



VIBF

**Virtus International
Basketball Federation**

General Statutes V1.0

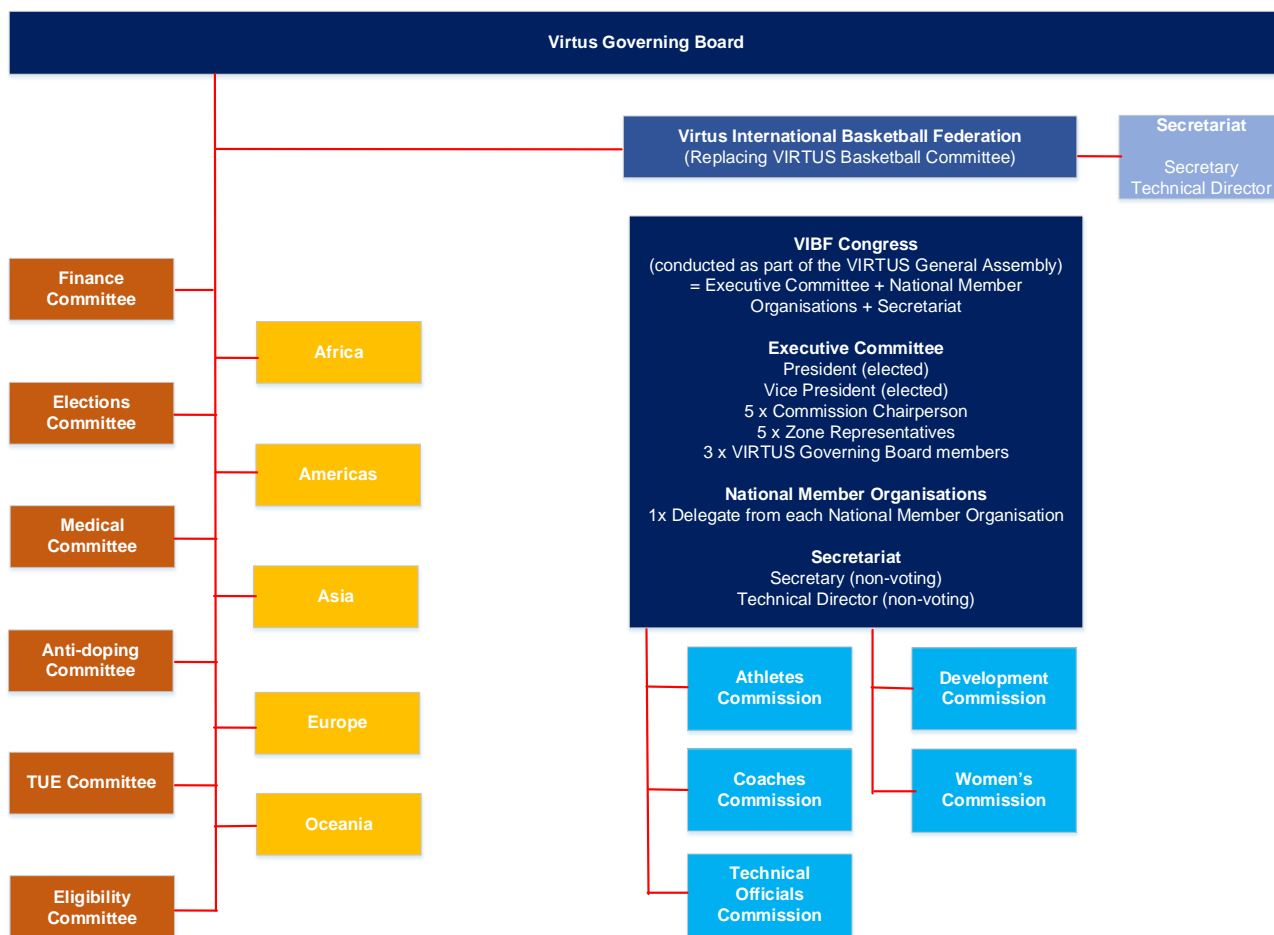
PREAMBLE

These are the General Statutes of the Virtus International Basketball Federation.

The Virtus International Basketball Federation was established in the United Kingdom on 5 February 2025 and it aims to be recognised by the International Paralympic Committee as the International Federation for the sport of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in the world.

It is constituted, integrated, and registered as a non-profit Organisation, under the Virtus Governing Board. The Voting Members of the Virtus International Basketball Federation are the National Member Organisations recognised by Virtus.

Its principal objects are the celebration and conduct of 3x3 and 5x5 basketball for women and men at the Virtus World Championships, Virtus Regional Championships, Virtus Global Games as well as the Paralympic Movement, together with the promotion, development, and protection of the sport of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in the world through its member National Member Organisations.



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CHAPTER 1: COMPOSITION, PURPOSE, AND DEFINITION

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND AUTHORITY

- 1.1. The Virtus International Basketball Federation (VIBF) is the governing body for basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment around the world. VIBF is a subsidiary of Virtus and its regional confederations. VIBF acts as an independent association composed of Virtus National Member Organisations governing basketball worldwide, as provided for under Chapter 2 of these General Statutes.
- 1.2. VIBF is recognised by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the Fédération Internationale de Basketball (FIBA) as the sole competent authority for basketball for players with an intellectual impairment throughout the world.
- 1.3. VIBF was provisionally established in the United Kingdom under the name of the Virtus International Basketball Federation (VIBF), and officially founded by the unanimous decision of the Virtus Governing Board Members.
- 1.4. VIBF maintains absolute political and religious neutrality and does not tolerate any form of discrimination, including but not limited to race, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and disability.
- 1.5. All bodies and officials of VIBF must observe the General Statutes, Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, and decisions of VIBF.

ARTICLE 2: HEADQUARTERS AND PLACE OF JURISDICTION

- 2.1. The headquarters of VIBF shall be established in the United Kingdom.
- 2.2. VIBF is subject to the laws of the United Kingdom and shall be organised in such a manner as to acquire legal status, listed in the Commercial Register.

ARTICLE 3: NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION

- 3.1. VIBF is a non-profit-making organisation whose purpose is to provide opportunities for persons with an intellectual impairment to play the game of basketball and does not pursue any objective for its own gains. It shall pursue solely and directly objectives of general interest in accordance with the laws of the United Kingdom. The financial resources of VIBF may be used only in pursuit of the objectives laid down in these General Statutes. To the extent that compensation or reimbursement of expenses is paid to individuals, it must be appropriate, justified, and related to VIBF's objectives.
- 3.2. VIBF has established reserve funds and uses such funds in accordance with the laws of the United Kingdom. The Executive Committee decides the policy on the usage of the reserves.

ARTICLE 4: MISSION AND ROLE

- 4.1. The mission of VIBF is to promote the sport of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment throughout the world and to lead the basketball movement as recognised by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the Fédération Internationale de Basketball (FIBA). VIBF's role is to:
 - a) Control, regulate, supervise, and direct, and to foster, encourage and advance the sport of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and the practice of men's and women's basketball in all its forms and in all age groups in every country worldwide;

- b) Manage basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment throughout the world through participation, development, competition, and commercial means;
- c) Ensure that basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment throughout the world is carried on in a manner which allows the sport to be competitive and fair;
- d) Formulate or adopt and implement appropriate policies in relation to discrimination, sexual harassment, equal opportunity, equity, drugs and doping, health, safety, infectious diseases, and such other matters as arise from time-to-time as issues to be addressed in basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
- e) Adopt, formulate, issue, interpret, implement, and amend from time-to-time such rules and regulations as are necessary for the control and conduct of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment throughout the world;
- f) Allocate and control the conduct and administration of all official international competitions for athletes with an intellectual impairment at national team and club level;
- g) License and/or endorse the conduct and management of international basketball competitions or games for athletes with an intellectual impairment where this is in the interests of furthering its mission and role;
- h) Establish and maintain a VIBF basketball judicial system, providing processes for the appeal of decisions and the settlement of disputes;
- i) Pursue itself or through another entity commercial arrangements, including sponsorship and marketing opportunities and commercial arrangements in relation to VIBF's intellectual property, as are appropriate to further its mission and role;
- j) Provide for the representation of VIBF at international events which will extend and enhance its control and management of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment throughout the world;
- k) Promote the recognition of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment as one of the world's leading sports;
- l) Do all that is reasonably necessary to enable its mission and role to be achieved and to enable Virtus National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment to receive the benefits which VIBF's mission and role are intended to achieve;
- m) Cooperate with, join with, and/or support any association, organisation, foundation, society or individual where the activities or purposes are similar to those of VIBF or which advance basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment throughout or in specific parts of the world;
- n) Have regard to the public interest in its operations;
- o) Undertake and/or do all such things or activities as are necessary, incidental, or conducive to the advancement of its mission and role; and
- p) Promote the participation of women at all levels of basketball governance.

ARTICLE 5: RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 5.1 In addition to these General Statutes, VIBF may regulate basketball activities for athletes with an intellectual impairment worldwide through the enactment of Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, and decisions.

CHAPTER 2: MEMBERSHIP OF VIBF

ARTICLE 6: MEMBERS OF VIBF

- 6.1 Only one (1) organisation in each country governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment may become a member of VIBF. These could include Virtus National Member Organisations, or National Paralympic Committees or National Basketball Federations, working collaboratively. A member of VIBF must have access to a National Eligibility Officer. Those national federations listed in the Annexure A to these General Statutes are the initial members of VIBF.

ARTICLE 7: ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP OF VIBF

- 7.1. An applicant National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment seeking membership in VIBF must be the controlling body of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in a country which is an independent state, recognised by the international community. This provision shall not affect the status of existing members.
- 7.2. Subject to Article 7.3, only one (1) National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment per country shall be admitted to membership in VIBF.
- 7.3. VIBF may accept an application for membership from a federation in a region which is recognised by the international community as an emerging independent state, provided that such an application is supported by the National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment of the country on which the region is dependent.
- 7.4. Before admitting an applicant National Member Organisation to membership of VIBF, the Executive Committee shall satisfy itself that the applicant fully controls and governs both men's and women's basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in its country, and is in good standing in that country.
- 7.5. Strict observance of the Official Basketball Rules of FIBA, the provisions contained in the VIBF General Statutes and VIBF Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, and decisions of VIBF, both in spirit and letter, is the primary condition for obtaining and maintaining membership in VIBF.
- 7.6. Admission procedures are set out in the Internal Regulations of VIBF.

ARTICLE 8: RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

- 8.1. National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment have the following rights:
- a) To take part and to vote in the Congress;
 - b) To make proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
 - c) To nominate candidates for the President and the Vice-President and other members of the Executive Committee as per Article 14.1.4.c) and 14.1.4.d);
 - d) To nominate candidates for the VIBF Commissions;
 - e) To take part in the main official competitions of VIBF;

- f) To take part in and benefit from VIBF's assistance, development and educational programmes organised directly or through the Regional Offices;
- g) To exercise all other rights arising from these General Statutes, the Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, and decisions of VIBF; and
- h) To exercise all other rights arising from the Zones' Regulations.

8.2. The exercise of these rights is subject to the provisions in these General Statutes, the Internal Regulations, and other rules and regulations, and decisions of VIBF.

ARTICLE 9: OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

- 9.1. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment must maintain full control and governance of basketball in their country, remain in good standing, and participate in official international activities and competitions.
- 9.2. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment must observe all regulations and decisions of VIBF and ensure that their members also comply with them. They shall promote amicable and courteous relations with other National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and their members, officials, and players.
- 9.3. The statutes and regulations of National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment must comply fully with the General Statutes and Internal Regulations of VIBF. The General Statutes and Internal Regulations of VIBF shall form part of the National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment statutes and regulations. In the event of doubt or conflict, the General Statutes, and Internal Regulations of VIBF shall prevail.
- 9.4. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment must ensure that basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in their country is played in accordance with the Official Basketball Rules of FIBA, and that the VIBF Calendar and the obligation to release players for national teams in accordance with the Internal Regulations are respected.
- 9.5. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment shall establish a system for the resolution of disputes by independent arbitration, excluding – to the extent legally possible – recourse to the state courts. They shall promote recourse to and recognise decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and shall ensure that said decisions and awards are legally binding for and enforced by National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, clubs, leagues, players, and officials.
- 9.6. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment must ensure that their policies and programmes are in compliance with those of VIBF. In particular, they shall embrace the principles set out in the VIBF Member Organisations Governing Manual and ensure that their governance and management processes produce the following:
 - a) Up-to-date statutes and regulations in English, approved by VIBF;
 - b) A long-term strategic plan;
 - c) An annual report on activities results (to be sent to VIBF); and

- d) A database of participants (including foreign players), coaches, technical officials, and of competition results.
- 9.7. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment shall manage their affairs independently and with no influence from third parties. In particular they must ensure that their officials are either elected or appointed under democratic process for a term of office of four (4) years. Their statutes must provide a transparent procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.
- 9.8. For those National Member Organisations that are in receipt of development funds through VIBF, then the accounts of National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment shall be audited in accordance with international accounting standards each year by an independent external auditor.
- 9.9. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment are liable for all financial obligations of their own members or bodies (including leagues and clubs) towards VIBF.
- 9.10. Non-compliance with these provisions may lead to the intervention of VIBF as appropriate, including sanctioning provided for in these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations of VIBF.

ARTICLE 10: SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- 10.1. The Secretary may suspend a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment which has not paid any fees that may be levied by VIBF from time-to-time, or is in arrears for a period of one (1) year. The Executive Committee and the Zones must be informed. Such a suspension may be lifted by the Secretary when the National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment is once again in good financial standing with VIBF.
- 10.2. On the initiative of the Secretary, the Executive Committee may suspend a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment for other important reasons and, in particular, when:
 - a) the General Statutes, Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, or decisions of VIBF are violated;
 - b) the requirements of Article 7 are no longer fulfilled; and/or
 - c) the obligations of Article 9 are not being met.
- 10.3. A suspended National Member Organisation forfeits its rights under Article 8.1 so long as it remains suspended and its teams and officials may not organise and/or participate in official competitions or activities.
- 10.4. If not lifted by the Executive Committee in the meantime, a suspension made under Article 10.2 may remain in force only until the next Congress. The Congress shall decide whether the suspension is lifted or prolonged.
- 10.5. Procedures dealing with suspended members are set out in the Internal Regulations of VIBF.

- 10.6. Based on a proposal put forward by the Executive Committee, the Congress may decide to expel a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment without indication of grounds.

ARTICLE 11: DISBANDMENT OF A NATIONAL MEMBER ORGANISATION

- 11.1. If a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment is disbanded according to the procedure set out in its own statutes and regulations, a new National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment may be admitted in accordance with Article 7.
- 11.2. If a disbanded National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment was not in good financial standing with VIBF or the relevant Zone at the time of its disbandment, the new National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment shall take over all the financial obligations of the former National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment towards VIBF or the relevant Zone, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

ARTICLE 12: CLUBS, OTHER BODIES AND LEAGUES

- 12.1. The various bodies of National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment (including leagues and clubs) may pursue their activities within the limits of their own National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment only, and with the latter's recognition and permission.
- 12.2. No international activity of such bodies shall be permitted without the authorisation of the competent National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and that of VIBF.
- 12.3. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and their clubs or leagues may not play on the territory of another National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment without the latter's authorisation and that of VIBF.
- 12.4. Further requirements relating to League Organisations at national and international levels are set out in the Internal Regulations of VIBF.
- 12.5. In order to avoid conflicts of interest, National Organisations for athletes with an intellectual impairment affiliated or otherwise connected with National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, are not authorised to take over or participate directly or indirectly in the management or exploitation of broadcast, marketing, merchandising, or similar rights of another National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment.
- 12.6. Clubs, leagues, players, coaches, referees, and other officials affiliated with or licensed by National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment must at all times respect the General Statutes and the Zone Regulations as well as the VIBF Calendar, the Official Basketball Rules of FIBA, and the VIBF Internal Regulations, in particular, without limitation, those on Anti-Doping, Eligibility, National Status of Players and, International Transfer of Players.
- 12.7. VIBF and National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment may impose sanctions on their own bodies for breaches of this Article 12.

CHAPTER 3: DIVISIONS OF VIBF

ARTICLE 13: DIVISIONS OF VIBF

13.1. The VIBF is organised in the following divisions:

- a) The Congress;
- b) The Executive Committee;
- c) The Commissions;
- d) The Zones; and
- e) The Secretariat.

ARTICLE 14: THE CONGRESS, THE PRESIDENT, AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT

14.1. The Congress

- 14.1.1. The Congress shall be the supreme authority of VIBF. It consists of:
 - a) The President;
 - b) The Vice-President;
 - c) The Chairpersons of the VIBF Commissions (5);
 - d) A representative of each Zone (5);
 - e) Virtus Governing Board Members (3);
 - f) A maximum of one (1) delegate per National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
 - g) The Secretary; and
 - h) The Technical Director.
- 14.1.2. National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment may be represented by their delegate/s only, who must present a document signed by the President of that National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment attesting that they are delegates of that federation. Delegates may represent one (1) National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment only.
- 14.1.3. Representation by letter or proxy is not permitted.
- 14.1.4. The Congress has the powers assigned to it in the General Statutes, in particular to:
 - a) Approve the agenda;
 - b) Adopt and modify these General Statutes;
 - c) Elect the President of VIBF for a maximum of two (2) four (4) year terms of office;
 - d) Elect the Vice-President of VIBF for a maximum of two (2) four (4) year terms of office;
 - e) Grant the title of Honorary President, Honorary Member or Secretary Emeritus;
 - f) Examine and approve all reports, including the report of the Executive Committee, and other items on the agenda;
 - g) Ratify the decisions of the Executive Committee under Articles 10.2. and 15.1.2. g) (suspension of members);
 - h) Decide on the expulsion of members as per Article 10.6.; and
 - i) Declare the disbandment of VIBF.
- 14.1.5. The Congress meets once every four (4) years. No quorum is required for a session of the Congress.

- 14.1.6. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, the Congress may meet by video conference and may vote by correspondence, including email or other electronic means.
- 14.1.7. Only matters proposed by the President, the Secretary, the Executive Committee, or the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment may be put on the agenda for the session of Congress, provided that these matters fall within the latter's powers. Proposals must be submitted to the Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening of Congress.
- 14.1.8. Subject to 14.1.9. below, the date and place for the Congress is determined by the Secretary and notice given to the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment at least ninety (90) days in advance. The agenda is prepared by the Secretary and must be sent to the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of the Congress.
- 14.1.9. Upon the request of one-third (1/3) of the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment with full rights or upon the request of the Executive Committee, an extraordinary session of Congress shall be held within three (3) months of receipt of such a request by the Secretary. Extraordinary sessions of Congress shall always be held via videoconference unless decided otherwise by the Executive Committee.
- 14.1.10. The items to be included on the agenda for an extraordinary session of Congress shall be specified in the request for such a session.
- 14.1.11. Participation forms for delegates must reach the Secretary at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the opening of the Congress.
- 14.1.12. The Secretary is responsible for ensuring that details of the decisions taken by the Congress are documented and archived correctly.
- 14.1.13. The Congress may grant the title of Honorary President, Honorary Member, or Secretary Emeritus of VIBF to appropriate persons who have rendered outstanding service to VIBF. Nominations for such positions shall be made by the Executive Committee. Persons granted such titles are permitted to attend the sessions of Congress with the right to join in discussions, but not to vote.
- 14.1.14. The decisions of Congress are final and not subject to appeal.
- 14.1.15. Unless otherwise specified by the General Statutes or by the Congress, decisions of the Congress enter into force on the first day following conclusion of the Congress.

14.2. The President

- 14.2.1. The President of VIBF is elected by the Congress for a maximum of two (2) four (4) year terms of office.
- 14.2.2. The President may hold an office within a Zone or a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment.
- 14.2.3. The process for the election of a President is as follows:
 - a) At least ninety (90) days prior to the first day of an elective Congress, the Secretary shall invite nominations for the position of President from the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in the respective Zone.
 - b) Nominations shall close with the Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the elective Congress at which the election will take place.
 - c) The nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary which shall rule on the eligibility of the nominations no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the Congress.
 - d) The Congress shall elect the President as provided for in Article 14.1.4. c)

- 14.2.4. The President of VIBF presides over the Congress and the Executive Committee. They have the right to vote:
- a) In the Congress – only a casting vote in the event of a tied vote; and
 - b) In the Executive Committee – a vote as a member of the Executive Committee plus a casting vote in the event of a tied vote.
- 14.2.5. Should the President be temporarily unable to fulfil their duties, the Vice-President of VIBF deputises for them during sessions of Congress and/or meetings of the Executive Committee. In the event that the President is permanently unable to fulfil their duties, the Vice-President shall act as President until the next Congress.
- 14.2.6. The President is not an employee of VIBF.

14.3. The Vice-President

- 14.3.1. The Vice-President is elected by the Congress for a maximum of two (2) four (4) year terms of office.
- 14.3.2. The process for the election of the Vice-President is as follows:
- a) At least ninety (90) days prior to the first day of an elective Congress, the Secretary shall invite nominations for the position of Vice-President from the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment.
 - b) Nominations shall close with the Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the elective Congress at which the election will take place.
 - c) The nominations shall be submitted to the Executive Committee which shall rule on the eligibility of the nominations no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the Congress.
 - d) Upon proposal by the Secretary, the Congress shall elect the Vice-President as provided for in Article 14.1.4. d).

- 14.4 To support continuity in corporate memory and leadership succession, the terms of the President and Vice-President shall be staggered, ensuring stable governance for VIBF.

ARTICLE 15: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

15.1. The Executive Committee:

- 15.1.1. The Executive Committee consists of the following members with the right to vote:
- a) The President of VIBF (1);
 - b) The Vice-President of VIBF (1);
 - c) The Chairperson of each Commission (5);
 - d) The Representative of each Zone (5); and
 - e) Virtus Governing Board members (3).
- 15.1.2. The Executive Committee has the powers assigned to it under these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations of VIBF, in particular the following:
- a) To supervise the practice of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment worldwide;
 - b) To develop and up-date on an annual basis a four-year strategic plan for VIBF and to determine VIBF's general policy;
 - c) To review and approve the annual business plans and financial statements prepared by the Secretariat;
 - d) To appoint and dismiss the Secretary and to enter with them relating to their services and their duties on behalf of VIBF;
 - e) To supervise and monitor the Secretary's performance and that of the Secretariat;

- f) To accept or reject applications for membership from National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and to assign them to a Zone;
- g) To decide on the suspension of National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
- h) To control the appointment of and set worldwide standards for VIBF referees, instructors, and commissioners;
- i) With reference to the Virtus Athlete Nationality Policy, to regulate the transfer of athletes from one National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment to another;
- j) To promote amicable and courteous relations between National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, Zones, and their officials and players;
- k) To take every measure appropriate in order to prevent violations of the General Statutes, Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, decisions, and Official Basketball Rules of FIBA;
- l) To prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of the competitions or give rise to abuse of the sport of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
- m) To provide for the principles valid for deciding and settling all disputes between National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, Zones, clubs, leagues, officials, and players and guaranteeing the right of defence and an impartial judgement, in accordance with these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations of VIBF;
- n) To hear and resolve disputes related to international leagues as per the relevant Internal Regulations;
- o) To present reports (including financial reports) to Congress;
- p) To determine the financial policy and to approve the budget and the financial report as prepared by the Secretariat;
- q) To exercise overall control over the financial management of VIBF;
- r) To review the final text of proposed amendments to these General Statutes to be submitted to the Congress for approval. The final text of the proposed amendments, as reviewed by the Executive Committee, shall be sent to the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment together with the agenda for the Congress;
- s) To adopt and modify the Internal Regulations, and other rules and regulations of VIBF;
- t) To organise, govern, control and/or assign the organisation of the World Basketball Championships for Men and Women with an intellectual impairment and other world basketball competitions;
- u) To appoint Chairpersons and members of the VIBF Commissions in accordance with the relevant articles of these General Statutes;
- v) To approve the By-Laws of the Regional Offices, and
- w) To approve the statutes and regulations of any other organisations officially recognised by VIBF.

15.1.3. Decisions of the VIBF Executive Committee

- a) The Executive Committee is competent to take decisions on any matter not provided for in these General Statutes, or in the event of force majeure;
- b) Decisions of the Executive Committee are final and binding. They must reflect equity, fairness, and transparency; and
- c) Decisions of the Executive Committee can be appealed only before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

- 15.1.4. The term of office of the Executive Committee is the four (4) years beginning on the first day after closure of the elective Congress through to, and including, the last day of the session of the next elective Congress.
- 15.1.5. Gender and diversity equity must be maintained so that at least 50% of all the Executive Committee appointed under Article 15.1.1. a), b), c), d), and e) are women and/or gender diverse.
- 15.1.7. Members listed under Article 15.1.1. a) and e) as well as those under Article 15.1.8. will be elected / appointed for a renewable term of four (4) years.
- 15.1.8. The number of Executive Committee members listed under Article 15.1.1. a) to 15.1.1. d) with the same nationality is limited to one (1). The maximum number of members with the same nationality among all members of the Executive Committee is two (2).
- 15.1.9. Membership of the Executive Committee is personal and proxies are not permitted. Executive Committee members must act in a responsible and independent manner, in the interests of VIBF globally. Article 36 shall apply to all the members of the Executive Committee.
- 15.1.10. If an elected or co-opted member of the Executive Committee is absent from two (2) consecutive meetings without special leave of absence from the Executive Committee, then the Executive Committee shall declare their seat to be vacant. The consequent vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the term in accordance with these General Statutes.
- 15.1.11. In addition to the members of the Executive Committee, the following persons attend the meetings of the Executive Committee, without voting rights:
 - a) The Secretary of VIBF;
 - b) The Technical Director of VIBF.
- 15.1.12. The Secretary may invite other persons to attend meetings of the Executive Committee, in particular when matters within their competence are to be discussed. They shall have consultative powers only.
- 15.1.13. The Executive Committee will hold ordinary meetings once yearly in the years of the elective Congress and once in all other years. If necessary, the President and the Secretary may call additional meetings of the Executive Committee. In this event, members must be informed at least thirty (30) days prior to the additional meeting. Upon the request by at least five (5) members of the Executive Committee, the Secretary shall call an Extraordinary meeting of the Executive Committee to be held within fourteen (14) days of the request.
- 15.1.14. A copy of the agenda and the working documents will be transmitted in such a manner so as to be in the hands of the Executive Committee members at least seven (7) days before a meeting commences.
- 15.1.15. No quorum is required for a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 15.1.16. At the request of the President and the Secretary, the Executive Committee may vote by correspondence, including email.

ARTICLE 16: THE SECRETARIAT OF VIBF

16.1. The Secretariat of VIBF shall consist of:

- a) The Secretary; and
- b) The Technical Director.

16.2. Members of the Secretariat are honorary.

16.3. The Secretary and the Technical Director are appointed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

- 16.4 The Secretary and the Technical Director roles are advisory to the VIBF Congress, the VIBF Executive Committee, VIBF Zones and VIBF Commissions. They have no voting rights in any of these forums.
- 16.5. The Secretary manages the Secretariat of VIBF and assumes all responsibility for it. They may not hold an official position within a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment or a Zone.
- 16.6. The Secretary, personally or through their advisors, is responsible for the study and implementation of measures concerning the promotion, supervision and direction of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment worldwide, including such projects of technical and medical assistance that VIBF may be able to provide for National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment or groups of National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment. In particular, the Secretary has the following duties:
- a) To lead and manage the Secretariat;
 - b) To ensure the implementation of all decisions taken by the Congress and the Executive Committee, and to report on the activities of the Secretariat;
 - c) To enter discussions with the Secretaries of the Regional Offices relating to their services and their duties on behalf of the Regional Offices, after approval by the Executive Committee;
 - d) To evaluate, on behalf of the Executive Committee, the performance of the Regional Offices;
 - e) To be responsible for all international basketball competitions for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
 - f) To be responsible for the implementation of the missions set out in Article 4 of the General Statutes;
 - g) To ensure, as necessary, compliance with the regulations established by VIRTUS and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA);
 - h) To convene and prepare the sessions of Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee;
 - i) To maintain the archives;
 - j) To publish and send the General Statutes, Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, decisions, and Official Basketball Rules of FIBA to the members of the Executive Committee, the Regional Offices, the members of the Commissions, the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and officially recognised bodies;
 - k) To draft and circulate official communications of VIBF;
 - l) To ensure the receipt of annual fees from members and also contributions, royalties and dues, emoluments, and fines imposed by the competent divisions of VIBF;
 - m) To administer VIBF's finances;
 - n) To monitor and review on a continuing basis the income streams and financial resources of VIBF and to strive to create additional income streams and activities;
 - o) To ensure compliance by the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, their members and all VIBF officials and divisions with these General Statutes and all VIBF regulations and decisions and to inform the Executive Committee of any violations of the spirit and letter of them;
 - p) To impose sanctions, in accordance with the Basic Principles governing the Application of Sanctions, provided for in these General Statutes or the Internal Regulations of VIBF unless provided otherwise; and
 - q) To take decisions in cases where their jurisdiction is specifically provided for.
- 16.7. A Deputy Secretary may be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the Secretary. If appointed, the Deputy Secretary shall exercise all duties delegated to them by the Secretary. Should the Secretary be temporarily unable to fulfil their duties, the Deputy Secretary shall replace them for the duration of their absence and assume all of their powers.

Should the Secretary be permanently indisposed, the Deputy Secretary shall act automatically as their substitute in all matters until the next meeting of the Executive Committee. The Deputy Secretary may not hold an official position within a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment or a Zone.

ARTICLE 17: THE ZONES

- 17.1. To promote the coordination of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment worldwide, the Congress may establish Zones in geographic regions. The Zones are divisions of VIBF with delegated authority to take decisions in their geographic regions as per the VIBF General Statutes and Internal Regulations. They shall not be organised as legal entities and shall act only through the Regional Offices.
- 17.2. The VIBF Zones in Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania, have been established in order to ensure proximity to the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in the Zone and to run the regional affairs.
- 17.3. The establishment of a Zone in no respect affects the direct affiliation of each National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment to VIBF.
- 17.4. Upon becoming a member of VIBF, a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment is assigned to a Zone by the Executive Committee.
- 17.5. The National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment of VIBF are grouped by Zones as per the Annex to these General Statutes.
- 17.6. The mission of the Zones shall be:
- a) To establish their own development plans as an extension and reflection of the VIBF strategic objectives, adjusted to the conditions in their geographic regions. These plans shall be submitted to the Executive Committee and form the basis of the allocation of financial resources to the Regional Offices;
 - b) To promote the practice of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment in their geographic regions;
 - c) To improve the technical standards and administrative level of National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
 - d) To support the development of additional competitions or programmes, which will assist in the growth and development of the game of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment;
 - e) To develop strategies allowing the Regional Offices to be financially self-sustainable; and
 - f) To assign specific tasks for the Regional Offices to fulfil the foregoing missions considering the circumstances prevailing in their respective Zone.

ARTICLE 18: THE ORGANISATION OF THE ZONES

- 18.1. Zones are authorised to organise their affairs in the manner most appropriate in their geographic region, subject to the VIBF General Statutes, the VIBF Internal Regulations and decisions by the VIBF Congress and the VIBF Executive Committee. To that end, Zones shall establish Zone Regulations setting forth the role, authority, and responsibilities of the various bodies of the Zone. Zone Regulations shall enter into force only after their approval by the Executive Committee. They shall inter alia provide for the following rights and obligations:
- a) To assign and regulate the organisation of Zone competitions in a permanent and regular manner;

- b) To ensure that international leagues or any such groups of clubs shall not be formed without complying with the VIBF General Statutes, Internal Regulations other regulations and decisions of VIBF;
- c) To elect the Representative of the Zone for one (1) single four (4) year term of office. They may not hold an official position within a National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment. In the event that sub-zones have been established the position of Zone Representative shall rotate between the sub-zones and is not renewable, unless approved otherwise by the Executive Committee. In view of the Zone Representative's membership in the Executive Committee the name and available information of the candidate(s) shall be submitted to the Executive Committee no later than one (1) month before the Zone election;
- d) To hold assemblies of all National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment assigned to the Zone at least every four (4) years. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, the assembly may meet by video conference and may vote by correspondence, including email or other electronic means;
- e) To establish and elect the members of a Zone Board, which will deal with matters of the Zone between the Zone Assemblies;
- f) To establish Zone Commissions to advise and assist the Zone Assemblies and the Zone Boards in their duties. The establishment of Zone Commissions must be co-ordinated with the Executive Committee so as to avoid duplication of work;
- g) To establish a process referring disputes to the VIBF Executive Committee; and
- h) To form, with the approval of the Executive Committee, regional sub-divisions. The Executive Committee may order the re-structuring or disbandment of such subdivision if it believes that they are not in the interest of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment.

18.2. Decisions of the Zone bodies shall always comply with the VIBF General Statutes, Internal Regulations other rules and regulations and decisions of VIBF. They can be implemented only by the Regional Offices.

18.3. The VIBF President and the VIBF Secretary have the right to participate in the meetings of all Zone bodies.

ARTICLE 19: THE ZONE OFFICES

19.1. Each VIBF regional office is organised as a non-profit-making legal entity owned by VIBF (the "Zone Offices"), in the manner most appropriate to the conditions prevailing in the country in which the Zone Office has its seat.

19.2. Each Zone Office is managed by a Zone Secretary appointed by the Executive Committee after consultation with the Zone Board. They shall be an ex officio member of the Zone Board with a right to vote.

19.3. The Zone Secretary shall report to VIBF and also provide full information about the activities and financial status of the Zone Office to the Zone Board and Zone Assembly. In the event of conflict between decisions of the VIBF Executive Committee or the VIBF Secretary and those taken by the Zone bodies, the former shall prevail.

19.4. Zone Offices shall have the required staff to implement the decisions of VIBF and Zone bodies in their geographic regions and shall provide administrative support to Zone bodies and officials.

- 19.5. The VIBF Executive Committee has the power to give, through the Secretary, binding instructions to the Zone Offices and to take any appropriate measure to implement these instructions. The Zone Offices are not authorised to represent VIBF before third parties.
- 19.6. The Zone Offices shall implement the strategies developed by their respective bodies, also with the view to being financially self-sustainable.
- 19.7. Decisions of the Zone Offices must be enforced by the National Member Organisations governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment assigned to the respective Zone.

ARTICLE 20: VIBF COMMISSIONS

20.1. The commissions are:

- a) Athlete's Commission;
- b) Coaches Commission;
- b) Technical Officials Commission;
- c) Development Commission; and
- e) Women's Commission.

20.2. The Commissions have a four (4) year term of office identical with that of the Executive Committee.

20.3. Unless otherwise specified herein or determined by the Executive Committee, each Commission consists of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson, and at least one (1) other member. Both genders must be represented equally in each Commission. The Secretary puts forward a list of candidates to the Executive Committee for appointment. In presenting the list, they must take into consideration the expertise of the candidates in the area of competence of the respective Commission.

20.4. Member/s of the Executive Committee may be appointed to each Commission.

20.5. Should the Chairperson of a Commission be temporarily unable to fulfil their duties, the Deputy Chairperson of the Commission deputises for them during meetings of the Commission. In the event that the Chairperson is permanently unable to fulfil their duties, the Deputy Chairperson of the Commission replaces them for the remainder of their term.

20.6. The Secretary is an ex-officio member of all the Commissions, with voting rights.

20.7. Membership of the Commissions is personal and representation by proxy is not permitted. While Commission members bring the knowledge, skill, and expertise from the National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment and from the Zone from which they are drawn, they must act in a responsible and independent manner, in the interests of VIBF.

20.8. The Commissions meet whenever necessary at the invitation of their Chairperson, in consultation with the Secretary.

20.9. No quorum is required for meetings of the Commissions.

- 20.10. With the agreement of the Secretary, Commissions may make use of experts and appoint sub-commissions for specific tasks.
- 20.11. A copy of the agenda and the working documents will be transmitted in such a manner so as to be in the hands of the Commission members at least seven (7) days before a meeting commences.
- 20.12. The Commissions act in a consultative capacity only and do not exercise executive authority. However, Chairpersons and members of the Commissions may be called upon by the Secretary to exercise executive duties. In such cases, they shall not act as representatives of their Commissions but as delegates of the Secretary.
- 20.13. The Secretary may appoint on an ad hoc basis a committee, constituted by persons with specialist skills in their field of expertise, to advise them. The Secretary will inform the Executive Committee of the appointment of such committees.

ARTICLE 21: THE ATHLETE'S COMMISSION

21.1 The role of the Athlete's Commission is to:

- a) advise VIBF on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment from an athlete's perspective; and
- b) to ensure that there is a link between the athletes and VIBF to convey the athlete's views on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment and VIBF and vice versa.

21.2 The Athlete's Commission shall consist of:

- a) One (1) elected athlete from each of the five (5) Zones; and
- b) Five (5) athletes appointed by the VIBF Executive Committee in order to ensure a gender balance on the Athlete's Commission.

21.3 The Athletes Commission will be supported by the Secretary and Technical Director, or other person(s) with relevant expertise.

21.4 The responsibilities, duties, reporting, operations, and authority of the Athlete's Commission will be set out in a Commission Charter, endorsed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 22: THE COACHES COMMISSION

22.1 The role of the Coaches Commission is to:

- a) advise VIBF on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment from a coach's perspective; and
- b) to ensure that there is a link between the coaches and VIBF to convey the coaches' views on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment and VIBF and vice versa.

22.2 The Coaches Commission shall consist of:

- a) One (1) elected coach from each of the five (5) Zones; and

- b) Five (5) coaches appointed by the VIBF Executive Committee in order to ensure a gender balance on the Coaches Commission.

22.3 The Coaches Commission will be supported by the Secretary and Technical Director, or other person(s) with relevant expertise.

22.4 The responsibilities, duties, reporting, operations, and authority of the Coaches Commission will be set out in a Commission Charter, endorsed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 23: THE TECHNICAL OFFICIALS COMMISSION

23.1 The role of the Technical Officials Commission is to:

- a) advise VIBF on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment from a technical official's perspective; and
- b) to ensure that there is a link between the technical officials and VIBF to convey the technical official's views on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment and VIBF and vice versa.

23.2 The Technical Officials Commission shall consist of:

- a) One (1) elected technical official from each of the five (5) Zones; and
- b) Five (5) technical officials appointed by the VIBF Executive Committee in order to ensure a gender balance on the Coaches Commission.

23.3 The Technical Officials Commission will be supported by the Secretary and Technical Director, or other person(s) with relevant expertise.

23.4 The responsibilities, duties, reporting, operations, and authority of the Technical Official's Commission will be set out in a Commission Charter, endorsed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 24: THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

24.1 The role of the Development Commission is to provide expertise and advice to the Congress on matters necessary:

- a) to support the growth, development, and administration of basketball at a world, regional and national level; and
- b) to develop partnerships and uphold the role and relationship between Basketball and social responsibility.

24.2 The Development Commission shall consist of:

- a) One (1) elected person from each of the five (5) Zones; and
- b) Five (5) people appointed by the VIBF Executive Committee in order to ensure a gender balance on the Development Commission.

24.3 The Development Commission will be supported by the Secretary and Technical Director, or other person(s) with relevant expertise.

24.4 The responsibilities, duties, reporting, operations, and authority of the Development Commission will be set out in a Commission Charter, endorsed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 25: THE WOMEN'S COMMISSION

25.1 The role of the Women's Commission is to:

- a) advise VIBF on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment from a women's perspective;
- b) participate in consultation processes to identify barriers to female participation;
- c) review program offerings and identify gaps in service delivery;
- d) provide input to the direction and priorities of the Female Participation Strategy (2024-2027);
- e) establish strategies to deliver the outcomes of the female participation strategy;
- f) Develop and monitor action plans to support delivery of the female participation strategy; and
- g) to ensure that there is a link between female athletes, coaches, technical officials, and administrators and VIBF to convey women's views on matters related to Basketball for players with an intellectual impairment and VIBF and vice versa.

25.2 The Women's Commission shall consist of:

- a) One (1) elected representative from each of the five (5) Zones; and
- b) Five (5) women appointed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

25.3 The Women's Commission will be supported by the Secretary and Technical Director, or other person(s) with relevant expertise.

25.4 The responsibilities, duties, reporting, operations, and authority of the Women's Commission will be set out in a Commission Charter, endorsed by the VIBF Executive Committee.

CHAPTER 4: ORGANISATIONS OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED BY VIBF

ARTICLE 26: GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 26.1. With the object of promoting basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, VIBF may officially recognise certain organisations. The Executive Committee of VIBF is responsible for granting official recognition to such organisations.
- 26.2. The organisations thus recognised have the freedom of action necessary to fulfil their mandate, subject to the approval of their national member organisation, Zone, or the Executive Committee of VIBF.
- 26.3. Where applicable, the General Assembly of each organisation determines the place of its headquarters, subject to approval by the Executive Committee of VIBF.
- 26.4. Such organisations cannot represent VIBF before third parties.
- 26.5. To ensure the functioning of these organisations, they may receive a subsidy from VIBF, to be decided by the Executive Committee. This decision is based on the approval of a four (4) year strategic programme, for which individual plans of action must also be presented on an annual basis to the Executive Committee for approval, and any other conditions the Executive Committee deems necessary.
- 26.6. These organisations must send detailed reports on each of their activities at least once (1) per year to the Secretary. VIBF reserves the right to withdraw its annual subsidy or its recognition if the activities of the organisation concerned are not satisfactory. Such a decision is a matter for the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 27: THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR VIRTUS VETERAN BASKETBALL

- 27.1 (Reserved, will be added in next Congress)

ARTICLE 28: THE BASKETBALL ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL

- 28.1 (Reserved, will be added in next Congress)

CHAPTER 5: VIBF AWARDS

ARTICLE 29: VIBF AWARDS

- 29.1 VIBF has established a number of awards (set out in the Internal Regulations) to honour those persons who have contributed in an exceptional way to the development and promotion of basketball for players with an intellectual impairment worldwide.
- 29.2. VIBF has established the VIBF Hall of Fame to reflect the history of the sport and to honour those persons and organisations who have contributed in an exceptional way to the development and promotion of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment worldwide.
- 29.3. VIBF has established a number of other awards to honour distinguished contributions to basketball for players with an intellectual impairment.
- 29.4. Details of all awards and of the Induction processes and procedures are set out in the Internal Regulations of VIBF.

CHAPTER 6: FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 30: OTHER ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

30.1 The Executive Committee may set eligibility standards and procedures for election and nominations to office.

ARTICLE 31: VOTING PROCESS

31.1 Votes are taken by show of hands. Elections shall be carried out by secret ballot unless there is only one candidate.

ARTICLE 32: MAJORITY RULES

32.1 Unless otherwise specified herein, decisions are taken by a simple majority of the votes cast. To amend the General Statutes, a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast is necessary. Abstentions do not count.

ARTICLE 33: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

33.1 Members of the Executive Committee, VIBF Commissions or any other body of VIBF must not participate in any deliberation or decision which would expose them to a conflict of interest. In particular they must abstain from voting on a bid for the right to conduct an official competition of VIBF while ever their own National Member Organisation governing basketball for players with an intellectual impairment remains in the vote.

ARTICLE 34: REPLACEMENT OF MEMBERS

34.1 Members of VIBF divisions and their bodies who do not or who are unable to take an active or satisfactory part in the activities of VIBF may be replaced after due process as per the rules applicable for their election / appointment. The Executive Committee supervises this process.

ARTICLE 35: MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

35.1 Communications under these General Statutes and the Internal Regulations of VIBF may be given by any means reasonably calculated to give notice of their contents.

ARTICLE 36: LANGUAGE

36.1. The official languages of VIBF are English in text and International Sign in sign language.

36.2. Interpreting of languages is not provided at the Congress.

36.3. Working languages during all meetings of the Executive Committee and the VIBF Commissions are according to the requirements of the participants. Working papers are provided in the English language.

36.4. The General Statutes and the Internal Regulations of VIBF are published in the English language. Copies will be translated into French and Spanish and made available.

ARTICLE 37: PREVAILING LANGUAGE

37.1 In the event of dispute regarding the interpretation of the General Statutes, the Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, and/or decisions of VIBF, the English text prevails.

ARTICLE 38: SUPREMACY OF THE GENERAL STATUTES

38.1 In the event of conflict between the General Statutes, the Internal Regulations, other rules and regulations, and/or decisions of VIBF, the provisions of the General Statutes prevail.

ARTICLE 39: COLOURS, FLAG, AND INSIGNIA

39.1 The colours, flag, and insignia of VIBF, and the use thereof, are approved by the Executive Committee. The use of the flag and insignia of VIBF are restricted to official competitions and meetings of VIBF unless written approval has been obtained from the Secretary. The use of the flag and insignia of VIBF is mandatory at all official competitions.

ARTICLE 40: DISBANDMENT OF VIBF

40.1 Congress shall declare the disbandment of VIBF:

- a) If requested by four-fifths (4/5) of the National Member Organisations governing basketball for players with an intellectual impairment and if, at the session of Congress voting on disbandment, four-fifths (4/5) of the National Member Organisations governing basketball for players with an intellectual impairment present and with voting rights, then vote for disbandment. If, however, at that session, less than three-fourths (3/4) of the National Member Organisations governing basketball for players with an intellectual impairment are present, a second session of voting on disbandment shall be called, at which session a majority of four-fifths (4/5) of the National Member Organisations governing basketball for players with an intellectual impairment present and with voting rights, irrespective of a quorum, shall be sufficient; or
- b) If the number of National Member Organisations governing basketball for players with an intellectual impairment is reduced to three (3) or fewer.

ARTICLE 41: ENTRY INTO FORCE

41.1 These General Statutes are approved by the Congress of VIBF and become effective from the time of their approval, unless otherwise specified herein.

41.2 They may not be amended before the next ordinary or extraordinary Congress.

DEFINITIONS

Age of Players		An age limit is established for all players of teams participating in the VIBF competitions for young categories. The following age groups are established: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 19, ie, 18 years or under • Under 23, ie, 22 years or under
Athletes Commission		The Athletes Commission established under Article 21 of the VIBF Statutes.
Basketball Parties		VIBF and each of its Zones and National Member Organisations, the VIBF officials and any persons or organisation belonging in any capacity whatsoever to VIBF, to one of its affiliated members, to an VIBF Zone or to a recognised organisation, the cities and countries wishing to organise the VIBF Competitions, and the Organising Committees of the VIBF Competitions.
Classifier		A specially qualified official appointed to control the classification of players for the game of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment.
Classification Card		The card used to verify the classification of the player.
Club of Origin		The club or other organisation by which a player is/was licensed at their 18th birthday.
Coach		A person who prepares a team for, and/or directs the team in, competition, and may be licensed by a National Federation (included as a Player in certain Regulations). [Also separately defined in WADA Code]
Coaches Commission		The Coaches Commission established under Article 22 of the VIBF General Statutes.
Commission		A Commission established for a specific task under the relevant provisions of the VIBF Statutes.
Committee		A Committee established for a specific task by the Executive Committee or by the VIBF Statutes or the Internal Regulations.
Congress		The supreme world-wide authority of VIBF as defined in Article 14.1 of the General Statutes.
Country		A geographical territory within which an independent National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment recognised by VIBF exists.
Delegate		A person or officeholder authorised formally to exercise specified power/s of another person or officeholder.
Development Commission		The Development Commission established under Article 24 of the VIBF General Statutes.
Disciplinary Panel		The Panel established under the Internal Regulations which adjudicates at the world level on sanctions against participants.
Doping control		The process of testing for breaches of VIBF's anti-doping regulations.
Eligibility		The status of a player in being eligible to represent a National Member Organisation in the official competitions of VIBF.

Executive Committee		Means the Executive Committee of VIBF as defined in Article 15.1 of the General Statutes.
Foreign player		A player who does not have the legal nationality of the National Member Organisation by which he is currently licensed.
Game Commissioner		The person who oversees the table personnel at official competitions of VIBF.
Gender		These regulations apply equally to both genders, and all references in this text to males shall be considered to apply also to females and shall be read accordingly.
International Classifier Instructors		Individuals approved to test classification of candidates.
International Paralympic Committee		The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement and is based in Bonn, Germany.
International Technical Official		A referee, a referee supervisor, a classifier, a game commissioner, a member of the Tournament Technical Committee may be singularly or collectively referred to as an International Technical Official or the International Technical Officials.
Legal Nationality		A player may have one or more legal nationalities, according to the law of the countries concerned.
Letter of clearance		The document which authorises the transfer of a player from one National Member Organisation to another.
Licence		The necessary authorisation given by a national federation to a player to allow them to play basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment for a club which is a member of that National Member Organisation.
Local Organising Committee (LOC)		The Committee charged with the successful organisation and execution of a main official competition of VIBF.
National Member Organisation		A National Member Organisation governing basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment, admitted to membership of VIBF in accordance with Article 6 of the General Statutes of VIBF.
Player		A person who participates in the competitions of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment. The term may include coaches also in certain Regulations. [Also defined separately in the WADA Code]
Player Support Official		Any coach, trainer, manager, team staff member, medical or paramedical person working with or treating athletes participating in or preparing for competition.
Referee		A qualified official appointed to control a game of basketball for athletes with an intellectual impairment.
Referee Instructor		Individuals approved to conduct referee candidate courses.
Referee Supervisor		A Referee Supervisor oversees the work of the referees at a tournament and gives them advice.
Sanction		A penalty applied for breach(es) of the Statutes and/or these Internal Regulations of VIBF, or those of a National Member Organisation, including sanctions against individuals.
Secretary		The Secretary of VIBF or their formally authorised delegate.

Team Allocations		The number of spots available at a tournament and/or the number of spots assigned to a Zone for a Qualification Tournament for a main official competition.
Technical Delegate		A person appointed by the Secretary to act on their behalf as the VIBF representative in technical matters during main and other official competitions of VIBF and at VIBF endorsed events.
Technical Director		The Technical Director of VIBF or their formally authorised delegate.
Technical Officials Commission		The Technical Officials Commission established under Article 23 of the VIBF General Statutes.
Tournament Technical Committee		The Tournament Technical Committee which oversees all technical matters during an official competition of VIBF.
VIBF Identity Card		The official document issued by VIBF that substantiates the date of birth, nationality, classification, and gender of a player and shall serve as their VIBF international licence.
VIBF Nationality		The basketball nationality awarded to a player under marginal cases in the VIBF Internal Regulations.
VIBF Official		A member of the Executive Committee, Secretariat, Commission, Committee, Disciplinary Panel, or any other person appointed in an official capacity by VIBF.
WADA		World Anti-Doping Agency.
Women's Commission		The Women's Commission established under Article 25 of the VIBF General Statutes.
Young Player		A player who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.
Zone		A regional body established under VIBF General Statutes (Article 17 and Article 18) and to which National Member Organisations are assigned. It exercises authority, delegated by VIBF, in accordance with the Statutes and Internal Regulations.

ANNEXURE A – INITIAL MEMBERS OF VIBF (85)

Africa Zone (11)

Cameroon – Cameroonian Federation of Sports for the Intellectually Disabled
Cape Verde – National Paralympic Committee Cape Verde
Egypt – Egyptian Sports Federation for Intellectual Disabilities
Equatorial Guinea – FEM
Gabon – National Paralympic Committee Gabonais
Kenya – Kenya Sports Association
Mauritius – Mentally Handicapped Persons Sports Federation
Morocco – Virtus Morocco
Republic of Guinea – CNASOSG
Republic of the Congo – Virtus Republic of the Congo
Tunisia – National Paralympic Committee Tunisia

Americas Zone (19)

Argentina – Federación Argentina de Deportes para personas con Discapacidad Intelectual
Brazil – Confederação Brasileira de Desportos Para Deficientes Intelectuais
Canada – Canadian Association of Athletes with an Intellectual Disability
Chile – Comité Paralímpico de Chile
Colombia – Foundation for Education and Development
Costa Rica – Federacion Paradeportes De Costa Rica
Cuba – National Paralympic Committee Cuba
Dominican Republic – Dominican Paralympic Committee
Ecuador – Federación Ecuatoriana de Deportes Para Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual
El Salvador – COPESA
Guatemala – ANDDIGUA
Mexico – Federación Mexicana de Deportistas Especiales
Nicaragua – Federación Deportiva del Comité Paralímpico Nicaragüense
Panama – Asociacion Para Atletas con Discapacidad Intelectual
Peru – Federación Deportiva Peruana de Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual
Puerto Rico – FANA PR
Uruguay – National Paralympic Committee Uruguay
United States of America – Athletes Without Limits
Venezuela – Federación Venezolana Polideportiva Para Personas Con Discapacidad Intelectual

Asia Zone (19)

Chinese Taipei – The Chinese Taipei Parasports Federation for Persons with Intellectual Disability
Hong Kong, China – Hong Kong Sports Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability
India – SIVUS India
Indonesia – Indonesian Paralympic Committee
Islamic Republic of Iran – IR Iran Sports Federation for the Disabled
Japan – Japanese Paralympic Committee
Kazakhstan – Federation of Sports for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
Kuwait – Kuwait Paralympic Committee
Macau, China – Macau Sports
Malaysia – Paralympic Council Malaysia
Maldives – Maldives Paralympic Committee
Nepal – Virtus Nepal
People's Republic of China – Chinese Paralympic Committee
Qatar – Qatar Paralympic Committee
Republic of Korea – Special Olympics Korea
Saudi Arabia – Saudi Olympic and Paralympic Committee

Singapore – Singapore Disability Sports Council

Thailand – SAIT

Sri Lanka – Sri Lanka Paralympic Committee

Europe Zone (32)

Austria – Österreichischer Behindertensportverband

Belgium – Belgian Paralympic Committee

Bulgaria – Bulgarian Federation of Adapted Physical Activity

Croatia – Croatian Paralympic Committee

Cyprus – Cyprus Sports Federation for People with Disabilities

Czech Republic – CSMPS, z.s.

Denmark – Parasport Denmark

Estonia – World Intellectual Impairment Sport Estonia

Faroe islands – Parasport Federation

Finland – Finnish Sports Association of Persons with Disabilities

France – French Federation of Adapted Sport

Germany – Deutscher Behindertensportverband e.V.

Great Britain – Sport Excel UK

Greece – Hellenic Sports Federation for Persons with Disabilities

Hungary – National Association of Student, Competitor and Leisure Sports for the Disabled

Iceland – Icelandic Paralympic Committee

Israel – Virtus Israel – Special Games Association

Italy – Federazione Italiana Sport Paralimpici degli Intellettivo Relazionali

Latvia – Latvian Paralympic Committee

Malta – Malta Sport Federation

Norway – Idrettsforbundet

Poland – Sprawni-Razem

Portugal – ANDDI-Portugal

Slovakia – Slovakian Paralympic Committee

Slovenia – National Paralympic Committee Slovenia

Spain – Federacion Española De Deportes Para Personas Con Discapacidad Intelectual

Sweden – Parasport Sweden

Switzerland – Switzerland

The Netherlands – National Paralympic Committee of the Netherlands

Türkiye – Türkiye Özel Sporcular Spor Federasyonunun

Ukraine – Ukraine Paralympic Committee

Oceania Zone (4)

Australia – Sport Inclusion Australia

Fiji – Fiji National Paralympic Committee

New Zealand – Paralympics New Zealand

Solomon Islands – National Paralympic Committee Solomon Islands