



Professional Taekwondo Federation Bylaws

February 23, 2025

Mission Statement

The Professional Taekwondo Federation (hereinafter referred to as PTF) is the world governing body for Professional and Amateur Taekwondo. As the highest authority, PTF upholds the highest standards of excellence, integrity, and safety while recognizing leading organizations such as Kombat Taekwondo, World Taekwondo, International Taekwondo Federation, and other recognized Taekwondo organizations.

Through education, licensing, certification, governance, and event sanctioning, PTF ensures the legitimacy, growth, and global recognition of Taekwondo as both an amateur and professional sport. While preserving its traditions, PTF drives innovation to shape the future of Taekwondo worldwide.

Bylaws of the Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF)

Article 1: Name and Purpose

1.1 Name

The official name of the organization shall be the Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF), a legally recognized nonprofit entity incorporated under the laws of the State of Oregon, United States. The entity's location may be relocated and reestablished at the discretion of the President.

1.2 Purpose

PTF is established as a non-profit organization with the mission to:

- Serve as the World Governing Body for Professional and Amateur Taekwondo.
- Provide education in Professional, Amateur, Traditional and Digital Taekwondo styles.
- Issue licenses and certifications to ensure high standards for athletes, coaches, referees, and other industry professionals.
- Sanction events to regulate and uphold fair competition within the Amateur and Professional sport.
- Develop strategic partnerships to advance the global presence of Taekwondo at all levels.
- Ensure fair representation and welfare for Taekwondo participants.
- Protect and promote the integrity of Taekwondo through regulatory oversight and enforcement of standards.



1.3 Official Language The official language of the Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF) shall be English. In case of translation discrepancies, the English version shall prevail.

1.4 Founding Governance Structure As this is the inaugural establishment of the Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF), all leadership positions, including Executive Committee members, officers, and representatives, shall be appointed directly by the Founding President. No elections shall be held during this initial formation period. The Founding President shall retain full authority to structure the organization during the initial four-year founding term, appoint officials, and implement governance protocols as deemed necessary to establish and develop the Federation.

1.5 Transition to Elected Governance Upon completion of the Founding President's initial four-year term, the PTF shall transition into a hybrid governance model. The positions of Vice President, Treasurer, Auditor, and Council Members shall thereafter be filled through elections conducted in accordance with the nomination and voting procedures set forth in Article 3 of these bylaws. The Founding President may stand for reappointment or election under the terms established for future governance.

Article 2: Governance

2.1 Leadership Structure

PTF shall be governed by the President and Executive Committee Members

2.2 Appointment and Terms

- All positions within PTF are appointed by the President with the exception of Vice Presidents and Council Members.
- All appointed positions shall have a four-year term, unless otherwise specified.
- The Vice Presidents and Council Members shall serve a four-year term.
- The President shall serve a four-year term.
- The President may add as many positions as deemed necessary.

2.3 Executive Committee & Council Member Positions

The Executive Committee and Council Member positions shall consist of:

- (1) President
- (3) Senior Vice Presidents
- (5) Vice Presidents
- (1) Secretary-General
- (2) Deputy Secretary-Generals
- (1) Executive Director
- (1) Treasurer
- (1) Auditor
- (5) Council Members
- Other positions as created by the President to fulfill organizational needs.
- Honorary Presidents may be appointed by the President in recognition of exceptional contribution to Taekwondo or achievements. This position is ceremonial and hold no voting rights or governance authority.



2.4 Presidential Succession

- If the President is unable to fulfill their duties due to resignation, incapacity, or other circumstances, a Senior Vice President shall assume the role.
- If there is more than one Senior Vice President, the Executive Committee shall vote to determine the successor.
- If no Senior Vice President assumes the position, the Executive Committee shall elect a new President.

2.5 Governance and Executive Authority

The President holds executive authority over all organizational operations, strategic initiatives, and business matters. The President's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Overseeing daily operations, financials, event execution, and overall business strategy.
- Implementing policies, initiatives, and directives to align with the organization's mission.
- Exercising veto power over any Executive Committee decisions related to governance or financial matters. *A 60% majority vote of the Executive Committee is required to override a Presidential veto.*
- In the event that the President is unable to fulfill their duties, the Senior Vice President shall assume leadership responsibilities with confirmation from the Executive Committee.

2.6 Executive Committee Oversight

The Executive Committee functions as an advisory and governance body, ensuring structural integrity and adherence to bylaws. Its responsibilities include:

1. Bylaws and Governance – Reviewing, proposing, and approving amendments to the organization's bylaws, policies, and structural framework.
2. Strategic Oversight – Providing recommendations on long-term initiatives, expansion plans, and key policy developments.
3. Ethics and Compliance – Ensuring adherence to ethical, legal, and regulatory standards within the organization.
4. Crisis Governance – Assisting in decision-making during critical situations that may impact the organization's governance, reputation, or legal standing.

2.7 Executive Committee Protection & Legal Compliance

- The Board of Directors shall be indemnified to the fullest extent permitted by applicable laws, protecting them from liability for actions taken in good faith and within the scope of their duties.
- No Director shall be personally liable for debts, obligations, or liabilities of PTF, provided they act in compliance with fiduciary responsibilities and ethical standards.
- The PTF shall maintain Director's and Officer's insurance and liability insurance in amounts sufficient to protect the organization, its Executive Committee and Council Members.

2.8 Conflict of Interest

- All officers, Executive Committee members, and affiliated representatives shall disclose any potential conflict of interest. Individuals must recuse themselves from decisions in which they have a financial or personal interest.



Article 3: Presidential Election Process

3.1 Eligibility Requirements

A candidate for the position of President must meet the following criteria:

- Shall have served a minimum of four (4) years as an Executive Committee Member of the Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF).

3.2 Nomination Process

- Eligible candidates shall be endorsed by at least 30% of voting members to qualify for candidacy.
- The existing President seeking re-election shall be exempt from the nomination requirement and may run for re-election without submission of endorsements.
- Candidates must submit their intent to run and endorsements at least 90 days before the election date for review and approval by the Election Committee.

3.3 Voting Procedure

- The voting shall be held at the PTF General Assembly.
- General Assembly shall be held every two years.
- The election shall be conducted by secret ballot to ensure fairness.
- Each Executive Committee member, National Federation President, or their officially designated proxy shall be entitled to one vote in all matters requiring a decision by the voting body.
- Each voting member shall cast one vote, and the candidate receiving the highest number of valid votes cast shall be declared elected.
- In the event of a tie, a run-off vote shall be conducted between the tied candidates within same day to determine the winner.
- A minimum of 20% of the quorum shall be met for the election to proceed. If less than 20% of the quorum is met, the existing President shall continue their term until a valid election is held.

3.4 Term Length & Re-Election

- The President shall serve a four-year term with the possibility of re-election.
- There shall be no term limits, allowing an incumbent to run for multiple terms.

3.5 Succession & Special Elections

- If the President is unable to complete their term, the Senior Vice President shall assume the role temporarily until a special election is conducted.
- A special election shall be held within 90 days to elect a new President for the remainder of the term.

Article 3A: Executive Committee Election Process

3A.1 Scope

This section shall apply to all elected positions on the Executive Committee, including Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Auditor, and Council Members.



3A.2 Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be current members of the Professional Taekwondo Federation in good standing—either as Executive Committee members, PTF National Federation President, or recognized PTF affiliates prior to nomination.
- Additional prerequisites may be set by the Election Committee and published before the nomination period.

3A.3 Nomination Procedure

- A candidate shall secure written nomination support from at least five (5) sitting Executive Committee members and/or from National Federation Presidents, excluding their own candidacy.
- Nominations must be formally submitted—via provided forms—to the Election Committee no later than sixty (60) days before the scheduled General Assembly.

3A.4 Candidate Confirmation

- The Election Committee shall verify nominations, ensuring eligibility compliance.
- A finalized list of confirmed candidates for each position shall be published at least thirty (30) days prior to the election date.

3A.5 Election Method

- Electors are comprised of all sitting Executive Committee members and National Federation Presidents (or their officially designated proxies).
- Voting is conducted electronically or in-person, as determined by the Election Committee—but must utilize a secret ballot.
- Each elector is entitled to one (1) vote per open position.

3A.6 Voting Thresholds & Run-Offs

- The candidate receiving the highest number of valid votes cast shall be declared elected.
- In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, a run-off vote shall be conducted between the tied candidates within the same day as the original election to determine the winner.

3A.7 Term Length

- All elected Executive Committee positions shall serve a standard four (4) year term, consistent with the bylaws governing leadership terms.

3A.8 Vacancies & By-Elections

- Should an elected seat become vacant more than 18 months before term end, a by-election shall be held within ninety (90) days of the vacancy.
- Nomination and voting procedures for by-elections mirror those of general elections.



3A.9 Election Oversight & Disputes

- The Election Committee is responsible for administering the process and resolving procedural disputes.
- Election results, once certified, are final and binding, subject only to appeal under standards prescribed in the Federation's Ethics & Compliance Code.

Article 4: Licensing, Certification & Awards

4.1 Education & Training Programs

PTF shall establish standardized training courses to ensure high professional and technical standards across Taekwondo disciplines.

4.2 Licensing, Certification & Awards

The Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF) shall issue a range of licenses, certifications, and awards to recognize, regulate, and uphold professional standards within the industry. These licenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Athlete License – For professional, modern, and traditional Taekwondo competitors.
- Instructor and Coach License – To certify instructional expertise and coaching qualifications.
- Referee License – To ensure fair, consistent, and professional officiating.
- Black Belt Certificate – To formally recognize rank and proficiency.
- Promoter License – To authorize individuals as professional promoters to organize PTF sanctioned events.
- Manager License – To act as a manager for fighters.
- Event Management License – To certify expertise in planning and executing sanctioned events.
- Technical Delegate License – To designate officials responsible for overseeing event operations and technical compliance.
- Additional Licenses, Certifications, and Awards as Determined by PTF – To accommodate the evolving needs of the organization and industry.
- Licensing or certification shall not give rise to any first or third party causes of action against PTF. Each licensee and certified individual or organization shall maintain appropriate and sufficient liability insurance to indemnify PTF from any third party actions.

4.3 Compliance

- All licensed individuals must adhere to PTF's regulations and standards.
- PTF reserves the right to suspend or revoke any license in the event of misconduct or non-compliance.

Article 5: Athlete Representation & Welfare

5.1 Athlete Safety & Medical Protocols

- All PTF-sanctioned events must adhere to strict medical and safety protocols.
- Athletes must undergo medical screenings before competing in professional events.
- PTF will implement anti-doping regulations to maintain fair competition.



Article 6: Financial Management

6.1 Non-Profit Status

- PTF shall operate as a non-profit organization, reinvesting funds into the advancement of Taekwondo and its mission.

6.2 Revenue Sources

PTF's revenue sources shall remain open and flexible to accommodate future opportunities and financial sustainability. Potential sources of revenue may include, but are not limited to:

- Licensing and certification fees
- Hosting events & event sanctioning fees
- Educational programs and training courses
- Sponsorships and strategic partnerships
- Technology and digital asset integration
- Other revenue streams as determined by PTF

6.3 Financial Transparency

- The Treasurer shall prepare annual financial reports to ensure transparency and accountability.
- All financial activities of PTF shall comply with the non-profit regulations of the jurisdiction in which the entity is registered.

Article 7: Dissolution

7.1 Dissolution of PTF

- If PTF is dissolved, any remaining assets shall be donated to a non-profit organization aligned with its mission.

Article 8: Intellectual Property & Digital Rights

8.1 Brand Protection

- The PTF name, logo, and all branding elements are the exclusive property of the organization.
- Unauthorized use is prohibited unless granted explicit permission by the PTF.

8.2 Digital Presence & Technology Integration

- PTF will explore blockchain-based licensing and certification systems for increased security and transparency.
- Digital assets, including official websites and media rights, shall remain under PTF's ownership and control.



8.3 Official Documentation & Signatures

- Only the President or an officially designated officer by the President may sign binding documents, contracts, or legal instruments on behalf of PTF. Unauthorized signatures shall not be recognized.

Article 9: Member National Federations

9.1 Recognition and Role

PTF may recognize one official national body per country, hereafter referred to as the "PTF National Federation," to coordinate PTF activities nationally.

9.2 Responsibilities

Each recognized PTF National Federation shall:

- Recommend candidates for PTF licenses and certifications.
- Organize PTF-sanctioned national events and programs.
- Promote the mission, values, and activities of PTF within their jurisdiction.
- Enforce PTF rules, codes of conduct, and compliance policies.
- Submit activity and financial reports to PTF on an annual basis.
- Establish, register and operate their national federation entity in accordance with their country's laws and government policies.
- Pay national federation annual membership fees determined by the PTF.
- Maintain liability insurance in sufficient amounts for the protection of its interests and those of PTF.
- Each National Federation shall indemnify and hold harmless PTF from any action or inaction giving rise to third party legal actions.

9.3 Oversight and Governance

- Recognition of a National Federation may be revoked by the President with or without cause, especially in cases of misconduct, inactivity, failure to comply with PTF standards, or reputational harm to the organization.

10. Amendment Proposals

- Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by the President or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee.

11. Disciplinary Actions

- PTF reserves the right to investigate and take disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, against any member or licensee who violates the PTF Code of Ethics or brings disrepute to the organization. Procedures shall follow due process as outlined in the Ethics & Compliance Code.



12. Global Alignment and Charter Commitments

The Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF) recognizes the role of sport as a universal force for peace, education, and social development. PTF formally adopts and aligns with the principles outlined in the **UNESCO International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport**, which declares that access to sport and physical education is a fundamental human right for all.

PTF commits to integrating these values into its:

- Coach, referee, and athlete education programs
- Youth development and inclusion initiatives
- Competition standards and ethical frameworks
- Global policies for gender equity, access, and fair play

This alignment reflects PTF's responsibility to uphold and promote the highest international standards in sport and social impact.

Disclaimer

These bylaws are intended solely for informational and organizational purposes. Nothing herein shall be construed as creating legal rights or obligations enforceable by third parties. The Professional Taekwondo Federation (PTF) reserves the right to interpret, amend, or modify any section of these bylaws at its sole discretion, in accordance with applicable laws. PTF shall not be held liable for any damages, claims, or losses resulting from the use, misinterpretation, or reliance on these bylaws or actions taken under their authority.

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