UIAA International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
(AoA)

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I. NAME AND AUTHORITY

Article 1

1) The "Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme" (hereinafter UIAA), founded at Chamonix on 27 August 1932, is the international federation of climbing and mountaineering organisations. It functions in accordance with these Articles of Association and is governed by the provisions of the Swiss Civil Code (Art. 60 and subsequent Articles).
2) The UIAA is the global authority for climbing and mountain sports throughout the world and is recognized as such by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
3) The UIAA maintains political and religious neutrality and does not tolerate any form of discrimination.
4) These Articles are supplemented by Standing Rules, which are appended hereto, and which may be referred to in these Articles.

II. SEAT

Article 2

1) The seat of the UIAA is in Bern, Switzerland.
2) The headquarters and the secretariat of the UIAA may be located in a country other than Switzerland, upon the decision of the Management Board.

III. MISSION

Article 3

1) The mission of the UIAA is:
    a) To lead the climbing and mountaineering movement
    b) To gather all countries that have a competent national federation for climbing and mountaineering committed to complying with UIAA statutes and regulations
    c) To govern climbing and mountaineering competitions throughout the world
    d) To advocate for and implement a global culture of equity, ensuring mountaineering is an inclusive pursuit that reflects the diversity of the world's population

The UIAA is working in favour of practice of climbing and mountaineering in the spirit of its traditions, the requirement of the Olympic Charter and the current tendencies in the world sports development.

IV. PURPOSES AND TASKS

Article 4

1) The UIAA will:

a) Consolidate and improve its position as the worldwide representative of all climbing and mountaineering organisations, without interfering in the internal matters of its member organisations, independently of any political, governmental, philosophical or denominational influence and without financial gain;

b) Support member organisations in their climbing, mountaineering and mountain sport activities; it seeks for solutions to all issues of international importance;

c) Serve as a permanent forum for member federations and seek durable relations between its associated member organisations;

d) Promote and develop climbing, mountaineering and mountain sports, as activities with specific high human and social values, especially for youth, through education and training;

e) Urge its member organisations to extend to the members of other member organisations the benefits granted to their own members according to the principle of reciprocity;

f) Encourage the development of best practice in climbing, mountaineering and other mountain sports;

g) Research into and distribute information on mountain medicine;

h) Specify safety standards for mountaineering equipment and techniques;

i) Promote responsible access and conservation of mountain areas and promote awareness of, and respect for, the environment among all users of mountain terrain;

j) Liaise with other relevant organisations;

k) Promote and ensure the equitable involvement of women, athletes, and representatives from all continents and underrepresented groups; the General Assembly may establish and monitor minimum representation quotas to ensure systemic inclusion.

V. OPERATING PRINCIPLES

Article 5

1) The UIAA encourages, develops and supports the practice of all climbing, mountaineering and mountain sports in the international world-wide field. It represents climbing and mountaineering to all international organisations.

2) The UIAA governs and develops climbing and mountaineering sports which are recognised by the General Assembly in the full respect of the other international federations' rights.

3) The UIAA supports regional and/or continental organisations upon request of any such organisations, but within the limits and under the rules decided by the General Assembly.
4) The UIAA will concentrate its policies and activities at a global level. All matters which could be handled by member organisations should be done by those.
5) The UIAA shall not undertake any activity which is more effectively done by its member organisations.
6) The UIAA will comply with the rules or regulations relating to anti-doping rules set by the International Olympic Committee and other appropriate international organisations.
7) Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with UIAA. The UIAA shall conduct a biennial diversity audit of its leadership and bodies to identify and address gaps in representation.

VI. MEMBERS

Article 6

1) The UIAA has the following members:
   a) Active members (with voting rights): any climbing and mountaineering organisation of national importance and with significant membership can become a member with voting rights. For each country, only one climbing and mountaineering organisation has the right of vote.
   b) Associate members without voting rights with the exception of the right to vote in financial matters (in accordance with Article 11): further climbing and mountaineering organisations of a country may become members without voting rights provided they are of national or relevant regional importance. A decision on the admission of such organisations will only be made after consultation with the member organisation with the voting rights of the relevant country and having due regard to that organisation's comments.

      If the applying organisation is also a member or a section of a current UIAA member organisation with voting rights (Active member), the approval of the Active member is mandatory for the admission as an associate member.
   c) Observer members: national, multinational, transregional or other climbing and mountaineering organisations and institutions that are engaged in the study of mountains, mountain protection or similar activities may be admitted as observer members without the right to vote.
   d) Unit members: International competition federations with their own juridical personality which include the name "UIAA" in their names if the Plenary Assembly of the Unit member approves, and act in the spirit of, and in accordance with, the statutes of the UIAA can become unit members. Unit members have no voting rights, but have a seat on the Management Board, without voting rights. Unit members must pay an annual membership fee which is fixed by the General Assembly. UIAA

will support the unit members and act for them towards other international organisations. Representation to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the related organisations is the task of the UIAA President with the President of the Unit member.

2) Statutes and activities of all member organisations may not contradict the Articles of Association of the UIAA.

3) The Standing Rules may state further criteria for admission to membership.

Article 7

Obligations of Members

1) The members of the UIAA have the following obligations:

   a) All member organisations and other members shall comply with these Articles of Association and are obliged to comply with appropriate resolutions adopted by the UIAA bodies.

   b) The members agree to respect their mutual autonomy and in no way to harm the development of the other members. This obligation has to be strictly observed by foreign sections as well as by their parent organisation. In particular, the members cannot found sections abroad without the expressed permission of the national organisation representing the concerned country within the UIAA.

   c) All member organisations and unit members shall pay their membership fees in full within the period fixed for payment.

2) The Management Board shall approve the annual membership fee table, calculated in accordance with the formula adopted by the General Assembly (Annex 1, 3(g), at its April -May meeting. The UIAA shall publish the approved annual membership fee table for the following calendar year to all Member Federations 30 days after this meeting. Invoices for membership fees shall be issued in the first 2 months of each calendar year.

3) Admission fee: to be paid only once to obtain initial membership; this admission fee will be lost with the membership's loss;

4) Membership fee: the fees to be paid by all members will be fixed by the General Assembly. The calculation methods will be determined in the Standing Rules.

5) All member organisations shall report every 4 years or on request of the UIAA Treasurer to the UIAA Office, with appropriate documentation such as an annual report or accounts, the number of their individual members as of the end of the prior calendar year. At request of the Treasurer, membership statistics must be provided in English. Individual members are counted as those physical persons who are registered members of the member organization and/or its associated clubs or federations.

6) Member organisations that do not have direct or indirect physical members shall be treated as member organisations with 4,001 physical members.

7) If any member organisation, despite written reminder, does not comply with Article 7.5 its number of members will be determined at the reasonable discretion of the Management Board.

VII. BODIES

Article 8

The UIAA functions through the following bodies, each with separately defined powers and duties:

a) General Assembly
b) Management Board
c) Executive Committee
d) Auditors
e) Court
f) Commissions
g) Self-governing units
h) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Staff

VIII. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 9

1) The General Assembly is the supreme body of the UIAA. It convenes every year. Organisation of the General Assembly shall be entrusted alternately to one of the member organisations.
2) Every member organisation is entitled to be represented at the General Assembly.
3) Notice calling a General Assembly must be sent to all member organisations at least 3 months prior to the date set for that General Assembly.
4) The Executive Committee must call an extraordinary General Assembly on request of the Management Board or on written application of one-fifth of the member organisations entitled to vote. Such a General Assembly must be convened within 3 months of the date a valid request has been made and the full agenda must be sent not later than 2 months before the date set. Any such General Assembly will be located and organised by the Executive Committee.

Article 10

Powers of the General Assembly

The General Assembly has the following duties and powers:

a) to elect and dismiss the President, the members of the Executive Committee, the members of the Management Board, the President of the UIAA Court and the members of the UIAA Court, and the Auditors;

b) to fix membership and admission fees;

c) to decide on admission and expulsion of members on the recommendation of the Management Board, neither such decision requiring justification;

d) to approve of plans for future activities;

e) to elect Honorary Members. To be adopted, such a proposal must receive the approval of 75% of the vote cast;

f) to adopt and amend the Articles of Association and to dissolve the UIAA, such decisions needing a quorum and majority as described in Article 11;

g) to decide which sports the UIAA recognises and governs and to create self-governed operating units (hereinafter referred to as ''operating unit(s)'') for these sports;

h) unless otherwise delegated to another UIAA body, to adopt and amend the Standing Rules, Regulations and Terms of Reference;

i) to receive, discuss and approve the President's report;

j) to review and approve the annual accounts after having heard the report of the auditors and to give discharge to the Management Board;

k) to approve the UIAA budget and the budgets of operating units;

l) to make a final decision on the acceptance of the text of any declaration to be published in the name of the UIAA;

m) to make a final decision about all questions presented to it by other bodies of the UIAA;

n) to decide all matters which no other body is competent to decide.

Article 11

Voting Rights

1) At any General Assembly, each member organisation shall be represented by one delegate, who may be assisted by one or two advisors.

2) In general matters, the active members have 1 (one) vote.

3) In matters concerned with membership and admission fees (Article 10. b), annual accounts (Article 10. j) and budget (Article 10. k), if different Organisations are united in a Federation, this Federation will have full voting rights.

   The Organisations in the Federation, who are themselves also UIAA members, will have voting rights calculated dividing by 3 the voting rights corresponding to their number of members, with a minimum of 1 (one) and rounding the result to the next integer (see table below).

Minimum	Maximum	Regular UIAA members	For organisations united in other federations, with reduction in fees to 1/3
0	1000	1	1
1001	3500	2	1

3501	9000	3	1
9001	16000	4	1
16001	30000	5	2
30001	42000	6	2
42001	61000	7	2
61001	95000	8	3
95001	135000	9	3
135001	175000	10	3
175001	215000	11	4
215001	256000	12	4
256001	340000	13	4
340001	440000	14	5
440001	540000	15	5
540001	640000	16	5
640001	800000	17	6
800001	1000000	18	6
1000001	1500000	19	6
1500001	2000000	20	7
2000001		21	7

4) If several member organizations of the same nation are members of the UIAA, the member organization entitled to vote is designated as follows:
   a) by decision taken at the time of admission by the General Assembly;
   b) if no such decision was taken, the right to vote is held by the member organization that first joined the UIAA,
   c) by voluntary agreement between the member organizations in question, the right to vote may be attributed deviating from a) or b) above. Such agreement is to be communicated in writing to the President prior to the General Assembly.

   A review of national membership and entitlement to vote can be decided by the General Assembly with a qualified majority.

5) A member organisation which has not paid its dues in full prior to the General Assembly is not entitled to exercise any vote.

6) Any member organisation may be represented by the delegate of another member organisation being duly entitled to vote by means of a written proxy. Such proxies must be submitted to the Office of the UIAA no later than 1 day prior to the meeting. One delegate may not represent more than two other member organisations at the same time.

7) Amendment of these Articles of Association and dissolution of the UIAA may only be considered if such items are fully described in the agenda circulated prior to the General Assembly and if at least half of the member organisations with voting rights are present or represented. To be adopted, such items must receive the approval of two thirds of the votes cast.

8) For all other decisions of the General Assembly there is no quorum. Decisions are taken by a majority of votes cast.

9) Voting at the General Assembly is conducted by show of hands. Upon the request of any delegate, supported by at least one other delegate, any vote must be taken by secret written ballot.

10) Decisions of the General Assembly may also be made by written or electronic correspondence, in accordance with Standing Rules approved by the General Assembly.

11) Any member organisation may contest resolutions of the General Assembly that violate the law, these Articles of Association or the Standing Rules, and to which it has not consented, within one month of receiving notice thereof, by appeal to the Court at the seat of the UIAA. The minutes of the General Assembly shall be published on the UIAA website, the date of the publication constitutes the start of the period of one month mentioned above. The notification of publication will be sent to the last e-mail address of member recorded on UIAA database.

Article 12

Agenda and the Right to Introduce Proposals

1) Items for inclusion on the agenda of any General Assembly may be presented by:
   a) any member organisation;
   b) the Management Board;
   c) the Executive Committee;
   d) the Auditors, within the bounds of their competence;
   e) any President of a UIAA Commission within the bounds of their competence

2) Any such item shall be submitted to the UIAA Office at least 4 weeks before the General Assembly.

3) The full agenda shall be sent to the individual member organisations at least 2 weeks before the General Assembly.

4) Upon affirmative vote of no less than two-thirds of the votes cast in accordance with Article 11, the General Assembly itself may add items to the agenda of any meeting. Additional items shall be considered at the end of the agenda.

IX. THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Article 13

The Management Board shall consist of the following officers:

a) President
b) Vice-President
c) Treasurer
d) General Secretary
e) The member (or members) of the Executive Committee; elected under Article 19 1)

f) Three representatives from the five largest Member organisations
g) One representative from each continent (North America, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania)
h) Three to five representatives elected by the General Assembly.
i) One representative of each unit member, without voting rights

Article 14

1) Candidates standing for election to any position in the Management Board shall be nominated by the member organisation of which they are a member.

2) A Commission President, Commission Vice-Presidents or a Commission member may stand for election to any position in the Management Board if nominated by a UIAA member, of which they are a member. If elected to the Management Board, the nominee's term as a Commission President, Commission Vice-President or a full Commission member shall end 30 days after their election to the Management Board. The Management Board must replace the Commission President or Commission Vice President at its next meeting following the individual's end of term.

3) The members of the Management Board are personally elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years.

4) Management Board members are eligible for re-election for two further consecutive terms.

5) If any person so elected fails to attend two consecutive meetings, the General Assembly can declare their seat vacant.

Article 15

The Management Board is responsible for implementing all the policy directives and decisions made by the General Assembly. This includes in particular:

a) to prepare the agenda of the General Assembly;

b) to prepare the annual accounts (consisting of the profit and loss statement and the balance sheet);

c) to make recommendations to the General Assembly about:

   1) the long-term strategies of the UIAA;

   2) regulations, rules and terms of reference to be decided by the General Assembly;

   3) the admission and expulsion of member organisations;

   4) the UIAA's and operating units' budgets and annual accounts;

d) to decide upon the creation and dissolution and the tasks of Commissions and to elect a President and Vice President of each Commission upon recommendation of the Commission itself;

e) to elect the President and Board Members of operating units as stated in the respective terms of reference;

f) to recommend any proposed changes to these Articles of Association;

g) to decide on membership issues between General Assemblies

h) to decide the official means of information of the UIAA.

Article 16

The Management Board will meet at least twice a year. The organisation of its meetings shall be entrusted alternately to one of the member organisations.

Article 17

A calling notice for in-person Management Board meetings will be sent 12 weeks before the meeting, for online meetings 4 weeks before the meeting. The Agenda for the Management Board meetings shall be prepared by the Executive Committee. However, any member of the Management Board is entitled to present proposals for the agenda. Such proposals must be submitted, with relevant documentation, at least 2 weeks before the date set for any Management Board meeting. The full agenda shall be sent by the Executive Committee to the Management Board members at least 1 week prior to the meeting date.

Article 18

Every member of the Management Board has one vote. All decisions of the Management Board are taken by majority of the members present, and no voting rights may be exercised by proxy. The President has the casting vote. The quorum of the Management Board consists of a majority of its members.

X. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 19

1) The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members, designated as follows:
   a) President
   b) Vice-President
   c) Treasurer
   d) General Secretary
   e) up to three other persons elected by the General Assembly
2) The duties and responsibilities of all members of the Executive Committee except those of the President, will be assigned by the Executive Committee internally.
3) The Executive Committee is responsible for carrying out all those routine duties and specific tasks that have to be fulfilled between meetings of the Management Board. This includes in particular:
   a) to undertake administrative duties and tasks;
   b) to supervise and co-ordinate the work of the Commissions;
   c) to control finances;

d) to initiate and undertake negotiations with third parties.

4) All statements and contracts which bind the UIAA must be signed by the President and one other member of the Executive Committee. In case of absence, the President may delegate to another member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee can determine other persons with specific authorisation to sign and regulate the kind of signatory power.

   a) The CEO is authorised to sign individually for all operational statements and contracts up to a value set by the Executive Committee from time to time.

   b) For all operational statements and contracts which bind the UIAA exceeding the value set by the Executive Committee for the CEO from time to time, signatures are required from the President and one other member of the Executive Committee, or the President and the CEO.

   c) Notwithstanding (a), where the CEO has a personal relationship with, or other potential conflict of interest in respect of, the counterparty to a statement or contract, the CEO shall not sign individually regardless of value, and the statement or contract shall instead be signed jointly by the CEO and the President.

   d) In case of absence, the President may delegate these signatory powers to other members of the Executive Committee.

   e) The Executive Committee can determine other persons with specific authorisation to sign and regulate the kind of signatory power, including temporary adjustments to the financial thresholds.

5) The Executive Committee is overseeing the work of the CEO and appointing and removing the CEO.

Article 20

1) The Executive Committee meets as often as business requires. Decisions are taken by a simple majority, and the President shall have a casting vote in case of a tie.

2) The Executive Committee may take decisions by correspondence and/or by any other means of communication. To be valid, decisions taken in this way have to be approved by a minimum of 4 members.

XI. THE PRESIDENT

Article 21

1) The President represents the UIAA in all external matters. They chair all meetings of the General Assembly, the Management Board and the Executive Committee.

2) The President, or their nominee from the Management Board or the Executive Committee, is entitled to attend and participate in all Commission meetings, but without the right to vote.

3) The President may delegate various aspects of their duties to other members of the Management Board, the Executive Committee or to the CEO.

4) In case of death, incapacity or resignation of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents shall assume their duties until the next General Assembly. Should the Vice-President in turn be unable to fulfil their obligations, the other Vice-President or the member of the Executive Committee who has served on the Committee the longest shall assume their duties and convene an extraordinary General Assembly in order to elect appropriate replacements.

5) The President shall be entitled to hold the office up to a maximum of 8 (eight) consecutive years.

XII. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

Article 22

1) The Executive Committee appoints a CEO, who shall:
   a) oversee the day-to-day office operations and delegate such duties to staff as are required for efficient and effective UIAA operations,
   b) hire, discharge, and manage UIAA staff,
   c) assist the Treasurer in preparing and administering the UIAA budget including determining the salaries and other compensation of all UIAA staff members under the CEO's supervision,
   d) maintain any UIAA property and assets,
   e) work with the Management Board, Executive Committee, the Commissions and operating units in implementing the organisation's strategic goals,
   f) make such reports to the Management Board and Executive Committee as requested by the President or the Management Board,
   g) be an ad-hoc member of all Commissions and operating units, without voting rights
   h) represent the UIAA as directed by the President, and
   i) perform such additional duties as may be directed by the Executive Committee.

2) The CEO shall serve at the will of the Executive Committee and shall be appointed and may be removed by the Executive Committee on recommendation of the President.

3) The specific duties and responsibilities of the CEO shall be outlined in a separate policy or job description approved by the Executive Committee on recommendation of the President.

4) The CEO shall report directly to the Management Board through the President and provide regular updates on the organisation's activities and progress. No officer, Executive Committee member or Management Board member may individually instruct the CEO or any other employee except through the President.

5) The President shall conduct at least annual evaluations of the CEO's performance based on mutually agreed-upon criteria and shall provide the results of such evaluation to the Management Board each year by at least one in camera session of the Management Board.

6) The compensation and benefits of the CEO shall be determined by the Executive Committee and shall be reviewed annually and shall be commensurate with the responsibilities and qualifications of the position. Any conflicts of interest relating to the compensation and benefits of the CEO shall be disclosed and addressed in accordance with the organisation's conflict of interest policy.

XIII. THE AUDITORS

Article 23

The General Assembly shall appoint professional external auditors for a period of 2 years. The auditors are eligible for reappointment. They shall audit the accounts and report in writing to the General Assembly.

XIV. JUDICIAL BODIES

Article 24: UIAA Court

1) The General Assembly shall elect the Court President and up to 7 members to the UIAA Court.
2) The members of the UIAA Court are elected for a term of four years. They may be re-elected for two further terms, up to a maximum of twelve consecutive years. The Court President is elected for a term of four years and may serve a maximum of twelve consecutive years in that function. A person who has served the maximum period may be elected again only after an interval of four years.
3) The UIAA Court decides its own regulations about:
   a) conflicts of competence and other possible disputes between the UIAA, UIAA Members and bodies;
   b) disputes between UIAA member organisations.
4) Any dispute arising with in UIAA shall be brought to the UIAA Court first before executing Article 25.

Article 25

Any dispute arising from these Articles of Association, other rules and regulations, and decisions of the UIAA which cannot be settled by the UIAA internal appeal process shall be definitively settled by a tribunal constituted in accordance with the Statutes and Procedural Rules of the Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland. The parties concerned shall undertake to comply with the Statutes and Procedural Rules of this Court of Arbitration for Sport and to accept and enforce its decision in good faith.

XV. COMMISSIONS

Article 26

1) The Management Board may appoint Commissions for special tasks or to serve in fields requiring specific expertise. The mandate of each Commission shall be reviewed by the Management Board at least once every four years to determine its continued validity and effectiveness.
2) The Commissions have both an advisory function to the Management Board and a duty to perform the tasks assigned to them. Every Commission shall submit annually, through the CEO, a report describing its activities in the previous year and its program for the current year. The deadline for submitting such reports shall be set by the CEO. Every Commission shall also submit its accounts and budget in a manner to be prescribed by the Treasurer.
3) Commission Presidents are elected by the Management Board for a term of four (4) years and are eligible for re-election for two (2) further consecutive terms. No Commission President who has served the maximum term of 12 consecutive years shall be eligible for reappointment until at least four (4) years have elapsed from the termination of their last term.
4) The Presidents of the Commissions may attend the Management Board meetings preceding the annual General Assemblies as well as these General Assemblies.
5) Members of all Commissions shall serve without compensation for renewable terms of four years. Every member organisation has the right to propose nominees. The names of all nominees shall be submitted to the Management Board.
6) All full members of all Commissions shall have one vote in their Commission meetings. However, in cases where more than one member from the same country is part of a Commission, only one vote shall be allowed per country.
7) All Commissions shall organise their own work. Each Commission may recommend to the Management Board the President and the Vice President to be appointed to that Commission.
8) Except for the 30-days as set out in Article 14.2, no member of the Management Board may also serve as Commission President, Vice-President or full member while serving as a member of the Management Board.

XVI. WORLD ICE CLIMBING OPERATING UNIT

Article 27

1) The UIAA is the sole and exclusive international body recognized by the International Olympic Committee IOC governing Ice Climbing competitions worldwide.
2) The UIAA General Assembly establishes a competitive Ice Climbing operating unit to be known as World Ice Climbing for the purpose of governing, directing, regulating,

promoting, developing and the general furtherance of competitive Ice Climbing (its "Objects").

3) World Ice Climbing operates on a self-guided and self-governed basis and on behalf of the UIAA as beneficial owner will administer, apply, preserve and develop the competitive Ice Climbing assets and funds of the UIAA.

4) World Ice Climbing has its own Terms of Reference (Annex 4). World Ice Climbing may recommend changes as are required to fulfil its objects so long as the amended Terms of Reference:

   a) are consistent with the UIAA Articles of Association, and
   b) define the mandate, composition, authority, and reporting mechanisms of World Ice Climbing to ensure transparency, accountability, and adherence to the UIAA and IOC values and policies.

XVII. MISCELLANEOUS

Article 28

Voluntary Functions

1) The activities of all bodies of the UIAA, except the auditor, CEO, staff and independently contracted entities are conducted without compensation to the individuals who serve thereon, unless authorised otherwise by a specific Standing Rule or vote of the General Assembly.

2) The expenses of all those who serve on any body, Commission or operating unit of the UIAA with the exception of those of the members of the Executive Committee shall be borne by the member organisation that the individual represents, unless authorised otherwise by the Standing Rules or specific vote of the General Assembly.

Article 29

Honorary Membership

Persons who have rendered outstanding services to the cause of mountains, climbing and mountaineering, or the UIAA may be elected as Honorary Members (refer to Annex 2 for details).

Article 30

Minutes

1) Accurate minutes shall be kept of all meetings of all UIAA bodies, Commissions and operating unit. For any meeting of each such body, Commission or operating unit, a minute-keeper, who does not need to be a member of that body, shall be designated. Upon their approval, the presiding member of that body and the minute-keeper shall sign all such minutes, and a copy shall be made available to every member of the relevant body and the UIAA Office (for the Management Board).

2) The minutes of the General Assemblies and Management Board meetings shall be published on the UIAA website.

Article 31

Financial

1) All planned UIAA revenues and expenditures shall be reconciled in the annual budget, and all UIAA bodies, Commissions and operating units shall be obliged to conform to the budget approved by the General Assembly.
2) All dues receivable from the member organisations must be paid in full by the end of April of each calendar year.
3) The financial year of the UIAA shall be the calendar year.

Article 32

Withdrawal of Members

1) Any member organisation wishing to terminate its membership at the end of a year must inform the UIAA Office in writing before the first of August of that year. Fees for the current year remain payable in full.
2) Member organisations which, despite warning, act in a manner disruptive of, or contrary to, these Articles of Association or to the harmony and best interests of the UIAA, will be expelled by vote of the General Assembly on recommendation of the Management Board. In addition, member organisations which have not complied with their obligation to pay dues will be expelled by resolution of the General Assembly.

Article 33

Liability

The UIAA is only liable for obligations of the organisation itself. The personal liability of every member for obligations of the UIAA is excluded.

Article 34

Dissolution

In case of the dissolution of the UIAA, all its assets shall be liquidated and the balance, after payment of all debts, shall be transferred to an institution with its legal seat in Switzerland and with a same or comparable public or non-profit making purpose. A distribution of the assets among the member organisations is excluded.

Article 35

Language

1) The official language for the UIAA is English.

2) Delegates in the General Assembly may speak in their own language, provided they arrange, at their own cost, for their speeches to be translated into English.

Article 36

Publications

1) The UIAA website is the official means of information of the UIAA.
2) Communications within and between the different bodies of UIAA and with the members will be conducted by electronic means, provided they are reliable and effective.

Article 37

Enactment

These Articles of Association and their complementary Standing Rules will come into effect on January 1, 2009.

Adopted by the General Assembly on 18 October 2008 in Tehran / I.R. of Iran
Amended by the General Assembly on 9 October 2010 in Bormio / Italy
Amended by the General Assembly on 8 October 2011 in Kathmandu / Nepal
Amended by the General Assembly on 13 October 2012 in Amsterdam/ Netherlands
Amended by the General Assembly on 23rd October 2015 in Seoul / South Korea
Amended by the General Assembly on 2nd November 2019 in Larcana / Cyprus
Amended by the General Assembly on 21 October 2023 in Trabzon / Turkey
Amended by the General Assembly on 9 November 2024 in Malta
Amended by the General Assembly on 25 October 2025 in Kosovo
Amended by the General Assembly on 31 October 2026 in Kathmandu / Nepal





Peter Muir
UIAA President

Amit Chowdhury
UIAA General Secretary

ANNEX 1 - STANDING RULES

1. Mandate

No person serving on any UIAA body, except members of the Executive Committee, shall continue to occupy any such position if their parent association revokes such mandate.

2. Admission criteria

1) Prior to full admission to the UIAA, any applicant association must demonstrate with credible evidence the association's existence for a minimum of two years.
2) In the case that an applicant association is a split-off of a member organisation, the existing member association must be consulted and has the right to veto the admission within five years of the secession.
3) The applicant association has to provide all information in the official language of the UIAA, and in the format as required by the Executive Committee.
4) Applications will only be processed after a deposit of CHF 500. (Five-hundred Swiss Francs) by the applicant association. In case of admission, this amount will be credited toward the associate membership fees the admission year. In case of rejection of the admission request, CHF 250. (Two-hundred-fifty Swiss Francs) will be returned to the applicant association.

3. Membership fees

1) The membership fees are based on the following principles:

Publication and Payment Schedule:

- Approved by: Management Board, MB meeting (April-May)
- Published to Member Federations 30 days after said MB meeting
- Invoices issued: January-February (following year)

a) Fees are based on the number of members of each association
b) The levels are determined as in the following table
c) Minimum membership fee is CHF 535
d) For each change of level, fees are multiplied by a balanced factor
e) Linear interpolation will be applied within each level
f) Fee scale will be reviewed every four years to ensure fairness, financial sustainability, and alignment with the federation's strategic goals.
g) The membership fee for each calendar year shall be determined using the following formula, with the 2026 fee scale as the baseline and an annual increase of 0.5% applied to that baseline:

Breakpoint table: This table lists the membership number thresholds and their corresponding fees for the baseline year of 2026.

Members (x)	Fee (y) in CHF

0	535
150	860
300	1,380
1,000	2,330
4,000	3,740
16,000	5,950
65,000	9,600
250,000	15,000
1,000,000	24,000
2,000,000	26,000
> 2,000,000	26,000 (flat)

Use the following formula to calculate for any value of x falling between two consecutive breakpoints.

$$f(x) = y_{\text{low}} + \frac{y_{\text{high}} - y_{\text{low}}}{x_{\text{high}} - x_{\text{low}}} \times (x - x_{\text{low}})$$

Where,

$x_{\text{low}}, y_{\text{low}}$ = the largest threshold **at or below** x, and its fee

$x_{\text{high}}, y_{\text{high}}$ = the next threshold **above** x, and its fee

2) For financial reasons or other causes, a variation factor in form of a global percentage may be applied to the above fees if approved by the General Assembly.

4. Transition Rules

These Articles of Association and their complementary Standing Rules will come into effect commencing on January 1, 2009.

ANNEX 2 – UIAA POLICY CONCERNING HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

1. Selection criteria

Persons who have rendered outstanding services to the cause of mountains, climbing and mountaineering, or the UIAA may be elected as Honorary Members (AoA, Art. 29)

a) Outstanding services are those involving extraordinary personal commitment, and which fall outside the scope of a mission or normal (paid) working relationship. Honorary recognition is given to exemplary services which have the effect of promoting and enriching the UIAA's basic concerns or areas of activity.

b) Services rendered to the mountain cause include in particular:

- protection of the mountain world in general
- promotion of high ethical standards in climbing and mountaineering, without causing damage to the human or natural environment
- protection of the mountain world in the more specific fields of research, art, and literature
- publications related to the mountain area

c) Services to climbing and mountaineering include in particular:

- extraordinary mountain activities
- extraordinary achievements in the field of climbing and mountaineering technology or mountain safety

2. Selection process

a) Nominations

- Nominations can be made by any member federation of the UIAA as well as the members of the Management Board.
- Nominations must be accompanied by the explanations supporting the nominations.
- Nominations shall reach the Management Board by submission of supporting documents at a MB meeting before the MB meeting at the GA.

b) Assessment

The Management Board will assess the nominations, at the meeting defined in (2a.), and recommend Honorary Membership candidates to the annual General Assembly in October. The Management Board has the right not to accept any of the nominees for the award. For a recommendation by the Management Board to the General Assembly, a 75% majority of votes cast by a secret ballot is required for each candidate.

c) Decision and announcement

Honorary membership should not be controversial in any way, so a strong majority is required. Each candidate recommended by the Management Board will be awarded Honorary member if 75% of the votes of the General Assembly (present or represented) are in favour of the proposal. Therefore, abstentions will be counted as not supporting the proposal. As a principle, and according to the UIAA Guidelines for Elections, such elections of persons shall be done by a secret ballot.

3. Recognition

a) Honorary Members shall be invited to attend all future General Assemblies as guests, without voting rights, including the official dinner.
b) Invitations shall be issued by the UIAA Office as part of the standard General Assembly notification process.
c) Upon election, Honorary Members shall receive a form of recognition, determined by the UIAA Office in consultation with the President.

ANNEX 3 – UIAA REGULATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

1. Aim

These regulations aim to set rules for the preparation and execution of all elections within the framework of the UIAA.

2. Elections by the General Assembly

2.1. Positions

Elected by the General Assembly are the President, the members of the Executive Committee, the members of the Management Board, the President and the members of the Court, and Honorary Members.

2.2. Re-election

A person running for re-election for a position named in 2.1. has to reconfirm the candidacy 4 weeks before the date of the election.

2.3. Nomination of a new candidate

A proposal for a candidate for a position named in 2.1 has to meet the following conditions:

- It must be submitted to the UIAA office 4 weeks before the General Assembly.
- It can only be submitted by a UIAA member federation, and it must be signed by the President or the General Secretary.
- It must be made by means of the UIAA nomination form (available on the UIAA website)
- It must indicate clearly the position for which the candidate is running.
- It must contain a short CV/resume of the candidate. A short personal statement of the candidate is optional.

2.4. List of the candidates

The office puts together a list of the candidates (incl. persons running for re-election). The list shall be made available to the member federations at least 2 weeks before the General Assembly (as part of the full agenda; Art. 12.3 AoA). At the same time the CVs/resumes of the candidates will be made available on the UIAA website.

2.5. Election procedure

Only persons who are on the list of the candidates can be elected. Presenting a candidate at the General Assembly is only possible:

- In the event that no or not enough candidates have been presented before the meeting (in accordance with Article 2.2 and 2.3 above) and
- With the approval of a 2/3 majority of the valid votes.

First the President is elected, then the members of the Executive Committee, then the members of the Management Board and then the President and the members of the Court and Honorary members. Candidates can be asked to leave the meeting-room during discussion and election.

As a principle, elections of persons shall be done by a secret ballot. However, if there are exactly as many candidates as seats, the election can be done openly and collectively, unless there is a request for a secret ballot.

Elected is the candidate who achieved the simple majority of votes (50% of the valid votes). If necessary, there is a second voting round where the candidate with the highest number of votes is elected. If there is a tie of votes the decision is made by fortune.

2.6 Election of Honorary members

The election of an honorary member shall be in accordance with Art. 10.e and Annex 2 of the Articles of Association.

3. Elections by the Management Board

3.1. Functions

The Management Board elects the Commission Presidents, Commission Vice-Presidents, the members of the Commissions, the President and Board Members of operating units as stated in the respective terms of reference.

3.2. Nomination

A proposal for a candidate for Commission or operating unit (Vice) Presidency or Commission or operating unit membership has to meet the following conditions:

- The nomination must be submitted to the UIAA office 4 weeks before the election.
- Following the existing regulations for Commissions (SOP-0801), the right to make a recommendation for (Vice) President belongs to the respective commission.
- It must be made by means of the UIAA nomination form (available on the UIAA website).
- It must indicate clearly the position for which the candidate is running.
- It must contain a short CV/resume of the candidate, in which the specific skills of the candidate in relation to the Commissions' work are stipulated. A short personal statement of the candidate is optional.

3.3. Election procedure

The rules in 2.5 apply correspondingly.

Approved by the Management Committee of the UIAA in Paris on 14th May 2011

ANNEX 4 – WORLD ICE CLIMBING TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Name

"World Ice Climbing" (hereinafter referred to as "World Ice") is a self-governing operating unit of the UIAA and governed in accordance with these terms of reference.

2. Objects and Fundamental Principles

a) The objects of World Ice Climbing are as defined in Article 27 of the Articles of Association of the UIAA and being governing, directing, regulating, promoting, developing, and the general furtherance of the sport of competition ice climbing (the "Objects").

b) World Ice Climbing is the sole and exclusive international body governing Ice Climbing competitions worldwide.

c) In all its activities, World Ice Climbing will observe the statutes, regulations, directives and budgets of the UIAA International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation.

d) World Ice will maintain a regular structured dialogue with the ice climbing community and will take their input into account when making decisions and recommendations when- and wherever possible.

e) World Ice does not pursue a profit-making purpose but may make and retain such surpluses as are in the best interests of its Objects.

f) World Ice is denominationally, politically and religiously neutral.

3. Board of Directors

a) World Ice is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of five members.

Except for as provided under c) and d) directors are eligible to be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

b) Except as hereinafter set out, no extension of eligibility of a director is permitted without the consent of the UIAA Management Board by two thirds majority vote and no extension is permitted beyond one period of four years.

c) Directors elected by the UIAA Management Board
The President and two members of the Board shall be elected by the Management Board of the UIAA upon nomination of any member of the UIAA. The Management Board may consider recommendations from World Ice Climbing.

In the initial year of World Ice Climbing:

a. The President shall be elected for a two-year term, and at the end of the two-year term is eligible to be elected for two additional four-year terms.
b. One member shall be elected for a three-year term, and at the end of the three-year of the term is eligible to be elected for one additional four-year term.
c. One member shall be elected for a four-year term, and at the end of the four-year of the term is eligible to be elected for one additional four-year term.

d) Directors elected by the Athlete Committee
Two directors shall be elected by a vote of the members of the Athlete Committee:
   a. One active male athlete will be elected for a two-year term, and at the end of the two-year of the term are eligible to be elected for two additional four-year terms
   b. One active female athlete will be elected for a two-year term, and at the end of the two-year of the term are eligible to be elected for two additional four-year terms

e) The Chief Executive Officer of the UIAA or their designate shall be an exofficio member of the Board of Directors but for clarity shall not have any vote on the Board of Directors.

f) Except for the Chief Executive Officer of the UIAA or their designate, a member of the Board of Directors shall serve as a director:

   a. For their term, or
   b. Until they resign, are removed or die, in which case,
      i. If the departed director is a UIAA Management Board director, the UIAA Management Board may elect, by electronic vote if required, a replacement director for a period equal to the balance of the term of the departed director and at the end of the replacement term, the replacement director shall be eligible to be elected for two further four-year terms.
      ii. If the departed director is an athlete director, the members of the Athlete Commission may elect, by electronic vote if required, a replacement director for a period equal to the balance of the term of the departed director and at the end of the replacement term, the replacement director shall be eligible to be elected for two further four-year terms.

g) The Board of Directors meets at the invitation of the President as often as business requires. Any member of the Board of Directors may request a meeting or agenda items, stating the reasons.

h) Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be convened in writing or by email at least 7 days in advance.

i) A record of the decisions taken at the meetings of the Board of Directors shall be kept.

j) Resolutions passed by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the President may cast the deciding vote. Resolutions may be passed by circular letter or electronically if no member of the Board requests oral deliberation.

4. Board of Directors Competencies

The Board of Directors governs and manages the sport of competition Ice Climbing and oversees the day-to-day operations in accordance with the requirements of Article 27 of the UIAA Articles of Association. The Board of Directors represents World Ice Climbing externally and is responsible:

a) for the issuance and revision of all competition disciplines, rules and regulations concerning the sport of competition Ice Climbing;

b) to approve the annual calendar of international competitions and events, and a multi-year plan for competitions and development events;

c) to create an annual World Ice Climbing budget and oversee the accounts to ensure compliance with the budget as approved by the UIAA General Assembly; to submit those accounts to the UIAA Auditors;

d) to set out the mandate, composition, authority, of the statutory committees and such other committees, working groups, or internal or external experts as are in the Board of Directors discretion required to best meet the objects and best serve competitive Ice Climbing;

e) to define the reporting mechanisms of World Ice Climbing to ensure transparency, accountability and adherence to UIAA and Olympic Movement principles, values and policies;

f) to elect from among its members, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and such other officers as it deems necessary and to set out its duties;

g) to present to the UIAA Management Board and General Assembly a report of its progress not less than twice per year at the UIAA General Assembly and at one of the Management Board meetings.

5. Finances and Liability

a) The funds necessary to achieve the purpose of World Ice Climbing shall be procured:

- by income of all kinds from the organisation of competitions, such as event organizer service fees, licenses, brand and media rights, etc.
- by contributions in cash and/or in kind from affiliated bodies, partners, and sponsors
- from sponsorship received directly by the UIAA and designated for the support of World Ice Climbing in compliance with direction of payment specified by the sponsor
- by contributions from the IOC and other international organisations
- by contributions from public authorities
- through patronage contributions and donations
- through the proceeds of other fundraising activities

b) World Ice Climbing may receive a portion of the total UIAA membership fee income from time to time approved by the General Assembly though the UIAA annual budget (in 2025: 10%).

c) World Ice Climbing will strive to be financially independent and self-sustaining, seeking its own sponsorships, coordinated with similar efforts by the UIAA to ensure a consistent, professional, common face of both the UIAA and World Ice Climbing.

d) The powers of World Ice Climbing shall be limited to the budget as approved by the UIAA General Assembly.

e) Accounting and Financial Year

- The books of World Ice Climbing shall be kept in accordance with commercial principles.
- The financial year corresponds with the calendar year.

6. Operational Principles

a) World Ice shall maintain its head office in Bern, Switzerland, sharing space with the head office of the UIAA.

b) World Ice Climbing operational staff will be hired and managed in accordance with Article 22 of the UIAA Articles of Association.

c) The UIAA Office will provide the following services for Word Ice Climbing at net costs, e.g.:

- Finance: invoicing, payments, accounting, forecasts, closure of accounts, financial reporting
- Staff administration
- Communication, coordinated with activities by the UIAA
- Marketing, coordinated with activities by the UIAA

7. Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of World Ice Climbing its remaining assets shall be transferred to the International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation UIAA.

Committees

1. General Provisions

The activities of World Ice Climbing shall be supported by standing and ad hoc committees established by the Board of Directors as advisory and consultative bodies, based on respective separate Terms of Reference established by the Board of Directors.

The UIAA General Assembly will continue to appoint members of the UIAA Court. The UIAA Court shall serve as an Ethical Committee and an Appeals Committee for World Ice Climbing.

The Chairmen and the committee members of all Sport and Technical Committees are appointed by the Board of Directors of World Ice Climbing. All Sport and Technical Committees will include at least 1 athlete representative.

2. Disciplinary Committee

The Disciplinary Committee investigates and takes appropriate action following any complaint concerning breach of rules (including the Anti-Doping Rules) or misconduct reported to the operating unit of the UIAA. Composition and functioning of the Disciplinary Committee are described in the relevant regulations approved by the Board of Directors.

3. Appeals Committee

The UIAA Court serves as World Ice Climbing Appeals Committee and reviews and decides on appeals related to decisions taken by the Disciplinary Committee, except in doping cases,

where the appeal shall be made directly to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Composition and functioning of the UIAA Court/Appeals Committee are described in the relevant regulations approved by the UIAA General Assembly. Decisions of the Disciplinary Committee in doping cases and decisions of the Appeal Committee may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, in Lausanne, Switzerland. The procedure before the Court of Arbitration for Sport takes place according to its regulations. The decision of the International Court of Arbitration for Sport will be final without the right to further appeal.

4. Athlete's Committee

The Athlete's Committee provides a permanent liaison between active athletes and World Ice Climbing on matters affecting World Ice Climbing from an athlete perspective.

The Athlete's Committee is composed of 5 active athletes. Members of the Athlete's Committee are elected by all active athletes. Composition and functioning of the Athletes' Commission are described in the relevant terms of reference approved by the Board of Directors of World Ice Climbing.

Where the Athletes' Committee appoints more than one member to the Board of Directors, they shall ensure gender parity in appointments and no 2 athletes may be from the same country.

5. Sport and Technical Committees

The Sport and Technical Committees are responsible for the definition and maintenance of the "rules of the game'. In addition, they will define the standards and competencies of:

- Competition rules and regulations
- Event Organizers
- Coaches
- Judges
- Route setters
- Sports Equipment

Approved by the Management Board on 7 September 2024, online