

ELIGIBILITY TO REPRESENT A MEMBER FEDERATION IN IWF EVENTS

I. Introduction

1. This policy (“**Policy**”) applies to all IWF Member Federations (“**MFs**”) and athletes participating in IWF Events (“**Athletes**”).
2. Athletes must be affiliated to only one MF at any given time for the purposes of international representation. They can be entered by their respective MF to participate in IWF Events, except for cases set out in section IV, provided that they meet all eligibility criteria of this Policy and any other applicable regulation, such as the IWF Anti-Doping Rules.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, the eligibility of Athletes to participate at the Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and other IOC and/or other multisport games organisations sanctioned events (such as the Continental Games), is governed by the Olympic Charter and any other applicable regulation issued by the IOC, ANOC and the governing body of each respective event.
4. This Policy may be amended from time to time by the IWF Executive Board.

II. Athletes’ eligibility to represent a MF

5. An Athlete shall be eligible to compete at IWF Events if he/she is affiliated to a MF and is a citizen of the country of the MF that the athlete represents by virtue of:
 - Being a citizen of the country by birth; or
 - Being a citizen of the country by naturalization.
6. If an Athlete, holding multiple citizenship, is eligible to compete at IWF Events for more than one MF, he/she may choose at any age which MF to represent, being specified that this choice is definitively exercised by competing at an IWF Event representing a MF. After such participation and subject to section III below, the Athlete may only represent that MF in IWF Events.

III. Participation of an Athlete representing a different MF

7. Any Athlete, who has already competed at an IWF Event or at any of the events of paragraph 3 in accordance with paragraph 5 or has chosen a MF in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Policy, shall be able to represent a different MF at an IWF Event only subject to approval by the IWF Executive Board. Such approval may be granted at the discretion of the IWF Executive Board and under the following conditions:
 - The Athlete is or becomes a citizen of the country of the new MF;
 - The MF the Athlete was representing until that time and the MF the Athlete wishes to represent provide their consent in writing.

Requests shall be submitted by the new MF to the IWF Executive Board in writing and must include proof of citizenship of the athlete in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Policy and (if available) the consent of the MF the Athlete was representing until that time. The new MF may enter the Athlete to an IWF Event if the approval by the IWF Executive

Board is obtained thirty (30) days before the Final Entry.

8. If the Athlete's former MF refuses to provide its consent, the Athlete shall have to observe a waiting period of one (1) year starting from the date of the request submitted to the IWF for approval of his or her participation representing a different MF in accordance with paragraph 7. During this waiting period, the Athlete shall not be eligible to represent any MF at an IWF Event.
9. Paragraphs 7 and 8 shall apply to Athletes who wish to change the MF they represent for a second (or a third etc.) time. In those cases, the waiting period that has to be observed is three (3) years.

IV. Refugee Athletes

10. Athletes, who are recognized as refugees or beneficiaries of international protection according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) agency may be entered in IWF Events, Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and other IOC and/or ANOC sanctioned events (such as Continental Games), under the IWF flag, based on prior approval from the IWF Executive Board.
11. In all IOC and/or ANOC and/or other multisport games organisations sanctioned events, the eligibility criteria is to be defined by the governing body of the relevant event.

V. Adoption and Enforcement

12. For the purposes of this Policy, Athletes may provide proof of citizenship by submitting a copy of their valid passport or by any other means allowed under the IWF Technical and Competitions Rules and Regulations.
13. This Policy was adopted by the IWF Executive Board on 11 June 2023 and amended on 10 September 2023 and comes into force immediately.

IWF President
Mr. Mohammed Jalood

IWF General Secretary Treasurer
Mr. Antonio Urso