

## **USOC MULTISPORT ORGANIZATIONS COUNCIL**

### **BYLAWS**

#### **ARTICLE I MISSION STATEMENT**

**USOC Mission:** To support United States Olympic and Paralympic athletes in achieving sustained competitive excellence and preserve the Olympic ideals, and thereby inspire all Americans.

**Multi-Sports Organizations Council Mission:** The Mission of the Multi-Sports Organizations Council (“MSOC”) is to grow and sustain the number of Multi-Sports Organizations (“MSOs”), to assist MSOs in developing national interest in their sports, , to expand their chapter networks, and to increase their opportunities for participation and competition nationally, internationally and at the grassroots level. As set forth in Section 16 of the USOC Bylaws, MSOs are defined as Community–Based Multisport Organizations, Education-Based Multisport Organizations, Armed Forces Organizations, Recognized Sport Organizations, Other Sport Organizations and the US Olympians.

#### **ARTICLE II VISION and PURPOSE**

The MSOC vision is to preserve Olympism in the United States, consistent with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act and the USOC Bylaws. As the grassroots foundation within the Olympic Family, the MSOC will facilitate the pursuit of common dreams and values of sport by giving participants, volunteers, and observers the opportunity to be involved in the Olympic Movement.

The MSOC shall have the following purposes:

1. To represent the consensus views of the MSOs to the USOC Board of Directors, USOC management, and the Olympic and Paralympic Assembly.
2. To ensure close cooperation and ongoing communications between the MSOC and other USOC entities such as the National Governing Bodies Council (NGBC) and the Athletes’ Advisory Council (AAC).
3. To recommend to the USOC and MSOs strategies for sharing best practices and bench marking information that may help MSOs to continuously improve the quality of their service and efficiency, in such areas as athlete development programs, governance, finance, marketing, sponsorship, education, dispute resolution, and compliance.

4. To recommend to the USOC and MSOs strategies for collaborative opportunities between the MSOs and the USOC, such as methods for athlete development, health and safety, positive competition, education, training and certification, legal services, facility operation, selection of insurance, website services, and all other products and services essential to the administration and function of MSOs.

### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

Each organization defined as an MSO in Section 16 of USOC Bylaws shall be entitled to have representation on the MSOC. Each MSO shall have the latitude to select whomever it wishes to represent it on the MSOC. It is recommended that MSO representatives meet the following qualifications:

- Have the highest personal values, judgment and integrity, understanding of MSO functions, and Olympic ideals.
- Be committed, willing and available to regularly attend MSOC meetings and to contribute to MSOC goals and objectives.

MSOs shall select MSOC representatives without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin or physical disability.

Each MSO will designate one representative as the “primary” member (with vote) and one representative as the “alternate” member (with voice, but no vote, unless the primary member is absent from the meeting). The USOC may fund the attendance of one MSOC member from each MSO to attend each scheduled MSOC meeting. Attendance by other MSO representatives and/or observers may be funded by the MSO. Attendance at an MSOC meeting is not limited to the primary or alternate member.

The MSOC Secretary shall maintain a current list of MSOC members.

### **ARTICLE IV LEADERSHIP**

The officers of the MSOC shall be the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The officers shall be elected at the MSOC meeting that occurs at the end of the Summer Olympic Quadrennium and which is held in conjunction with the Olympic and Paralympic Assembly. The officers shall be elected by a majority vote from the membership of the MSOC to a four-year term of office. The officers’ term shall commence immediately upon elections. Both the primary and alternate members are eligible for election as officers. Officers may not be from the same MSO.

Officers shall serve without compensation. This provision shall not preclude the reimbursement by the USOC of reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.

Officers shall have the following duties:

- The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the MSOC and of the Executive Committee. He/she shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of all standing and other committees.
- The Vice Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair if the Chair is absent or unable to act, and shall discharge such other duties as may be assigned by the Chair or by vote of the Executive Committee or MSOC.
- The Secretary shall supervise the taking, making and distribution of the minutes of the meeting of the MSOC and the Executive Committee meetings. The Secretary shall keep files of all communications, attest documents and shall discharge such other duties as may be assigned by the Chair or by vote of the Executive Committee or MSOC.

If an officer is removed for cause, resigns, or otherwise leaves office, the officer may be replaced in a special election by the MSOC, to be conducted upon thirty (30) day notice to the members of the MSOC. Such election may be conducted by electronic or mail ballot.

An MSOC officer may be removed for good cause at any time during his/her four (4) year term. Good cause shall mean failure by the officer to carry out his/her duties and responsibilities. A request for removal shall require the petition of twenty-five percent (25%) of the MSOC. Removal of the officer shall require the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the MSOC after the officer has had the opportunity to address the MSOC members at a meeting or teleconference. Before the vote to remove, a notice of the petition to remove and pending vote will be sent to the entire MSOC at least fifteen (15) days before the scheduled meeting or teleconference.

Executive and Nominating Committee members shall provide complete orientation to new MSOC members to include review of both the USOC and MSOC Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE V MEETINGS**

The MSOC shall meet annually in conjunction with the Olympic and Paralympic Assembly. In the interim, the MSOC may meet via teleconferences, electronic communications, and/or attendance at other professional conferences throughout the year. At any meeting of the MSOC, a quorum shall consist of a simple majority of members entitled to vote. At least two (2) days in advance of an MSOC teleconference, notice of that teleconference must be given as appropriate to

members of the MSOC, the Olympic and Paralympic Assembly Liaison and the USOC staff liaison.

Each primary member has one (1) vote at each meeting of the MSOC. If the primary member is absent from the meeting, then the alternate member shall be allowed to vote in the primary members place, having one (1) vote.

The conduct of MSOC meetings shall be in conformity with the current *Roberts Rules of Order*. The Chair may appoint a Parliamentarian. Minutes of the meetings shall be taken by the Secretary or his/her designee and distributed to the MSOC members electronically following the meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI MSOC COMMITTEES**

The Executive Committee of the MSOC shall be comprised of the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, the delegate representing the US Olympians Association and an at-large member appointed by the Chair and ratified by a majority vote of the MSOC. The MSOC Executive Committee shall meet telephonically quarterly, or as needed, to conduct such business as shall come before it consistent with the goals and objectives of the MSOC. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be open to members of the MSOC.

An Advisory Committee shall be named by the Chair subject to confirmation by majority vote of the MSOC. The Advisory Committee shall be composed of five (5) members of the MSOC. None of the Committee members shall be from the same MSO and the Committee shall reflect the diversity of the MSOC. The role of the Advisory Committee shall be to assist the Chair and other MSOC Officers in fulfilling the goals and objectives of the MSOC.

A Nominating Committee shall be named by majority vote of the MSOC. The Nominating Committee shall be composed of five (5) members, two (2) of whom shall be members, but not Officers, of the MSOC. The MSOC shall also, by majority vote, name the Chair of the Nominating Committee. A Nominating Committee member who becomes a candidate for an Officer position shall be replaced.

The Nominating Committee shall recommend a slate of candidates for election as Officers of the MSOC. In making its recommendation, it shall strive for a diverse and representative slate of candidates. The Nominating Committee shall also evaluate a current Officer's commitment, support and participation in his/her duties and responsibilities, if considering to recommend an Officer for re-election. The Nominating Committee shall present its slate of candidates for election as Officers to the Executive Committee, which then approves and forwards the slate to the MSOC members for election.

The Nominating Committee shall cause to be prepared and distributed appropriate ballots for all elections, including special elections by mail and electronic/telephonic communication. Such ballots shall provide sufficient information about each candidate to enable voters to make informed decisions.

The Nominating Committee shall make itself aware of the goals and objectives of the MSOC. The Committee shall develop, and revise as necessary, member responsibilities and job descriptions. It shall also cultivate and recruit candidates for Officer positions.

In addition to the Executive Committee, Advisory Committee and Nominating Committee, the MSOC may maintain the following standing committees, as required:

- Communications (Media/PR) & Education
- NGB/IF Relations
- Collaborations, Partnerships and Best Practices
- Sponsorships

The Chair of the MSOC, in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall appoint or nominate members of the MSOC to standing committees or to other special committees and task forces.

The Chair shall appoint the Chairpersons of standing committees or to other special committees and task forces, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

The duties of each committee shall be assigned by the Chair and approved by the Executive Committee.

Each committee shall determine its own rules of procedure, including reasonable notification of meetings and taking of votes by mail, telephone or electronic communication. Each committee shall discharge its duties in accordance with the policies of the MSOC. The minutes of all committee meetings shall be provided to the MSOC Executive Committee for distribution to the MSOC. Each committee is responsible to submit a written or electronic report of its annual activities to the MSOC at least twenty one (21) days prior to the Olympic and Paralympic Assembly.

The Executive Committee shall keep on file and available for distribution the duties of each committee, and the Chairperson and members of each committee.

## **ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

Proposed amendments to these MSOC Bylaws shall be circulated to the membership of the MSOC at least fifteen (15) days prior to a scheduled or called meeting. Amendments to these Bylaws shall be adopted with a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast at a properly scheduled or called meeting where a quorum has been established.

*These Bylaws were originally approved on June 23, 2006.*

*Amendments:*

*Version 1.1 was approved by the members on September 23, 2010*

*Version 1.2 was approved by the members on September 20, 2012*

*Version 1.3 was approved by the members on September 22, 2016*