



International
Handball
Federation

XIX.

Regulations Concerning Penalties and Fines

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ARTICLE 1

I. Preamble

These regulations describe infractions of the IHF Statutes and Regulations and determine the sanctions incurred.

These regulations apply to every match and competition organised and supervised by IHF. These regulations also apply if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of IHF are breached, especially with regard to forgery, corruption, betting and doping. These regulations also apply to any breach of IHF regulations that do not fall under the jurisdiction of any other body.

These regulations apply to infractions that have arisen after the regulations have come into force. Rules governing procedure apply immediately upon the coming into force of these regulations.



ARTICLE 2

II. Scope of Application

The following natural and legal persons are subject to these regulations.

- a) Member Federations;
- b) members of federations, in particular the clubs;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials;
- f) licensed match and players' agents;
- g) anyone with an authorisation from IHF, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organised by IHF.



III. Definitions

The words and terms stated below shall be defined as follows:

- Body: the relevant instance responsible for imposing sanctions.
- Friendly match: a match organised by a handball organisation, club or other person between teams chosen for the occasion.
- IHF regulations: the Statutes, Regulations, directives and circulars of IHF as well as the Rules of the Game issued by the International Handball Federation.
- Match official: the referee, official, scorekeeper, timekeeper, representative and any other persons appointed by IHF to assume responsibility in connection with a match.
- Official match: a match between two teams organised or supervised by IHF.
- Officials: anyone, with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with handball at a Member Federation or club, regardless of his/her title, the type of activity (administrative, sporting or any other) and the duration of the activity; in particular, managers, coaches and support staff are officials.
- Post-match: the time between the end of the match and the teams' departure from the venue.
- Pre-match: the time between the teams' arrival in the venue and the throw off.



ARTICLE 4

IV. Gender and Number

Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice versa.



ARTICLE 5

V. Liability

Unless otherwise specified, infractions are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately or negligently.



ARTICLE 6

VI. Involvement

Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as initiator or assistant, is also punishable.



ARTICLE 7

VII. Sanctions

The following sanctions may be imposed.

- a) warning;
- b) fine;
- c) temporary suspension;
- d) return of awards;
- e) exclusion from handball activities.



ARTICLE 8

VIII. General Rules

1. The body imposing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.
2. Sanctions may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of match or competition.
3. Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.
4. The body shall take account of all relevant factors in the case and the degree of the offender's guilt when imposing the sanction.
5. If not specified differently, in case of repeated infraction, the body may increase the punishment in a level it deems appropriate.
6. Appeals against Disciplinary Commission decisions shall be submitted to the Jury according to Article 2.1.6 of the Legal Provisions.

Appeals against Jury decisions arising out of international events shall be filed with the Arbitration Commission and Arbitration Tribunal according to Article 2.2.1 of the Legal Provisions.

Disputes not arising out of international events shall come under the jurisdiction of the Arbitration Commission and Arbitration Tribunal according to Article 2.2.1 of the Legal Provisions.



ARTICLE 9

IX. Concurrent Infringements

- a) If several fines are imposed on someone as a result of one or more infringements, the relevant body bases the fine on the most serious offence and, depending on the situation, the body can increase the fine by up to 50 % of the highest fee prescribed for the concerned infringement.
- b) The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type as the result of one or several infringements.



ARTICLE 10

X. Commencement of the Limitation Period

The limitation period runs as follows:

- a) from the day on which the offender committed the infringement;
- b) if the infringement is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent infringement was committed;
- c) if the infringement lasted a certain period of time, from the day on which it came to an end.



ARTICLE 11

XI. Administration-related Issues

In case of non-compliance with the following administration-related issues, the IHF Head Office may impose on the defaulting federation a fine amounting to up to CHF 500.-.

Submission to the IHF:

Member Federations have to submit the requested information according to the stipulated deadline defined by the IHF or in an IHF regulation. This also applies to messages relating to the times, locations and results of matches and to messages relating to the nomination of delegates and referees. A fine may also be imposed if the information is incomplete. This is especially valid for but not limited to:

1. Competitions

Member Federations have to submit the requested information related to the following according to the stipulated deadline defined by the IHF:

- Players' and team profiles (personal data, etc.)
- Federation facts (statistics, structure, flags, national anthems, team photos, delegation size, etc.)
- Provisional and definitive registration lists (submitted and completed according to requirements),
- Team travel details
- Confirming participation of teams
- Confirming participation of IHF referees and delegates
- Uniforms

2. Event Management

IHF event host federations have to submit the requested information related to the following according to the stipulated deadline defined by the IHF:

- Guarantees and contracts (government guarantees, work permits, customs duties and tax information, safety and security concepts, venue rent, hotel bookings, etc.)
- Finances (information regarding bank accounts, budgets)
- Draw concept
- Match and training schedule
- Publications and services (team guide, event magazines, promotional materials, DVD concept, etc.)
- Operational and organisational structure (LOC structure, key positions, organisational chart)
- Meetings (providing information and preparing for inspections, workshops, etc.)
- Logistics (providing information about hotels, transportation infrastructure, missing confirmation of hotels etc.)
- Ceremonies

3. Media

Member Federations have to submit the requested information related to the following according to the stipulated deadline defined by the IHF:

- Information and photos for several IHF publications and website

4. Administration

Member Federations have to submit the requested information related to the following according to the stipulated deadline defined by the IHF:

- Congress-related materials
- Statutes and regulations
- Registration of referees
- Number of players, coaches, referees and teams

5. Finances

Member Federations have to submit the requested information related to the following according to the stipulated deadline defined by the IHF:

- Bank details
- Bank guarantees



XII. Event Standards

In case of the following non-compliance with the IHF Bid and Event Manual and the Regulations for IHF Competitions, the IHF Executive Committee may impose on the defaulting federation a financial fine and/or additional penalties corresponding to the occurred infringement.

- Failure to provide certain items, including but not limited to.

1. Infrastructure: Arena

- Floor
- Scoreboard
- Goals and nets
- Flags
- Lighting and heating
- Substitution area and IHF match management table, support table
- Disqualification area
- Changing rooms
- Anti-doping and medical areas
- VIP room (hospitality area)
- Administration infrastructure (IHF offices, administration centre, OC offices, ticket box)
- Media facilities (press seats, press conference rooms, press working area, photographers' area, TV presenter positions, etc.)
- Arena access and parking
- Technical facilities (technical power, sound system, air conditioning, platforms, studios, internet, etc.)

2. Infrastructure: Hotels

- Infrastructure (offices, meeting rooms, helpdesks)
- Food and beverages, catering
- Laundry and other services

3. Services to participants (IHF, Media, teams)

- Transportation (from/to matches, from/to training, from/to airport)
- Daily bulletin
- Rest day activities
- DVDs

4. Marketing

- Marketing services according to the provisions stipulated in the IHF Bid and Event Manual

5. Media

- List of media to be accredited for IHF events in order to be approved by IHF
- Press conferences (timing, head coach, translation)
- Infrastructure for media (press centre, PC room, tribune, mixed zone, technical equipment for broadcasting and media, internet, designated number of media places, etc.)
- Accreditation standards/requirements
- Media hotels / shuttle service
- LOC website: media section (info to the media about accreditation, accommodation, etc.)
- Photographers (see regulations in IHF Bid and Event Manual)



ARTICLE 13

XIII. Public Announcer

In case of unsportsmanlike behaviour and violation of the principles of fair play by a public announcer at an official match, the Disciplinary Commission may impose on the host federation a fine amounting to up to CHF 10,000.-.



ARTICLE 14

XIV. Violations of IHF Equipment Provisions

In case of the following non-compliance with the IHF equipment provisions in the Regulations for IHF Competitions, the Disciplinary Commission upon a written report from the Competition Management may impose a financial fine on the defaulting federation.

1. Teams are not equipped with the required number of sets of uniforms
up to CHF 5,000.- / match
2. Uniform colours are not as agreed
up to CHF 5,000.- / match
3. Player's names and/or numbers are the wrong size and/or placed in the wrong position
 - 3.1 Senior competitions CHF 1,000.- / match
 - 3.2 Youth and junior competitions CHF 500.- / match
4. Uniform numbers do not match that of corresponding players
 - 4.1 Senior competitions CHF 1,000.- / match
 - 4.2 Youth and junior competitions CHF 500.- / match



ARTICLE 15

XV. Pre and After Match Logistics

In case of non-compliance with the Regulations for IHF Competitions in terms of the following pre and after the match routines, the Disciplinary Commission upon a written report from the Competition Management may impose a financial fine on the defaulting federation.

1. Teams not ready at pre-defined time to enter the court
up to CHF 500.-
2. Not respecting national anthem of opponent
up to CHF 2,500.-
3. Not leaving the court through mixed zone
up to CHF 2,500.-
4. Disrespectful behaviour during the "player of the match" award
up to CHF 2,500.-
5. Not showing up in press conference after a match
up to CHF 2,500.-
6. Not being on time in a press conference after a match
up to CHF 500.-



ARTICLE 16

XVI. Reimbursing Officials

In case of non-compliance with the following, the IHF Executive Committee may impose on the defaulting federation a fine amounting to up to CHF 5,000.-:

- The nominees' daily allowance and extras related to the World Championships should be paid according to the provision stipulated in the event contract. In case of different reimbursement of daily allowance and extras for IHF nominees including, but not limited to, time, aptness, currency scrutiny etc., the issue will be submitted to the IHF Executive Committee for decision.



ARTICLE 17

XVII. Penalties Imposed During Play

During play, the Disciplinary Commission upon a written report from the Competition Management may impose the following types of penalties either individually or jointly:

- warning
- temporary suspension
- administrative penalties and fines
- cancellation and optionally replaying of matches
- loss of points in the events concerned
- exclusion from current or future events

Temporary suspensions are imposed, in particular, for:

- a) violence or insulting behaviour towards officials and referees
- b) use of players who are not entitled to play or have been suspended
- c) inappropriate conduct by teams, officials and other persons involved in the match.

The following guidelines apply to the application of temporary suspensions:

Disqualification (on account of misconduct towards IHF officials or referees):	Recommended suspension (number of matches)
a) <u>Verbal unsportsmanlike conduct without gestures</u>	
- general	1 match*
- threatening	3 matches
b) <u>Verbal unsportsmanlike conduct with gestures</u>	
- general	2 matches
- threatening	4 matches
c) <u>Aggressive unsportsmanlike conduct</u>	4 matches
d) <u>Assault</u>	6 matches**
e) <u>Provoking the general public</u>	2 matches
f) <u>Disqualification with report</u>	Min. 1 match

* = A warning may be sufficient in exceptional cases.

** = A temporary suspension shall be imposed for gross or deliberate misconduct.

When the penalty is determined, the following mitigating circumstances shall be considered.

- Reflex action
- Provocation
- Assistance
- Other special circumstances

When the penalty is determined, the following circumstances should result in a harsher punishment:

- Fighting
- The offender is an official or substitute
- The offence is directed at people in the substitution area or at spectators
- Other special circumstances (e.g. bringing the IHF into serious disrepute)

Suspensions may only be imposed if the match report contains a note on the player's misconduct to this effect by the referees and/or a special report is made by the IHF representative or the Competition Management.

Suspensions imposed by the IHF apply only for IHF events. The written verdicts must state a respective note. The IHF Executive Committee may take further action.

Administrative penalties and fines

Breaching the regulations and code of conduct before, during or after the match	up to CHF 5,000.- and/or match suspension for players and officials concerned
Damaging the image of handball and not acting in the manner of fair play	up to CHF 5,000.- and/or match suspension for players and officials concerned
Inappropriate conduct by a team or a player, officials and attendants	up to CHF 500.- and/or match suspension for players, officials and attendants
Use of players or teams who have been suspended or are not entitled to play	up to CHF 10,000.- and/or suspension of the team
Termination of the game caused by a team	up to CHF 20,000.- and reimbursement of any costs incurred and/or suspension of the team

Cancellation and optionally replaying of matches

Late appearance in a match

- The team delays the throw off time for up to 5 minutes. CHF 5,000.-

- The team delays the throw off time for 15 minutes. CHF 10,000.- plus losing the match

Non-appearance in a match

The team does not appear on a scheduled match under the auspices of the IHF CHF 50,000.- and reimbursement of any costs incurred / match lost with 0:10

Coercion

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely CHF 3,000.- and a match suspension.



ARTICLE 18

XVIII. Withdrawal from the Events Concerned

In case of withdrawal from IHF events, the IHF Executive Committee may impose on the defaulting federation the following penalties corresponding to the occurred infringement.

The withdrawal of a national team from any IHF World Championship (including beach handball), after confirmed registration, will be considered a forfeit. In this case, one of the penalties below will be applied and the participation fee will also be forfeited.

1. IHF Senior World Championship

Up to 6 months prior to the event	CHF 20,000.- / suspension of next WCh
From 6 to 3 months prior to the event	CHF 50,000.- / suspension of up to two WChs
From 3 months to 1 month prior to the event	CHF 100,000.- / suspension of up to three WChs
Less than 1 month prior to / during the event	CHF 150,000.- / suspension of up to four WChs

2. IHF Junior World Championship

Up to 6 months prior to the event	CHF 10,000.- / suspension of next WCh
From 6 to 3 months prior to the event	CHF 20,000.- / suspension of next WCh
From 3 months to 1 month prior to the event	CHF 40,000.- / suspension of next WCh
Less than 1 month prior to / during the event	CHF 60,000.- / suspension of next WCh

3. IHF Youth World Championship

Up to 6 months prior to the event	CHF 10,000.- / suspension of next WCh
From 6 to 3 months prior to the event	CHF 20,000.- / suspension of next WCh
From 3 months to 1 month prior to the event	CHF 30,000.- / suspension of next WCh
Less than 1 month prior to / during the event	CHF 50,000.- / suspension of next WCh

In addition, in case the withdrawal takes place less than three months prior to the event and no substitute nation can be found, the respective nation might be held also responsible for other organisational incurring costs such as, but not limited to accommodation, transportation, publications etc.

In case a team withdraws from an IHF event and is replaced by a team from another continent or the place remains unoccupied, the continent of the withdrawing team (performance and compulsory places) will lose this place at the next World Championship of the same category, and the place will be assigned as a free performance place.



ARTICLE 19

XIX. Boycott

In case of boycotting IHF matches/events, the IHF Council upon a proposal from the IHF Executive Committee may impose the following penalties on the defaulting federation.

- A team or a National Federation boycotts a participation in a match or an event based on political, religious, racial or ethnical grounds.

CHF 100,000.- / federation suspension for up to 4 years



ARTICLE 20

XX. Marketing Preparations

In case of non-compliance with marketing-related issues during IHF events as stipulated in the IHF Bid and Event Manual, the IHF Executive Committee may impose on the defaulting federation the following penalties corresponding to the occurred infringement.

1. Misplacement of marketing items, e.g. floor stickers up to CHF 5,000.-
2. Use the players' sleeves space allocated to the IHF up to CHF 5,000.- / match
3. Misuse/abuse of IHF event identity up to CHF 5,000.-
4. Misuse of IHF partner equipment during official training and matches (i.e. failure to comply with the obligatory use of material, e.g. balls or floors, from IHF exclusive partners) up to CHF 25,000.-
5. Poor implementation of broadcasting requirements stipulated in the contract (i.e. failure to provide a good quality in implementing all obligations related to TV production, jeopardising the TV production) up to CHF 50,000.-



ARTICLE 21

XXI. Documents Forgery

In case of any forgery of documents by a federation, an official or a player, the IHF Executive Committee may impose on the defaulting federation, official or player a fine amounting to CHF 20,000.- and a suspension for up to two years.



ARTICLE 22

XXII. Corruption

The IHF Ethics Commission may impose sanctions related to corruption as follows:

1. Any stakeholder who offers or promises an unjustified advantage to a body of IHF, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the regulations of IHF will be sanctioned.
 - a) with a fine of minimum CHF 5,000.-,
 - b) with a suspension from taking part in any handball-related activity.
2. Any stakeholder who receives personal remuneration, commission, financial or other benefit, any concealed benefit or service of any nature connected to an IHF event will be sanctioned.
 - a) with a fine of minimum CHF 5,000.-,
 - b) with a suspension from taking part in any handball-related activity.
3. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.
4. Any other form of corrupt conduct is subject to sanctions to be imposed by the IHF Ethics Commission.

In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanctions 1.b) and 2.b) may be imposed for life.



ARTICLE 23

XXIII. Betting

1. Betting, support in any form of betting on handball or manipulation of the results of IHF events are prohibited.

This includes betting in relation either:

 - a. to a competition in which the participant is directly participating; or
 - b. to the participant's sport; or
 - c. to any event of a multisport competition in which he/she is a participant.

2. Instigating the officials and/or referees of a match to manipulate the outcome of the match for the purpose of betting is strictly prohibited.
3. Any stakeholder who violates the aforementioned provisions will be sanctioned by the IHF Ethics Commission.
 - a) with a fine of up to CHF 100,000.-,
 - b) with a suspension from taking part in any handball-related activity.

In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 3.b) may be imposed for life.



ARTICLE 24

XXIV. Transfer of Players Between Federations

In case of the following non-compliance with the IHF Player Eligibility Code and IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations, the IHF Executive Committee may impose the following financial fines on the defaulting federation. Further fines and penalties shall be imposed by the IHF Executive Committee.

1. Submission of incorrect player data to the IHF Head Office up to CHF 5,000.-

This fine is imposed if a National Federation submits incorrect data to the IHF regarding the status of the player, the date of birth, and/or information about his previous clubs. In case of repetition, the IHF has the right to progressively increase the fine.

2. Failure to document transfers to the IHF Head Office up to CHF 5,000.-

This fine is imposed if a National Federation has not documented a transfer and cannot provide an International Transfer Certificate for a player it has registered in a competition under its jurisdiction. In case of repetition, the IHF has the right to progressively increase the fine.

3. Failure to settle compensation for education within six weeks of the International Transfer Certificate being confirmed up to CHF 1,000.-

This fine is imposed if a National Federation (or a club affiliated to a National Federation) fails to settle the education compensation fees in the six weeks' period provided for in the

IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations. In case of repetition, the IHF has the right to progressively increase the fine.

4. Players signing two or more overlapping contracts up to CHF 10,000.–

This fine is imposed if a player signs two or more contracts for the same period of time (overlapping contracts). Besides the financial fine, the player will be temporarily suspended from participating in any handball activity for a period from three to six months. In serious cases, the IHF Executive Committee shall decide on further suspensions.



ARTICLE 25

XXV. Infringements of the IHF Regulations on Advertising

At IHF events, infringements of the IHF Regulations on Advertising will be considered and penalised, if appropriate, by the IHF Council upon a written report from the relevant body and a corresponding proposal from the IHF Executive Committee.



ARTICLE 26

XXVI. Non-Payment of a Fine

If a fine is not paid within two months of being imposed, it will be doubled. If it remains unpaid after a further month, the person and/or the federation concerned may be excluded from international matches until the fine has been paid.



ARTICLE 27

XXVII. Offences by Stakeholders

Upon application by the IHF Executive Committee, the IHF Council may impose the following sanctions on any stakeholders which have seriously and repeatedly violated their obligations as members arising from the IHF Statutes and Regulations.

- a) Warning
- b) Suspension from taking part in any handball-related activity with immediate effect until the next Congress
- c) Exclusion from any handball-related activity with immediate effect until the next Congress

In addition, a fine amounting to up to CHF 100,000.- may be imposed by the IHF Council for any act of offence.

Decisions on penalties shall be made in writing and notified to all other stakeholders at the same time.

Suspended or excluded stakeholders shall lose their membership rights. Other stakeholders may not maintain sporting contact with a suspended or excluded stakeholder.



ARTICLE 28

XXVIII. Referees' Fines

In case of the following non-compliance with the IHF Regulations for International and Continental Referees as well as IHF PRC directives, the IHF PRC may impose the following penalties on the defaulting referees. The IHF Executive Committee upon a report from the PRC Chairman shall decide on further penalties and/or fines.

- 1. Failing to send the activities' report or to perform any other duty requested**
 - 1st time: warning
 - 2nd time: the IHF Executive Committee, upon a report from the PRC, shall issue a one-year nomination ban
 - 3rd time: the IHF Executive Committee, upon a report from the PRC, shall exclude the referees concerned from the IHF List for two years
 - Information submitted after the deadline: PRC shall study and decide on each case individually.

- 2. Failing to pass the physical test prior to the World Championship (also other IHF events)**
 - Preparatory course: the nomination of the referees concerned to the event shall be cancelled and the National Federation will be obliged to cover the costs incurred by the referees (travel, accommodation)
 - On site just before the IHF event: the National Federation will be obliged to cover the costs incurred by the referees (travel, accommodation).

- 3. Failing to pass the rule test prior to the World Championship (also other tests prepared by PRC)**
 - Preparatory course: the nomination of the referees concerned to the event shall be cancelled and the National Federation will be obliged to cover the costs incurred by the referees (travel, accommodation)
 - On site just before the WCh: the referees concerned shall officiate, upon the proposal from the PRC, only President's Cup matches or be sent home at the cost of the National Federation concerned.

- 4. Deliberately unfair conduct of a match**
 - The IHF Executive Committee, upon a report from the PRC, shall exclude the referees concerned from the IHF List.

- 5. Bribery / Match fixing**
 - The case shall be submitted to the IHF Ethics Commission.

- 6. Damaging the image of the IHF (including inappropriate use of social networks)**
 - The IHF Executive Committee, upon a report from the PRC, shall decide on the penalty (from warning up to the referees' exclusion from the IHF List).

- 7. Late arrival to the match**
 - 1st time: warning
 - 2nd time: the IHF Executive Committee, upon a report from the PRC, shall decide on cancelling further nominations
 - If repeated: the IHF Executive Committee shall decide on sending the referees concerned back home.

- 8. In situations not provided for, the PRC Chairman or his representative shall submit a detailed report to the IHF Executive Committee.**



ARTICLE 29

XXIX. Hosting IHF Events

In case of failure to organise an IHF event after the event has been awarded to the host federation by the Congress or Council of the IHF, the following fines shall be imposed on the host federation according to the corresponding contracts:

IHF Congress:	CHF 100,000.-
IHF Senior World Championships:	CHF 500,000.-
IHF Junior/Youth World Championships:	CHF 500,000.-
IHF Beach Handball World Championships:	up to CHF 200,000.-
IHF U17 Beach Handball World Championships:	up to CHF 200,000.-
Other events	up to CHF 20,000.-

In addition, the IHF Executive Committee has the right to decide on further penalties to be imposed on the host federation after reviewing each case individually.



ARTICLE 30

XXX. Neutrality

Members of the IHF adjudicating bodies shall remain neutral and must not be involved in any subject matter in case their impartiality is not guaranteed.

This rule applies in the following cases (among others):

- a) if the member concerned has a direct interest in the outcome of the matter;
- b) if he is associated with any of the parties;
- c) if he has the same nationality as any of the parties involved (federation, club, official, player, agent, etc.);
- d) if he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.

Members who are not entitled to be involved in a subject matter for any of the above-stated reasons shall notify the chairman of the adjudicating body concerned immediately. The parties involved may also raise an objection to a member they consider not to be neutral.

In case of a claim of a member's failure to render an impartial judgment, the chairman of the adjudicating body concerned shall decide on any such claim.

Proceedings that have involved persons who should have been excluded for any of the above-stated reasons shall be considered null and void.



ARTICLE 31

XXXI. Confidentiality and Exemption from Liability

The members of the adjudicating bodies shall be obliged to keep confidential any information disclosed to them during the course of their duty (facts of the case, contents of the proceeding and decisions taken).

Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the parties involved in the proceeding may be announced publicly.

Except in the case of severe culpability, neither the members of the IHF adjudicating bodies nor the staff members of the IHF Head Office may be considered liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.



ARTICLE 32

XXXII. Scope of the Regulations

These regulations govern every subject to which the text or the meaning of their provisions refer.

In any cases not provided for in these regulations, the IHF Executive Committee shall take a decision.