

**CONSTITUTION
OF
THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO OLYMPIC COMMITTEE**

Incorporated by an Act of Parliament, The TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO OLYMPIC COMMITTEE ACT, No.29 of 1995.

1. NAME, LEGAL STATUS AND JURISDICTION:

The name of the Organisation shall be "THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee").

The Committee is a non-governmental and not-for-profit organisation of unlimited duration which exercises its jurisdiction over the whole territory of Trinidad and Tobago.

The Committee operates in accordance with the Olympic Charter, this Constitution and the applicable laws in Trinidad and Tobago.

2. ROLE

The role of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee is to:

- I. Propagate the fundamental principles of Olympism at national level within the framework of sports activity and otherwise contribute, among other things, to the diffusion of Olympism in the teaching programmes of physical education and sport in schools and university establishments.
- II. See to the creation of institutions, which devote themselves to Olympic education, in particular the establishment and activities of a National Olympic Academy, an Olympic museum and cultural programmes related to the Olympic Movement.
- III. Help in training of sports administrators.
- IV. Take action against any form of discrimination and violence in sport on grounds of race, religion, politics, sex, or otherwise.
- V. Fight against the use of substances and procedures prohibited by WADA, the IOC or the International Federations and adopt and implement the World Anti-

Doping Code, thereby ensuring that the Committee's anti-doping policies and rules, membership and/or funding requirements and results management procedures accord with the World Anti-Doping Code and respect all the roles and responsibilities for NOCs that are listed within the World Anti-Doping Code.

- VI. Serve as Trinidad and Tobago Sand and Beach Games Association, the Commonwealth Games Association for Trinidad and Tobago and to affiliate to the Commonwealth Games Federation.

3. OBJECTS

The objects for which the Committee is established are:

- I. To ensure the observance of the Olympic Charter in Trinidad and Tobago and to comply with and enforce all rules and regulations of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as well as the IOC Code of Ethics and the basic universal principles of good governance of the Olympic Movement.
- II. To arouse and maintain the interest of the people of Trinidad and Tobago in, and to obtain their support for, participation and representation of Trinidad and Tobago in the Olympic, Pan American, Commonwealth and Central American & Caribbean, Sand and Beach Games and any other Games and events sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee.
- III. To ensure the development and protection of the Olympic movement and sport in general.
- IV. To ensure through affiliated nonprofit sporting organisations and national governing bodies in Trinidad and Tobago, the representation of this Country by the best available competitors in Olympic, Pan American, Commonwealth and Central American and Caribbean, Sand and Beach Games and any other Games sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee by providing financial assistance to affiliated members in suitable cases towards development and preparation of competitors for these Games.
- V. To educate public opinion, particularly the youth of Trinidad and Tobago as to the importance of properly organised physical recreation in improving the health

and welfare of the country, thereby developing character and the spirit of citizenship.

- VI. To assist and co-operate in the provision of better facilities for the people's recreation.
- VII. To raise funds for the purpose of sending teams to the Olympic, Pan American, Commonwealth and Central American and Caribbean, Sand and Beach Games and any other Games sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee and for such purpose to borrow monies on security or otherwise as may be deemed advisable from time to time, and to repay such monies as and when arrangements may be made therefore.
- VIII. To exercise exclusive jurisdiction directly or through its constituent members or committees over all matters pertaining to the participation of Trinidad and Tobago in the Olympic, Pan American, Commonwealth and Central American and Caribbean, Sand and Beach Games and any other Games or events sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee including the selection of teams to represent Trinidad and Tobago in such Games, and over the organisation of these Games in Trinidad and Tobago. In addition, the Committee is responsible for the behavior of the members of its delegations at such Games.
- IX. To cooperate with private or government bodies concerning the promotion of a sound sports policy.
- X. To safeguard its autonomy and to resist all pressures whether of a political, legal, religious or economic nature.
- XI. To do all such other things as are incidental to, or as the Committee may deem conducive to the attainment of these objects or any of them, and to resist any activity, which would be in contradiction of the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics and the basic universal principles of the good governance of the Olympic Movement.
- XII. To exercise the powers vested in the Committee by the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee Act.

- XIII. To participate in actions at the national level to promote peace and to promote equality of participation of men and women in sport.
- XIV. To support and encourage the promotion of sports ethics.
- XV. To demonstrate a responsible concern for environmental issues.

4. RECOGNITION BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

- I. The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee is recognised by the International Olympic Committee and undertakes to respect the provisions of the Olympic Charter and Bye Laws and the Anti-Doping Code and to abide by the decisions of the International Olympic Committee.

5. MISSION

- I. The Mission of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee is to develop and protect the Olympic Movement in Trinidad and Tobago in accordance with the Olympic Charter.

6. FLAG, EMBLEM, ANTHEM

- I. The Flag, the Emblem and the Anthem adopted by the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee for use in relation to its activities shall be submitted to the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee for approval.

7. USE OF INCOME

- I. The income and property of the Committee, from wheresoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Committee as set forth in this Constitution.

8. HEADQUARTERS

- I. The Headquarters of the Committee shall be in Port of Spain.

9. MEMBERSHIP

I. There shall be three categories of members:

A. Category "A"

- a) Any National Sports Organisation affiliated to the relevant International Federation governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games. The number of such National Sports Organisations should not be less than five. These members or the representatives chosen by them must constitute the voting majority of the Committee (i.e. General Meetings, Special General Meetings and Annual General Meetings), the Council as well as the Executive.
- b) Any other National Sports Organisation (not falling under Paragraph (a) above) which are affiliated to their respective International Federations.
- c) The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee shall not recognize or admit to membership more than one National Sports Organisation for each sport governed by the International Sports Federation.
- d) Any member of the International Olympic Committee who is a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago.
- e) At least two active or retired athletes elected by the Athlete's Commission having taken part in the Olympic Games providing that such membership shall not extend beyond the end of the third Olympiad after the last Olympic Games in which such person took part.
- f) The immediate past President.
- g) Each affiliated body shall pay an annual membership fee as determined by the Council from time to time and shall become due and payable by 31st March of each year. Any affiliated body in arrears shall not be eligible to be represented at any meetings of the Committee.

B. Category "B"

Membership-at-large

- a) These shall be citizens of Trinidad and Tobago prominent in the learned professions, business, sport or other wholesome and worthwhile community activity. They should have a strong and active interest in sport and the Olympic Movement.
- b) The maximum number of members in this Category shall not exceed half the total of Category "A".
- c) They shall be nominated by the Executive before the end of the Olympic year.
- d) Nominations of this category of membership shall be prepared on the prescribed form and signed by any two members of the Executive.
- e) The election of members to this category of membership shall be by the votes of a two-thirds majority of members of Category "A".

C. Category "C"

Honorary members with no voting rights

- a) Persons who have rendered distinguished service to the Olympic Movement may be elected honorary membership by a two-thirds majority of members in Category "A" and Category "B";
 - b) All Olympic medalists of good standing in the community and possessing upright and honourable characters qualify for membership in this category.
 - c) Honorary members shall be privileged to attend Meetings of the Committee but without the right to vote.
- II. Governments or other public authorities shall not designate any members of the Committee.
 - III. The Committee shall maintain and regularly update a registry of all members (voting and non-voting) indicating in particular the category they belong to, which shall be accessible at any time to members.

10. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

An applicant member shall present an application request and file to the Executive Committee for prior examination before submitting the case to the Council for decision.

According to the Olympic Charter, to be recognized by the Committee and accepted as a member of the Committee, a national sports organisation must exercise a specific, real and on-going sports activity, be affiliated to an International Federation recognized by the IOC and be governed by and comply in all aspects with both the Olympic Charter and the rules of its International Federation.

11. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

- I. Actively participate in the work and activities of the Committee.
- II. Regularly inform the Committee of their respective activities.
- III. Respect and ensure the implementation of the decisions and resolutions made by the Committee.
- IV. Operate according to the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics, the World Anti-Doping Code, the Constitution of the Committee and the Good Governance code Commitment.
- V. Exercise their activities and responsibilities for the benefit of sport development in a fair, honest and transparent manner and be accountable for that.
- VI. Benefit from the Committee's assistance, where possible, for developing their activities.
- VII. Exercise any other rights and duties in accordance with this Constitution.

12. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be automatically terminated:-

- I. If a member resigns by delivering a written resignation to the Honorary Secretary General of the Committee.
- II. If he/she becomes bankrupt or suspends payment or compounds with his/her creditors.

- III. If at a special general meeting of members a resolution is passed by two-thirds of the members present at the meeting that he/she be removed from membership for conduct inimical to the interests of the Committee. Expulsion shall follow a hearing at which the member may appear and make representation on his own behalf.
- IV. Upon disbandment of the relevant National Sports Organisation or expiration of his/her term of office.
- V. If a member in any of the categories of membership is expelled from the International Olympic Committee or International Federation.

13. MEASURES AND SANCTIONS

- I. When a member has failed to fulfil his/her or its duties, has infringed the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics and/or this Constitution or has not respected or implemented the decisions or resolutions of the organs of the IOC, he/she or it may be subject to the following graduated measures and sanctions (depending on the gravity of the facts and the level of damage or infringement):
 - a. Warning
 - b. Suspension
 - c. Expulsion.
- II. Decision to pronounce a warning or a suspension is made by the Executive Committee after having given an opportunity to the member concerned to be heard. The Executive Committee shall report accordingly at the next General Meeting.
- III. Decision to pronounce an expulsion is made by a Special General Meeting (upon proposal of the Executive Committee or not) and after having given an opportunity to the member concerned to be heard. Such decision shall be made by 2/3 majority of the voting members present.

14. DELEGATES

- I. Each affiliated body shall appoint one delegate and an alternate to the Committee.

- II. Delegates and their alternates must be nationals of Trinidad and Tobago and should be of good standing, upright character, sound judgment and independent mind with a knowledge of, and belief in, Olympic principles. The members shall perform their duties on a voluntary basis as provided by the Annual General Meeting. They may however be reimbursed for traveling, subsistence and any other justified expenses incurred by them in connection with their duties.
- III. The names of delegates shall be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary General of the Committee and such delegates shall continue to be delegates at the pleasure of the bodies they represent. Any member body shall be entitled at any time to withdraw in writing the name of any delegate and to nominate in writing a delegate or delegates in place of or in succession to the former delegate or delegates.
- IV. If any delegate is elected an Officer of the Committee, the member body or affiliate concerned shall be entitled to appoint another delegate in place of that delegate.

15. OFFICERS

- I. The officers of the Committee shall be elected at a General Meeting expressly convened for that purpose after the Annual General Meeting in the year following the conclusion of the Olympic Games, and shall hold office for a four year term, and until their successors are elected.
- II. The Officers shall be:
 - a) A President who need not be a delegate accredited by any affiliated Body.
 - b) Three posts of Vice President who shall be elected from among duly accredited delegates.
 - c) An Honorary Secretary General who need not be a delegate accredited by any affiliated body.
 - d) An Honorary Assistant Secretary General who shall be elected from duly accredited delegates.

- e) An Honorary Treasurer, who shall be elected from duly accredited delegates.
- III. No officer except the Honorary Secretary General shall hold office for more than two successive terms.
- IV. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Committee. In his/her absence a Vice President shall preside. In the absence of all of them, the meeting shall elect a Chairperson from among those present and entitled to vote.
- V. The Honorary Secretary General shall perform such duties in relation to the Committee as the Council and /or Executive may require.
- VI. The Honorary Assistant Secretary General shall be of general assistance to the Honorary Secretary General, and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Honorary Secretary General.
- VII. The Honorary Treasurer shall keep such books of accounts as the council and/or Executive may from time to time direct and deposit the funds of the Committee in such bank or banks as may be selected by the Council and/or Executive and shall present audited Financial Statements at the Annual General Meeting of the Committee as the Council and/or Executive may require.
- VIII. There shall be a ceremony of installation of Officers and the handover of all insignia and material pertaining to all offices as soon as is practicable after the elections of officers.
- IX. The Officers are not personally liable for the debts or obligations of the Committee.

16. EXECUTIVE

- I. An Executive consisting of the Officers as specified in Article 15 (I, II) hereof, the immediate past President, the two Trustees as hereinafter provided for and three members of the General Council who shall be elected at the General Meeting at which Officers are elected shall carry on the general routine work of the Committee and shall have the power to deal with all matters requiring immediate attention.

- II. IOC member(s) in Trinidad and Tobago, if any, are ex officio members of the Executive with voting rights.
- III. The representatives of national organisations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games shall constitute the voting majority of the Executive Committee.
- IV. The Executive Committee is the executive body of the Committee and has in particular the following role and powers:
- To administer and run the Committee in accordance with the general plan approved at the General Meeting and Council Meetings. The Executive Committee is accountable for its work at the General Meeting and Council meeting.
 - To implement the resolutions passed at the General Meeting and Council meetings.
 - To prepare the annual budget, reports and accounts of the Committee to be submitted at the General Meeting for approval.
 - To manage the property and funds of the Committee in the framework of the annual budget approved at the General Meeting.
 - To work extensively to achieve the goals and objectives of the Committee.
 - To shortlist the participants to the Olympic Games and to the regional, continental or world multi-sports competitions patronised by the IOC, upon proposal from the National Federations and in close coordination with them.
 - To provide assistance and advice to National Organisations in order to improve their development and operations, if necessary.
 - To make proposals to the Council for affiliation of any new member to the Committee.
 - To draw-up bye-laws and internal regulations which are not in contradiction with this Constitution and the Olympic Charter and subject to approval at the General Meeting.
 - To take any disciplinary action as mentioned under Article 13 of this Constitution.
 - To exercise any other tasks delegated by the members.
 - To conduct such other purposes as are consistent with the Constitution.
- V. The procedures for the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:
- The meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least once every 2 months.
 - Urgent meetings of the Executive Committee may be convened as necessary and any decision or resolution to be made or taken at any such meeting may be submitted to a vote by teleconference or correspondence including by fax or electronic mail.

- The meetings of the Executive Committee shall be chaired by the President. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents shall convene and chair the meeting.
 - A meeting deemed urgent may also be convened upon written request of at least 1/3 of the members of the Executive Committee.
 - Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be convened by notice sent by the Secretary General to all members of the Executive Committee no later than seven (7) days before the meeting indicating the date, the place and the agenda of the said meeting and including all necessary documents and material.
 - The quorum required for a meeting of the Executive Committee is fifty percent (50%) plus one of the members of the Executive Committee.
 - All members of the Executive Committee shall have one vote each.
 - Decisions shall be taken by simple majority of the votes cast by the members present.
 - In case of tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
 - Voting shall be conducted by show of hands or by secret ballot if requested by at least one member provided that voting on persons shall be by secret ballot.
 - The Honorary Secretary General (or in his/her absence the Honorary Assistant Secretary General or in his/her absence a member of the Executive Committee designated by the Chairperson) is responsible for establishing the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee. The minutes shall be circulated to all members of the Executive Committee within seven (7) days following the meeting of the Executive Committee.
- VI. The Executive Committee may recommend to the General Council the removal from office of any Officer who refuses to carry out any of the functions of that office after being requested to do so or whose performance is unsatisfactory or inimical to the interest of the Committee or who has been absent from 3 meetings of the Executive without permission during one (1) calendar year.
- VII. An Officer may be removed from office only at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose.
- VIII. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy arising at any time after the Annual General Meeting in the year following the conclusion of the Olympic Games.

17. SELECTION OF TEAMS

- a. The Executive shall decide on the numerical strength and composition of the representative teams. The composition of the teams shall be determined from the nominations made by affiliated members of the Committee, the Executive reserving to itself the right to veto any nomination. Nominations shall comprise the names of competitors in order of merit and the names of officials and their particular function.
- b. Competitors must comply with the standards laid down by the Olympic Committee or the International Governing Body of the particular sport.
- c. The nominations must be signed by the President and Secretary of the member body.
- d. In the case of “team sports”, the Executive will received nominations from affiliated members. The nomination shall include the numerical strength, achievements and composition of the team, names of players and officials.
- e. The Council shall elect the Chef de Mission and an Assistant Chef de Mission of any representative team from among its members. The Council shall also appoint at its discretion other general team officials and auxiliaries as may be deemed necessary. The Council shall also elect other sectional officials to accompany the competitors provided that the only competent body to nominate an Official for any particular sport shall be the affiliated body responsible for the administration of that particular sport.

18. COUNCIL

I. The members as referred to in:

- Article 9 (i) (A) (a), (b), (d), (e) and (f) (i.e. the delegates, the athletes' representatives, the immediate Past President and any member of the IOC
- Article 9 (i) (B) (a) (i.e. the Members-at-large);
- Article 15 (ii) (i.e. the Officers); and
- Article 26 (i.e. the Trustees)

shall constitute the Council.

The voting majority shall be as specified in Article 9 (i) (A) (a) hereof:

The powers of the Council shall be:

- a. To carry out the objects of the Committee.
- b. To appoint and/or dismiss permanent employees, and fix if need be their remuneration.
- c. To control expenditure.
- d. To deal with affiliations.
- e. To raise funds and borrow monies for the administrative and other expenses of the Committee as may be deemed necessary.
- f. Generally to manage, control and safeguard the affairs of the Committee.
- g. To select representative teams.
- h. To appoint a Standards Committee, a Finance Committee, a Public Relations Committee and other Committee as may be approved from time to time.
- i. To appoint from among its members suitable tribunals to consider and adjudicate on disputes/conflicts within National Sporting Organisations affiliated to it.

19. MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

- I. Meetings of Council shall take place once every three months. Notwithstanding the above, meetings of the Council may be convened by the Honorary Secretary General in consultation with President as may be deemed expedient provided, however, that not less than 10 days notice shall have been given to all Members.
- II. Membership of the Council shall be suspended where a Member or delegate has been absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Council of which due notice has been given and without having received Special leave of absence from the President.
- III. At least 50% + 1 of the voting members of the Council shall form a quorum of the Council. In the event of a quorum not being present within a half hour of the time fixed for a meeting of which due notice shall have been given, the meeting stands adjourned for a period of two weeks at the same time and place. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present, then the President shall conduct the meeting with those members present. The voting majority shall be as specified in Article 9 (i) (A) (a) hereof.

- IV. Unless otherwise specified in this article, the applicable procedures for the meetings of the Council should be the same as those mentioned for the Annual General Meeting.

20. VOTING POWERS

- I. Each member of the Council shall be entitled to one (1) vote, subject to the provisions of Article 9 (i) (A) (a) hereof. In the event of the voting being equal, the President shall have a casting vote in addition to his ordinary vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands, except where a secret ballot is asked for by one or more persons.
- II. When dealing with questions relating to the Olympic Games, only votes cast by Executive and the National Sports Organisations affiliated to International Sports Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games shall be taken into consideration.
- III. When dealing with questions relating to Games, members in category defined in Article 9 1. A. (b) shall only vote on questions relating to the games at which their relevant sport is included in the programme of the Games.

21. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- I. Special General Meetings of the Council shall be called upon request from the President, or the Executive Committee, or requisition signed by at least 1/3 of the voting members of the Council. Such requisition stating specifically the reason for calling the meeting shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary General who shall fix a date for the meeting, which shall not be more than 15 days after the receipt of the request. Only the business for which the meeting is called shall be dealt with thereat. Copies of the Minutes of such meeting shall be sent to each affiliated body not later than 14 days after the holding of the meeting.
- II. Unless otherwise specified in this article, the applicable conditions, procedures, voting rights etc. for the Special General Meetings of the Council should be the same as in articles 19 and 20.

22. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- I. Any member of the Committee , as referred to in Article 9 hereof, or of the Council, as referred to in Article 18 hereof, is entitled to take part in any General Meeting, Special General Meeting or Annual General Meeting of the Committee. The voting majority shall be as specified in Article 9 (i) (A) (a).
- II. The Annual General Meetings of the Committee shall be held in Port of Spain and not less than twenty-one (21) days written notice thereof shall be given to all members of the Council and to all affiliated Bodies. The notice shall include in particular the date, the place and the agenda of the meeting and all necessary documents and material. A copy of the Annual Report and audited Financial Statement shall accompany each notice.
- III. The financial year of the Committee shall end on the 31st December of each year and the Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of April.
- IV. The Annual General Meeting can validly act on the items appearing on its agenda. Proposals from the members concerning the agenda must reach the Honorary Secretary General no later than fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting.
- V. Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, the quorum required for an Annual General Meeting is fifty percent (50%) plus one of the voting members. In the event of a quorum not being present within a half hour of the time fixed for a meeting of which due notice shall have been given, the meeting stands adjourned for a period of two weeks at the same time and place. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting will take place with those members present. The voting majority shall be as specified in Article 9 (i) (A) (a).
- VI. The Annual General Meetings are chaired by the President. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside. In the absence of all of them, the meeting shall elect a Chairperson from among those present and entitled to vote.
- VII. Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, the decisions are taken by simple majority of the votes cast by the voting members present. In case of tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- VIII. Voting shall be conducted by show of hands, except where a secret ballot is requested by at least one voting member, and except when elections and/or votes on persons take place in which cases the vote shall be conducted by secret ballot.

- IX. Each member body or affiliate shall be entitled to be represented at the Annual General Meeting by two delegates but shall have only one vote, subject to the provisions of Article 9 (i) (A) (a) hereof. In addition, when dealing specifically with questions relating to the Olympic Games, only the votes cast by the members of the Executive Committee and the National Sports Organisations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games, as referred to in Article 9 (i) (A) (a), are taken into consideration.
- X. Minutes shall be recorded of the business of the Annual General Meeting. The Honorary Secretary General (or in his/her absence the Honorary Assistant Secretary General or in his/her absence a member of the Executive Committee designated by the Chairman) is responsible for establishing the minutes of the Annual General Meetings. The minutes shall be circulated to all members of the Committee within thirty (30) days following the Annual General Meeting and shall be sent to the IOC duly certified as true by the President and the Honorary Secretary General.

23. BUSINESS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- I. The business of Annual General Meeting shall be conducted in the following order:
 - a. To confirm credentials of Delegates.
 - b. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and any Special General Meetings.
 - c. To receive, consider and if approved adopt the Annual Report and the audited Financial Statements.
 - d. To decide upon any honoraria to be paid to the Honorary Secretary General of the Committee or to any other person.
 - e. To amend, modify or amplify the Constitution of the Committee, provided that due notice as hereunder provided for shall have been given.
 - f. In general, to deal with any matter on its agenda and make appropriate decisions.

- II. At the Annual General Meeting taking place in the year following the Olympic Games, the Members-at-large and Trustees, the appointment of Honorary Auditor and Honorary Attorney-at-Law for the ensuing quadrennial and the appointment of a Returning Officer for the elections of Officers for the ensuing year quadrennial shall be included in the Agenda.
- III. The Returning Officer will take office immediately and have the responsibility for conducting the election of officers at the succeeding meeting. Voting for election of office shall be by secret ballot. The Returning Officer shall demit office at the close of the election of officers.
- IV. Immediately on the same day and after the Annual General Meeting in the year following the Olympic Games there shall be convened a General Meeting at which the Election of Officers for the ensuing quadrennial shall be the only item.
- V. Each member body or affiliate shall be entitled to be represented by two delegates but shall have only one vote, subject to the provisions of Article 9 (i) (A) (a) hereof.
- VI. The Returning Officer shall have the conduct of the meeting.
- VII. All nominations shall be in writing and shall be set out on the prescribed form and submitted to the Honorary Secretary General not less twenty one days before the date fixed for the General Meeting.
- VIII. To be elected, a candidate for a position must receive at least 50% plus one of the votes validly cast by the voting members. If there are more than two candidates for a position and none of them receive at least 50% plus one of the votes cast in the first round, there should be a second round between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. In case of tie, a new ballot shall take place between the candidates concerned.
- IX. The election process shall also ensure that the representatives of the national sports Organisations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games shall constitute the voting majority on the Executive Committee and both genders shall be represented on the Executive Committee.

- X. Outgoing officers shall demit office before the close of the meeting and shall hand over all papers, books, and documents pertaining to such office to the incoming officers then or within a reasonable time thereafter.
- XI. In respect of the election of Officers outgoing Officers shall not be eligible to vote except that each Officer is a duly accredited delegate representing a financial and voting member body or affiliate.

24. LEVIES

- I. The Committee shall be empowered by decision of the Council to levy on affiliated bodies for such purposes as it may deem fit, provided that the motion to levy be put on the agenda and not less than ten (10) days written notice is given for the meeting.

25. BANKING ACCOUNT

- I. Such investment accounts or banking accounts as are deemed to be necessary by the Executive shall be opened in the name of the Committee.
The Executive shall determine from time to time the appropriate signatories to each such account or instrument.

26. TRUSTEES

- I. Two Trustees who shall not be Delegates to the Committee shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Committee in the year following the conclusion of the Olympic Games and shall hold office until their successors are appointed.
- II. Trustees shall be eligible for re-election. They shall have the power to be present and to vote at all meetings.
- III. Any Trustee permanently leaving the country or being declared bankrupt or compounding with creditors or becoming physically or mentally incapable of acting or refusing to act or convicted of a criminal offence of a serious nature or suffering imprisonment shall if so facto vacate office and the vacancy shall be filled by the Council appointing another Trustee in his/her stead, who shall hold office until the next regular election of Trustees.

- IV. The Trustees shall stand possessed of the property and funds of the Committee in trust for the Committee and shall apply and dispose of the same for the benefit of the Committee in such manner, as the Council shall in conformity with the Constitution direct.
- V. The Trustees of the Committee, duly authorized by the Council, shall have full powers to sue and defend all legal proceedings instituted by or against the Committee and, for such purpose, shall have power to sign all powers of Attorney or other legal documents requisite as necessary. The Trustees shall be indemnified against all risks and expenses incurred by them out of the property and assets of the Committee.

27. HONORARY AUDITORS

- I. Two Honorary Auditors who shall not be delegates to the Committee shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting in the year following the conclusion of the Olympic Games.

28. HONORARY ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

- I. An Honorary Attorney-at-Law shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting in the year following the conclusion of the Olympic Games.

29. ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

- I. No part of the Constitution may be amended, rescinded or altered except at an Annual General or Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Notice of any proposed alteration shall be sent in writing to the Honorary Secretary General of the Committee at least thirty (30) days before meeting and the Honorary Secretary General of the Committee shall forward a copy of such notice containing the proposed alterations to all members of the Council and also to the Secretaries of all affiliated bodies at least twenty-one (21) days before such meeting. No alteration of the Constitution shall have effect unless it is passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.
- II. Any amendment or change to the Constitution shall be communicated to the International Olympic Committee for its approval.

30. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- I. Any notice given under the Constitution shall be deemed to have been properly given if delivered or posted to the last address notified to the Honorary Secretary General within the time prescribed in this Constitution.

31. ARBITRATION

- I. All affiliated National Sports Organisations or their registered members may submit to the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee for settlement all disputes/conflicts which may be deemed to be unresolved, subject to their respective constitutions and subject to the rules of their respective International Federations to which they are affiliated.
- II. The Council shall within 7 days of receipt of submission appoint such one or more of its members (not exceeding three) to sit as arbitrators to consider the representations of the parties to the dispute/conflict.
- III. The Committee shall invite the parties to appear before the arbitrator(s) and present their case in writing or verbally.
- IV. The decision of the arbitrator(s) shall be delivered to the parties within 30 days of the date of receipt of the submission.
- V. Any decision made by the arbitrator(s) on behalf of the Council may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal firstly to an Appeals Tribunal comprising of no more than 3 members to be selected by the Council. A further appeal may be submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitely in accordance with the Code of Sports-related Arbitration. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal.

32. BYE-LAWS

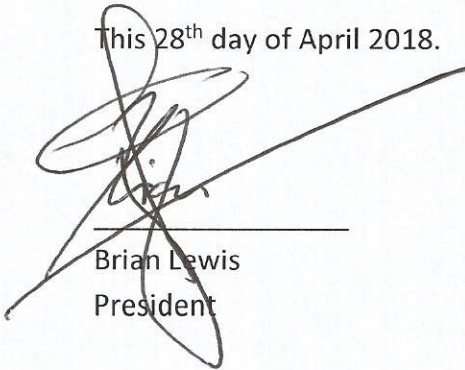
- I. The Council shall have power to pass Bye Laws to deal with all matters not covered by the existing laws.

33. INTERPRETATION OF RULES AND BYE-LAWS

- I. The Constitution and any Bye-Laws of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee shall, at all times, be in accordance with the Olympic Charter and refer expressly to the latter. The Council shall have exclusive right to interpret these rules or any Bye-Laws that may be enacted from time to time. The interpretation of any rule or Bye-Laws by a two-thirds majority of the Council shall be final, and no member may have recourse to any Court of Law on any matter arising out of the interpretation of these rules or Bye-Laws. Where any doubt or dispute shall arise between the Committee and the Council or the Members concerning the interpretation or application of these rules or any Bye-Laws that may be enacted from time to time, or any omissions or any discrepancies which may exist between these rules or Bye-Laws and the provision of the Olympic Charter, the provisions of the Olympic Charter shall prevail.

Certified as a true copy of the Constitution of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee

This 28th day of April 2018.



Brian Lewis
President



Annette Knott
Honorary Secretary General

Passed by two-thirds majority of the Annual General Meeting of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee held at Port of Spain the 10th day of April 1988.

Amended at a Council Meeting held on 19th July 1990. Amended at a Special General Meeting held 16th January 1997.

Amended as recommended by International Olympic Committee reforms 2000.

*Amended at the Annual General Meeting held on 30th April, 2012 pursuant to the recommendations of the International Olympic Committee Congress in 2009 in Copenhagen,

Denmark that guidelines in a document entitled Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement shall be reflected in all NOC Constitutions.

Amended at the Annual General Meeting held on 6th May, 2013.

Amended at the Annual General Meeting held on April 29th, 2014.

Amended at the Annual General Meeting held on April 30th 2016.

Amended at the Annual General Meeting held on April 28th 2018.