arise between meetings of the Council of the Association. Such decisions, as well as all other important actions, shall be reported at the earliest possible time to the other Council members and to the next Congress of the Association.
- E. Be responsible for the preparation of reports for the Congress.
- F. Create any *ad hoc* task force or working group he/she may deem necessary or advisable to address any urgent situation. The President shall inform the Council immediately of the proposed membership, mandate and time frame of any task force or group so created.
- G. Be responsible, as the principal elected officer of the Association, for the oversight of the operations of the Association Office and the full and effective discharge of responsibilities of the CEO, and, where appropriate, take such measures as he/she may deem necessary for the proper administration of the Association. He shall report regularly to the Council on these matters.

## 3. Duties of the Vice-Presidents

A Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall preside at all meetings of the Council and the Congress. In addition, the Vice-Presidents may represent the President when so requested. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President/Area Representative, a Vice President shall serve as President/Area Representative on an interim basis until the vacancy can be filled by the Congress in accordance with Rule 6.1.H.iii. In all other respects, the Vice Presidents shall have rights and responsibilities as other members of the Council.

# 4. Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for overseeing the management of the finances of the Association.

A. The Treasurer shall be the Chair of a Finance Committee of Council which will advise the CEO and the Council on all financial matters including the preparation of annual budgets, financial controls, audits, regular reports on the financial status of the Association, contracts for personal and professional services, marketing, media, and commercial activities.

B. The NACAC Athletics Finance Committee shall be a standing committee of Council comprised of the Treasurer, the President and CEO.

C. In its general roles of ensuring the fiscal integrity of NACAC Athletics and accountability for all revenues and expenditures, the Finance Committee through its Chair shall report to Council at every Council meeting.

# 5. Duties of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

The CEO is accountable to the Council. The CEO shall liaise with the President on a day-to-day basis and shall supervise the day-to-day operations of the Association, shall supervise the NACAC Athletics Office staff on a day-to-day basis, and, in collaboration with the President shall ensure the effective and efficient operation of the NACAC Athletics Council, Commissions and any ad hoc task or working groups created by the Council or the President. Additionally, the CEO shall:

A. Report regularly to the Council and to all Member Federations on the current activities of the Association, and transmit relevant information from World Athletics to NACAC Athletics MFs, NACAC Athletics Council and Commissions, and other affected parties,

B. In consultation with the Council, develop the Association's multi-year Strategic Plan for approval by the Council, and shall oversee and direct implementation of this plan.

C. Develop an Annual Plan for approval by the Council and oversee and direct the implementation of this plan.

D. Assist in the development and growth of the commercial revenues of the Association.

E. Support the Council and the President in engaging with stakeholders of the Association, including World Athletics, Member Federations, sponsors, government authorities and\_other partners.

F. Oversee the maintenance of the Association's website, assuring that appropriate information is

promptly and accurately posted on the site, consistent with the Council's guidance on the desired degree of transparency for the Association and with the rights of individuals who contribute to the site.

G. Assure compliance with this Constitution and with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations and those of World Athletics.

H. Perform such other responsibilities as the Council may, from time to time, request.

I. Undertake all of these responsibilities within approved budgets and limits of authority set by the Council,

J. Attend all Congress and Council meetings unless otherwise directed by the Council but shall have no voting rights.

K. After all Congresses in which elections are held, use best efforts to assure a smooth transition between the former Council and President and the newly-elected Council and President.

L. Perform any other task assigned by the President or the Council.

In performing these duties, the CEO may, with the approval of the President, engage external resources to assist with specific functions.

### 6. Central Office

There shall be a central office established to administer the affairs of the Association. The office shall be at such location as the Council shall determine.

### Rule 7 – Commissions

- 1. There shall be an Athletes' Commission, which shall be constituted, and shall operate, in accordance with its Constitution, which shall have been approved by the Council.
- 2. Council shall establish and may terminate such other standing and ad hoc Commissions and Working Groups as it considers appropriate to achieve the objectives of the Association and its annual and multi-year plans, shall appoint and remove the Chair and other members of these Commissions and Working Groups, and shall monitor their progress. Each such Commission and Working Group shall include at least one (1) athlete and shall reflect gender and geographical diversity. The Council shall endeavour to establish standing Commissions in the first year of its mandate and to make appointments to any Commissions or Working Groups it creates through transparent processes.

### Rule 8 - Disciplinary Matters and Dispute Resolution

The Association may establish a Disciplinary and Disputes Tribunal, with responsibility for resolving disciplinary matters and disputes arising from NACAC Athletics rules and/or an alleged violation of the World Athletics Integrity Code of Conduct, or a dispute involving a NACAC Member or Members or a person representing or acting on behalf of a member who agrees to submit their dispute to the Tribunal.

The scope and operating parameters of such a Tribunal will be set out in a separate document approved by Council.

## Rule 9 – Good Standing

Members shall be in good standing and may take part in a NACAC Congress if, and only if they

(a) are in good standing with, and not currently suspended or provisionally suspended by, World Athletics, and have met all obligations of Member Federations required by the WA Constitution, Rules, and Regulations,

(b) are current with any required NACAC Athletics subscription payments and have no other outstanding payment owing to NACAC Athletics under contracts or various NACAC Athletics rules,

(c) have, since the last Congress, competed in at least one International Competition—as defined by WA Rules—or one Area Championships, and

(d) have held at least one National Track and Field Championships annually.

Council may waive the requirement set forth in subparagraph (d).

### Rule 10 — Official Languages

- 1. The official languages of the Association shall be English and Spanish.
- 2. During the meetings of the Association's Congress, each delegate may express himself in either of the two official languages of the Association. Whenever possible, simultaneous translation will be made into these two languages.
- 3. The rules, minutes, reports, and other communications will be communicated in the official languages of the Association. In all cases of any difference in the interpretation of the text, the English version shall be accepted.

### Rule 11 – Members of Honour

The Congress shall have the power, on the proposal of the Council, to nominate as NACAC Athletics Members of Honour, persons who have given distinguished service in the cause of Athletics in the Area.

## Rule 12 – Amendments to the Constitution

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any Congress. Only the Congress shall be entitled to amend the Constitution.

2. A proposal to amend the Constitution, unless it is proposed by the Council, must be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer by a Member at least six months prior to the Congress at which it is to be considered. All such proposals shall be sent by the Secretary to the members at least 90 days prior to the Congress.

3. To be accepted, any proposal to amend the Constitution must be approved by two

thirds of the valid votes cast which number must be equal to or greater than 50% of the Members.

### Rule 13 – Indemnification

The Association shall indemnify any person who was or is a party to or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, administrative, or investigative, by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a Council Member, officer, employee, or official representative of the Association against expenses, including attorney's fees, judgments, fines, and amounts actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with the action, suit, or proceeding except to the extent that such expenses result from the wilful misconduct, bad faith, gross negligence or criminal acts on the part of the person requesting indemnification.

#### Rule 14 – Other Matters

Any matter not provided for in the World Athletics Constitution or applicable World Athletics Rules or in these present Rules shall be settled by the Council and reported to the next Congress.