

ABAF

Association of the Balkan Athletics Federations

STATUTES

I. AIMS

The main aims of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations are:

- the organisation of the Balkan Athletic Championships in the spirit of the sport of athletics
- the improvement of health and physical condition of the youth of the Balkan Countries.
- the promotion of sports and cultural activities, the promotion of the relationships between the Balkan countries, the mutual understanding, the exchanging of ideas and finally the preservation of Peace and Stability in the area.

II. GENERAL RULES

Article 1.

Representatives of the Balkan Countries who acknowledge the present Statutes, set up an International Athletic Organisation called “**Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations**” herein called **ABAF**.

Article 2.

The ABAF is a non-political organisation decisively rejecting all forms of racial, religious or political discrimination within its members.

This is a Balkan non-governmental, non-profit organisation of unlimited duration in the form of Area Association, registered within European Athletics.

Article 3.

The National Balkan Athletic Federations, members of the International Association of the Athletics Federations (IAAF) are eligible to become ABAF members. Any new affiliations must be approved by the ABAF Congress.

The members may depart from the Association following a decision of their Federation’s General Assembly, which must be brought to the ABAF’s knowledge. As to the expulsion of a member, the relevant decision must be based on very serious reasons and can be taken only by the ABAF Congress, with a majority of at least 50% + 1 vote (6 members).

Article 4.

The ABAF shall apply, where relevant, the current version of constitutional and technical rules of the European Athletics and the IAAF, including any amendments thereto and the present Statutes.

Article 5.

The Headquarters of the ABAF is located in the country of residence of the ABAF President in duty.

Article 6.

The official language of the ABAF is English and all written materials must be edited in English.

III. STRUCTURE OF THE ABAF

Article 7.

The ABAF managing bodies are:

a. Congress

b. Council

The Council shall be elected, during the annual Ordinary Congress for a period of four (4) years and shall consist of the following members:

President:

- He/she shall be proposed by the Member Federations
- He/she must be approved by the Congress.
- He/she shall have a voting right.

Vice President:

- He/she shall be proposed by the Member Federations
- He/she must be approved by the Congress.
- He/she shall have a voting right.

The Secretary General:

- He/she shall be of the same Nationality as the President.
- He/she must be approved by the Congress.
- He/she shall have a voting right.

Two (2) Council Members

- they shall be approved by the Congress for a period of four (4) years.

c. Commissions or Working Groups:

The Congress has the right to appoint various Commissions or Working Groups according to the current needs.

d. All representatives of Balkan Federations who are currently members of European Athletics Council or IAAF Council shall be ABAF ex-officio members unless otherwise elected in ABAF structures.

IV. THE CONGRESS

Article 8.

The Congress is the supreme managing body of the ABAF. The Ordinary Congress shall take place every year during European Athletics Convention. Draft minutes of

the Congress shall be sent within two weeks to the Members for approval and comments. Minutes shall be approved during the next Congress.

Article 9.

The Ordinary and Extraordinary Congresses may be attended by a maximum of three delegates per Member Federation plus the Council Members.

The presence of delegates from at least half the Member Federations is required so as to have quorum. In case of a voting procedure, only one delegate per country is allowed to vote, while the decisions are taken by simple majority. Member Federations shall confirm the names of their Delegates to the ABAF Headquarters at least two weeks before the Congress.

Article 10.

Observers are allowed to be present at the Congresses, after having applied and received an invitation.

V. THE COUNCIL

- a. prepares and coordinates the organisation of the Balkan Championships;
- b. prepares the agenda of the forthcoming Congress;
- c. organises other activities (such as seminars, training camps etc.);
- d. prepares the year-end financial report and submits it to the Congress for approval;
- e. nominates Commissions and Working Groups when needed;
- f. appoints ABAF Delegates for the Balkan events.

VI. CONVOCAATION OF CONGRESS

Article 11.

An Ordinary Congress shall be held once every year on the date and at the place of European Athletics Convention. The Ordinary Congress shall be convoked by the President. An Extraordinary Congress may be convoked at any time either by the President or by a minimum number of 5 Federations.

Article 12.

The appropriate invitation, preliminary agenda and all documents shall be sent to the Member Federations one month before the date of the Congress.

Article 13.

The Congress is chaired by the President. In case of his absence it is chaired by the Vice President.

VII. VOTING AND ELECTIONS

Article 14.

Each Balkan Federation shall have the same voting rights as at European Athletics Congress, i.e. 1 Federation = 1 vote.

Article 15.

In case of a tie occurring in any election, the procedure shall be repeated for a maximum of three times to decide between the persons so tying. If a tie occurs also in the third ballot, the President's vote shall count double in order to decide the tie.

Article 16.

The Congress approves the decisions for changes in the Statutes and the Technical Regulations made by a majority of at least 50% plus one vote of the present countries.

VIII. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Article 17.

The Ordinary Congress:

- a. Supervises the fulfilment of the aims given by the present Statutes;
- b. Approves, adds or changes the ABAF Statutes and the Technical Regulations of the competitions according to the rules of the IAAF;
- c. Approves the dates and venues for the next year's Balkan events;
- d. Elects President, Vice President and General Secretary, approves the Council Members and appoint Members of Commissions and/or Working Groups when needed.

Article 18

The President:

- a. represents and manages the ABAF according to the Statutes and the decisions of the Congress and the Council.
- b. is responsible for managing the Association, elaborating strategies and long term planning of the ABAF activities and representing the ABAF at all official events in public. Also signs all correspondence and all the legal and financial documents of the ABAF.
- c. is responsible for the implementation of the budget, decisions of the Congress and Council.

Article 19

The Vice President:

- a. is responsible, in the absence of the President, for the President's duties.
- b. in case the President is not able to fulfil his/her duties, the Vice President becomes Acting President until the next elections or the closest Congress.

Article 20

The Secretary General:

- a. is the executive of the Council responsible for the ABAF office;
- b. manages the ABAF activities in the period between two Council Meetings and coordinates all activities;
- c. keeps the whole information of the Balkan competitions;
- d. sends the Congress reports and the results of Balkan competitions to European Athletics and IAAF
- e. publishes the official records of the Balkan competitions through the ABAF website.

Note: The ABAF Member Federations are encouraged to send to the General Secretary any material useful for the website.

IX. PROPERTIES

Article 21.

The ABAF may acquire or own properties for the realization of its aims, including facilities and equipment according to the laws of the country in which the offices are located.

X. MEMBERSHIP FEE

Article 22.

Each Member shall pay an annual membership fee of 50 EUR, payable during the Ordinary Congress.

XI. FINANCES

Article 23.

The income of the ABAF is formed by marketing and sponsorships, subsidies, donations, membership fee and other sources allowed by law. A bank account will be provided for this purpose. The President and the Secretary General have to manage the above bank account both and together.

XII. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 24.

All matters not settled by the present Statutes will be arranged by the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress.

Article 25.

The ABAF has a stamp, logo, letter form, flag and other symbol, approved by the Congress.

Article 26.

The present Statutes were approved by the Extraordinary ABAF Congress held in Sliven, Bulgaria on 1 July 2011.

MEMBER FEDERATIONS

#	Abbreviation	Country	Full name of the member
1.	ALB	Albania	Federata Shqiptare e Atletikes
2.	BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Athletic Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
3.	BUL	Bulgaria	Bulgarian Athletic Federation
4.	GRE	Greece	Association Hellénique d'Athlétisme Amateur
5.	MKD	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Atletska Federacija na Makedonija
6.	MDA	Moldova	Federatia de Atletism din Republica Moldova
7.	MNE	Montenegro	Athletics Federation of Montenegro
8.	ROU	Romania	Romanian Athletic Federation
9.	SRB	Serbia	Athletics Federation of Serbia
10.	TUR	Turkey	Türkiye Atletizm Federasyonu