

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR APSO ELECTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The APSO Executive Board (the "**Executive Board**") enacts this Code of Conduct for APSO Elections (the "**Code of Conduct**").

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- 1.1. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to outline the guidelines that shall govern campaigning of the candidates for APSO elections (the "**Candidates**").
- 1.2. This Code of Conduct is meant to ensure fairness, keep order, and preserve the integrity of the election, whilst ensuring that each Candidate has an equal opportunity to be elected.
- 1.3. Candidates should abide by this Code.
- 1.4. The Code of Conduct provides guidelines for dealing with campaign promotion but also with campaign violations, complaints and sanctions.

2. SCOPE

The present Code of Conduct applies from its publication on www.apso.sport until the end of the Election Period (see article 4.2. below).

3. DIRECTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

3.1. Candidates must:

- 3.1.1. Refrain from carrying out any electoral campaigning prior to the start of the Election Period.
 - 3.1.2. Conduct their campaigns with honesty, dignity, moderation and respect for their opponents and other stakeholders.
 - 3.1.3. Not directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission in exchange for votes.
 - 3.1.4. In no case and under no pretext give presents or offer donations or gifts or grant advantages or benefits of whatever nature (including but not only paid travel, expenses, air tickets or accommodation) to or at the request of any party who will vote in, or who may otherwise influence, an election.
 - 3.1.5. Other than from the IF/IOSD that endorses the Candidature, not accept paid travel, expenses, air tickets or accommodation to attend meetings and activities directly related to a Candidate's election.
 - 3.1.6. Not enter into any form of undertaking with any individual or organisation that is likely to affect the Candidate's freedom of decision or action if elected.
 - 3.1.7. Not engage in any act, collaboration or collusion by or between Candidates with the intent to defraud or manipulate the result of the vote.
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- 3.1.8.** Not request election related support or service from APSO Secretariat or APSO resources in connection with their candidacies except as otherwise provided in this Code of Conduct.

4. PROMOTION OF THE CANDIDATURE

- 4.1.** Candidates have the right to promote their candidacies subject to the provisions set out in this Code of Conduct.
- 4.2.** From the day the Candidacies period is open until the day of the election (the "**Election Period**"), Candidates may promote their candidatures.
- 4.3.** Candidates may make public declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the Code of Conduct.
- 4.4.** Candidates should not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or reputation of another Candidate or that would bring Paralympic Movement and/or APSO into disrepute.
- 4.5.** APSO resources cannot be used to fund specific campaign related travel and activities by Candidates who currently occupy elected within APSO.
- 4.6.** Candidates who hold official positions within APSO or within IF/IOSD are permitted to remain in office during the Election Period.

5. BREACHES OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Any interested party may bring any breach of this Code of Conduct to the attention of the Executive Board Member, through the APSO Honorary Secretary General (Sergey.Lyzhin@apso.sport), which will undertake an inquiry.

6. SANCTIONS

In the event of any infraction of the Code of Conduct, the Executive Board may impose following sanctions:

1. Observations, which could be made public;
2. A warning, which will be automatically shared with APSO members;
3. Removal of the Candidacy.

7. PROCEDURE BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall have the right to delegate the management of the process to a smaller group composed of Executive Board Members to be appointed by the Executive Board on an ad-hoc basis. The final decision requires the Simple Majority of the cast votes by the Executive Board.

The Candidate concerned by an infraction has the right to be heard, in writing and/or orally at their discretion, by the Executive Board.

If the right to be heard is exercised by means of a written document, this must be submitted within the deadline set by the Executive Board. If the right to be heard is exercised orally, the hearing shall take place by videoconference, and the Candidate may be accompanied by one person of their choice; a brief record of such hearing shall be produced, and a copy given to the Candidate.

Requests for witnesses to attend the hearing to give evidence in relation to the case must be submitted in advance to the Executive Board, who shall decide, in their sole discretion, whether or

not the witness/es may give evidence. If a candidate intends to call a witness (at its cost), the Candidate must submit a written and signed witness statement to the Executive Board according to a deadline to be set by the Executive Board.

The concerned Candidate's IF/IOSD must be informed in all cases.

Any sanction shall be the subject of a written and reasoned decision. Decisions imposing sanctions, as set out in Article 7, shall be made public. The Executive Board may decide to communicate the operative part of the decision to the parties, prior to the reasons.

For any measure or sanction, the Candidate concerned shall be notified before it is made public. The relevant IF/IOSD shall also be informed. This information may be communicated orally or by electronic mail. If the information is communicated orally, a brief record shall be established and a copy given to the Candidate or NF concerned.

Read and acknowledged:

Date

Place

Family name, First name

Signature of Candidate