

STATUTE

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF SPORT EDUCATION (ENSE)

Article 1 – Definition

- 1.1** The European Network of Sport Education (ENSE) is a non-profit association uniting institutions and organizations active in the European Union, and the neighboring countries of Eurasia and the Mediterranean, in the sector of sport and physical activity, specifically in relation to education, with sport science and research as natural prerequisites, and employment and social development as perspective outcomes of all educational activities.
- 1.2** The Network is intended as the ideal meeting place for sharing ideas and common initiatives among the sector's stakeholders, and as a representative body of the sector, particularly in relation to the European Union and when it comes to defining policies and programs, needs and professional profiles, and to promoting synergies, conducting surveys, and other actions involving collaborative partnerships. As such, the Network welcomes and promotes forms of cooperation and integration with existing associations and organizations sharing its goals.

Article 2 – Mission

- 2.1** The fundamental mission of the Network is to collect, share and promote best practices and standards in the education and training of sport professionals and volunteers, based on European Union policies and the needs of society and the labour market, accounting for highest research standards and current and prospective trends in social development, public health, and related indicators.
- 2.2** The key areas in the sector include physical education, sport coaching, health-related physical activity, and sport management, with special emphasis on the role of sport in human formation and personal skills and abilities, and in promoting employment and socioeconomic development, especially tourism and recreation. Of prominent interest are activities and collaborative projects addressing innovation, healthy lifestyle, sport and intercultural dialogue, sport integrity and fair play, inclusion strategies, gender and disability equality, and other such issues.

Article 3 – Objectives

The following objectives are specifically pursued:

- 3.1** Promote cooperation among organizations and institutions in sport education, and their respective members, in relation to research and employment, in the light of European Union and national sport policies, aiming at increasing the coordination among stakeholders and the convergence of the education and training systems for sport-related professions.
- 3.2** Cooperate with relevant organizations in the generation of research to support the education and training of sport professionals and volunteers, and promote cooperation with other organizations in the wider sport sector in Europe, neighbouring countries, and worldwide.
- 3.3** Specifically promote synergies and relations with all relevant organizations of the sector, such as the organizations of Europe, governmental and non-governmental organizations, institutes and colleges of education, training and research, professional organizations and sport organizations.
- 3.4** Develop and promote standards in sport education aligned with National Qualification Frameworks (NQF), European Qualification Framework (EQF), and related international standards.
- 3.5** Promote discussions and strategies for Quality Assurance at all levels of education in the sport sector.
- 3.6** Promote lifelong learning and professional development opportunities for those involved in sport education.
- 3.7** Support the inclusive education and development of both volunteers and professionals in sport, maximising the synergies among them and in support of sustainable sport delivery structures.
- 3.8** Promote education allowing for dual careers of athletes and in support of fair-play and anti-doping strategies.

Article 4 – Core Activities

In the context of the Network's mission and objectives, the following core activities represent a special focus of interest:

- 4.1** Promote transparency and comparability of educational and training programs in the area – in Europe, neighbouring countries, and worldwide.
- 4.2** Promote mobility and exchange of university students and staff, as well as of trainers or other people involved in sport organizations.
- 4.3** Promote and contribute to the development of European and international degrees and qualifications.
- 4.4** Conduct or contribute to the evaluation and accreditation of educational and training programs.

4.5 Promote and contribute to quality assurance and the setting up of common standards.

Article 5 – Membership

5.1 Membership is open to qualified organizations or individuals active in the area, following the approval of their application to join and subject to the payment of the fee stipulated by the General Assembly.

5.2 The Membership consists of:

5.2.1 Full Collective Members

Higher education institutions, sport federations and other non-profit institutions or organizations responsible for education, research, training and/or employment in sport within Europe, recognized by the competent authorities.

5.2.2 Associate Collective Members

- a) Higher education institutions, sport federations and other non-profit institutions or organizations responsible for education, research, training and/or employment in sport outside Europe, recognized by the competent authorities.
- b) Any other national, European or international institution or organization active in the area of sport or education, or otherwise related to the objectives of the Network.

5.2.3 Individual Members

- a) Individuals representing relevant institutions, European bodies, international or supranational organizations, or otherwise interested in the Network's objectives and activities or in taking part to its meetings.
- b) Individuals who have performed outstanding services to the Network or who have otherwise particularly distinguished themselves in the service of sport education, invited by the Board to be part of the Network as *Emeritus Members*.

5.3 National Delegates and Regional Chapters

- a) In consultation with the representatives of any given country, the Board can appoint a National Delegate who will represent and promote the Network in the country and, besides participating in that function to the General Assembly or other contexts as a Full Member, may ask to participate as observer to Board Meetings.
- b) National Delegates, in agreement with other representatives of a given country or region and in consultation with the Board, can propose the establishment of a local network of institutions or organizations as a subdivision of ENSE at national or wider regional level, called Regional Chapter. The proposal, based on a comprehensive project of national or regional implementation of ENSE's mission, objectives and activities, and providing detailed

information on the proposed organization, including a local Representative, activities and resources, is submitted to ENSE's Executive Board for formal approval.

- c) Regional Chapters are a special category of Members, with own specificities and all the rights of Full Collective Members.
- d) Regional Chapter Representatives and National Delegates can ask to participate as observers to Board meetings and can be considered for possible active roles in the Network's activities and organization.

5.4 Membership may be cancelled by decision of the Board for non-payment of membership for two or more consecutive years, or for a change of status or other reasons recognized valid by the Board, with a two-thirds majority vote; before the final decision is taken, a notice is sent to the Member concerned, leaving a reasonable interval to rectify the situation.

Article 6 – General European Forum

- 6.1** The Network's objectives are pursued, and activities performed, through surveys, studies and research, committee work, seminars and reports, which are presented and discussed in periodic meetings and specifically in the context of the Network's General European Forum, to be held, as a rule, every two years.
- 6.2** The Forum is intended as a meeting point for stakeholders, and for everyone interested in European cooperation, exchanges and mobility, in the sector of sport education, training and employment, and specifically in the areas of sport development, sport management, sport coaching, physical education, physical activity and health & lifestyle, with possible developments and expansions. As such, the Forum intends to represent a basic reference and potential instrument for relevant institutions in the area, and particularly local administrations, national governments and the European Union.

Article 7 – Governance

7.1 General Assembly

- a) The General Assembly is the ultimate decision-making body of the organization. It elects the President and the Executive Board, approves the management reports and ensures that they meet the objectives of the Network.
- b) The General Assembly is constituted by Full Members, with voting rights, and by Associate Members and Individual Members in the capacity of observers, with speaking rights but no voting rights.
- c) The General Assembly meets at least every two years, usually on the occasion of the Network's Forum. It can be convened more frequently, if needed, and can also be consulted by mail ballot

in case of urgent specific matters. The call of the meeting, with the agenda and other relevant documents, is as a rule sent out at least six weeks in advance.

- d) Only the points listed on the agenda can normally be up for vote. Resolutions require a simple majority of the paid-up Full Members present, unless otherwise stated.

7.2 The President

- a) The President chairs the Executive Board, leads all activities of the Network and is its official representative in all contexts, particularly in relation to competent EU bodies, and other supranational or international agencies or institutions and organizations at all levels. The President oversees the activities of the Office, as conducted by the Secretary General and the Treasurer, as well as of Committees, Working Groups, or any other body within the Network, issuing guidelines as needed and reporting to the Board.
- b) The President can delegate on occasions his/her functions as deemed advisable. In case of inability, the President's functions are assumed by the President Elect.
- c) The President is elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years and can be reelected once. As a rule, he is elected one term in advance and initially participates to the Executive Board as President Elect before succeeding as President. When the mandate of the current President expires, the President Elect takes office as President. The outgoing President stays then in the Board as Past President.
- d) Upon the unanimous recommendation of the Executive Board, at the end of the first mandate the President can be reelected for one more term by the General Assembly. In that case, the President Elect and the Past President stay in the Board for one more mandate, and no nominations for President Elect are proposed for that term.

7.3 Executive Board

- a) The Executive Board conducts the daily management of the Network, taking all necessary steps to ensure a proper and effective workflow, and reports periodically to the General Assembly.
- b) The Executive Board is elected by the General Assembly from amongst its members, for a term of two years, and includes *ex-officio* the Past President. Board Members can be reelected.
- c) The Executive Board is composed as follows:
- President
 - President Elect
 - Past President
 - Secretary General
 - Treasurer
 - Five Members at large.

- d) Board members are elected by the General Assembly from amongst Full Members, but other relevant representatives of the area can exceptionally be considered. As a rule, Board members ensure wide cultural, geographic, and institutional representativeness, and can each be assigned specific responsibilities in relation to respective qualifications, representation functions, or other needs.
- d) The Board normally meets twice a year. The quorum is 50% plus one. Resolutions require simple majority of those present; in the case of a tie, the President's vote prevails.

7.4 Election Procedures

The President and the members of the Executive Board are elected by the General Assembly according to the following procedures:

- a) Nominations are made by the outgoing Executive Board and circulated by the Secretary General, together with the call and the agenda of the Assembly, at least six weeks before the election.
- b) Alternative nominees can then be proposed by Full Members, and notified in writing to the Secretary General's office at least three weeks before the election.
- c) Following a period of two weeks, during which nominations are posted on the website and can be withdrawn, the final list of nominees is made available to the General Assembly no later than two days before the vote.

7.5 Council

- a) The Network's Council is composed of eminent personalities who have particularly distinguished themselves in the area of sport education gaining international recognition or have otherwise contributed significantly to the Network's mission, and are available to contribute their wisdom and experience to implement the Network's objectives and activities.
- b) Members of the Council exchange views and consult with the President and the Board on issues related to the Network and its activities and to sport education in general. They can participate, or otherwise contribute to the meetings of the Executive Board, and as a rule hold a meeting on the occasion of every Forum, ending up in the production of documents containing advice, proposals or recommendations on strategic or other specific issues.
- c) Members of the Council are nominated by the President and elected by the Board with a two-thirds majority vote. Possible nominees can be proposed to the President by Board members, Regional Chapter Representatives or National Delegates, or other Network's Full Members.

Article 8 – Management

8.1 Headquarter

The headquarter of the Network and location of its administrative office shall be determined by the Board at the beginning of each term, based on the President's evaluation in agreement with the Secretary General.

8.2 Regional Offices

Regional offices can be established by Regional Chapters. Detailed information on the proposed local organization and available resources is provided in the project submitted to the Board.

8.3 Finances

The financial resources of the Network are constituted by:

- a) Membership fees, in the amount determined by the General Assembly;
- b) Incomes resulting from rendered services to the members;
- c) Grants and financial aids from the European Union, granting agencies, or other sources;
- d) Receipts or donations from organizations or individuals.

Article 9 – General Dispositions

9.1 The Network will remain as a legal entity based on the approval of the current Statute, which revises the one of the European Network of Sport Science, Education and Employment (ENSSEE) approved in 2007, in turn revising the Statute of the organization originally established in Luxembourg in 1989 under the name, European Network of Sport Science in Higher Education (ENSSHE).

9.2 The Statute can be amended by the General Assembly based on a proposal from the Board sent with the call of the meeting. A majority of two-thirds of those attending is required.

9.3 In particular cases, the Executive Board, with a unanimous vote, can decide to call for a mail ballot. In this case, the call is notified at least three weeks before the vote and the majority required is of two-thirds of those participating to the voting procedures. In case of need, a second voting session can be held in which deliberations are taken by simple majority.

9.4 The Network can be dissolved by decision of the General Assembly with a majority of two-thirds of those attending or participating to the mail ballot. The remaining assets will be set aside for organizations of a similar character.