

STATUTES
of the
EUROPEAN ANGLERS FEDERATION

We, affiliated members of the Visegrád Cooperation Forum, recognizing the common interests of anglers and led by the necessity of representing and protecting those interests, hereby accept the following Statutes as the principles of cooperation between European angling federations.

Article I. CHARTER, OBJECTIVES

1. The European Anglers Federation is an association formed by its founders to defend the interests of European anglers. The Federation accepts the Visegrad Declaration of 22 June 2005 as its Charter of Foundation which is valid in conjunction with the amendment adopted in Pruhonice on 21 September 2007, and it is also an inseparable supplement of the present Statutes.

2. Name of the Organization: European Anglers Federation, the English abbreviation is EAF.

3. Headquarter of the European Anglers Federation: Korompai utca 17, Budapest 1124, Hungary. Address of the administration: 1066 Budapest Ó utca 3.

4 The objectives of the Federation:

- to provide a framework for cooperation between national anglers federations of the member countries;
- the main objective is to protect the interests and rights of anglers as well as those of their national federations; to standardize, protect and broaden the scope of angling rights; to preserve and gradually improve conditions for both recreational and sport angling; to standardize the conditions under which angling rights may be exercised;
- to take common and coordinated action against the different phenomena jeopardizing angling waters, angling conditions and the right and possibility of angling (the effects of water pollution, ecological damage caused by hydroelectric power plants, damage caused by fish-killing animals, first and foremost, cormorants);
- to protect the aquatic environment, the environment in a broader sense and the nature, in the interest of angling and in harmony with the European Union's Water Framework Directives and the implementation of the Natura 2000 program,
- to help conserve and improve the quality and ecological conditions of angling waters, to protect their fish stock and to secure a determinant role for angling in natural waters;

- to increase continuously the social prestige of angling, according to its socio-economic importance; to enforce the ethics of angling in the widest range possible, and to struggle jointly against fish poaching and all forms of poaching;
- to raise awareness and popularize angling among young people, and to increasingly involve them in angling, whose role in protecting nature, maintaining fish habitat, recreation and health preservation is gaining acceptance by the younger generations;
- to support meetings of sport anglers;
- to develop angling knowledge and expertise;
- to develop angling tourism.

The Federation is a nonprofit civil organization, independent of any political party, trend or government; it is an independent legal entity.

5. To promote the above objectives

- they adopt and work out common points of view and positions to ensure common action in international organizations.
- they cooperate with any organization seeking to achieve goals similar to those of the Federation. In the context of ties with international bodies, special attention is paid to cooperation with the International Sports Fishing Association (C.I.P.S.).
- they organize expert exchanges on a regular basis, and they work on common studies based on regular consultations and cooperation of specialists. On the basis of these they form unified positions, proposals and recommendations concerning recreational and sport angling and related organizations.
- they work to achieve standardized angling legislation and also aim to create legislation to facilitate angling in each other's countries and promote angling tourism.
- they regularly inform the representatives of the European Parliament, especially those sitting on the Committee on Fisheries, they organize exchanges of experiences and communicate their positions to those representatives.
- they work on coordinating fish farming policies especially in border waters and aim at ensuring equal opportunities for fishing.
- in all topics considered important by the Federation, they aim at maintaining a continuous presence in the angling and fishing media and in the media dealing with fishing.
- they work on regularly exchanging information on angling and angling tourism throughout the European continent by means of the press, publications, conferences and the Internet.

- the Federation accepts and promotes all forms of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Article II. MEMBERS, OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF THE MEMBERS

6. The Federation is open. Any European national angling federation may join it if it accepts the objectives mentioned above, accepts the charter of the Federation and its application is approved by the Council of Presidents.

7. Only one national federation of any particular country will be accepted to enter, and in countries where several national federations exist, these will need to form one single representation, and in this respect, the founding members shall have a major role and be given priority treatment.

8. The activities of the Federation are based on mutual respect of each other's opinions and on mutual trust. It is the fundamental obligation of each member to respect each other's opinions, to fully enforce the principle of democracy, as well as to carry out decisions made together. The members of the Federation are committed to accept all consensual decisions made together as obligatory and to do their best to implement them.

9. All members of the Federation have the same rights (without, however, prejudice to point 7. above)

10. Membership can be terminated at any time, without any harmful consequences, with a declaration submitted in writing. The executive body of the Federation may also suggest terminating a membership on substantial grounds. In this case, the federation involved will not take part in the vote on the matter.

Membership terminates:

- if the court competent in the area of registration dissolves or declares defunct the federation involved, and deletes the federation's registration,
- if the federation is dissolved without a legal successor,
- if the Federation, as association, is dissolved,
- if the federation leaves the Federation
- if the Council of Presidents adopts a decision to exclude the federation.

Membership in the Federation may be terminated on the last day of the calendar year. The intention of termination is to be announced in writing (by means of a registered letter) to the President 90 days before the end of the calendar year.

The Council of Presidents may expel a federation from the Federation, or suspend its membership, if it fails to meet its obligations stated in the Statutes for an extended period and in spite of repeated warnings, or if it jeopardizes attainment of the Association's objectives, or if it pursues activities which are contrary to the Statutes of the Federation.

In the event of membership termination, the federation involved may not lay any financial claim against the Federation while it is obliged to carry out a settlement of accounts with the Federation.

Article III. MANAGEMENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE FEDERATION

11. The Federation is managed by the Council of Presidents of the federations (Council of Presidents), which is the supreme self-governing body of the Federation and is entitled to make any decisions.

12. The Council of Presidents meets at least once a year; it may also hold additional meetings if it is justified. Convening a meeting of the Council of Presidents can be initiated by any federation; the necessary decisions are made by the President, possibly after consulting the Presidents of the federations via the Internet or by telephone. The Council of Presidents has a quorum if the two-third of the Presidents or permanent representatives or – in their absence – their proxies, duly authorized in writing, are present.

13. Taking operative measures for the running of the Federation and coordination of a continuous flow of information is the duty of the President. The President represents the organization in the fields of legal instances and civil life. The President is elected with two-third voices for three years by the Council of Presidents, and is also entitled to relieve him/her with two-third voices vote. The Council elects a Vice-president and a Treasurer for three years with two-third voices vote.

14. The Federation takes its decisions by two-third voices vote however efforts to take its decisions on the principle of general agreement and consensus.

15. The most important form of keeping an operative connection is the Internet website of the Federation and its internal mailing list, which is managed by the President.

16. The management of administration is managed by the President's office (Secretariat). Running costs are planned and approved at the first annual meeting of the Council of Presidents. It is the President's task to keep an up to date record of expenses, settle accounts and to conclude the final accounts.

The approval of the Minutes will be done by written way and confirmed on the next Council's meeting.

17. The regular annual membership fee is determined by the Councils of President and must be so as to cover costs and fees of annual working costs (Internet server storage, subscription to the Internet line, website maintenance and related administration), which is to be kept at a minimum. All the federations pay the same membership fee. The deadline for payment of the membership fee is June 15 of each year.

A one-shot entry fee has to be paid at the entry in the EAF; its amount is determined by the Council of Presidents.

18. The basic forms of functioning and lobbying:

- Council of Presidents
- invitations to conferences, seminars, meetings
- specialists' or professional conferences
- bilateral, multilateral cooperation, discussions
- presence on the Internet, exchanges of information via the Internet
- the common language of communication is English.

Proceeding to complete the statutory obligations (organization of the Councils meetings and Federation, elections, etc.) is contained in the Rules of Procedures

Article IV. MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES, DISSOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION

19. The present Statutes of the Federation were approved and accepted unanimously by the assembly of the Council of Presidents on 21 September 2007 in Průhonice, Czech Republic.

20. Any modification of the Statutes can only be initiated by the President or the president of a federation (or a permanent representative of a federation). The Statutes can be modified only by the Council of Presidents, and only by consensus, and only if the two-thirds of the Presidents of the member federations (or their permanent representatives) are present, the other members voting in written or by proxies.

21. The only manner in which the Federation may dissolve itself, join another international organization or association or establish a partnership with another association is for the Council of Presidents to make a unanimous declaration to this effect. Dissolution of the Federation can only be declared by the Council of Presidents, in a meeting convened specifically for this agenda.

22. The member organizations unanimously agreed that the operation of the association is governed by Hungarian law, i.e. legal provisions contained in prevailing Hungarian substantive law and procedural law, in particular, the relevant provisions of the law of association of Article II. of Law of 1989.

The text of the present Statutes was adopted by the Council of Presidents of the founding federations, at its meeting held on 21 September 2007, with its resolution K3/2007 (IX.21.) and came into effect on the day of its adoption. The text of the Statutes was modified by the Council of Presidents at their meetings in Prague on 26 February 2011, in Zilina, on 25 November 2011. and in Brussels, on 12 October 2012.

Visegrád – Pruhonice
21 September, 2007.

Ferenc Szalay
President of the EAF

APPENDIX

Declaration of the Visegrad Cooperation Forum (Visegrád, 22 June 2005)

The Czech Fishing Federation (CRS), the Polish Fishing Federation (PZW), the Hungarian Fishing Federation (MOHOSZ), the German Fishing Federation (DAV), the Slovak Fishing Federation (SRZ) and the Austrian Workers' Fishing Federation, at their meetings in Visegrád (2005) and in Breclav (2007), expressed the intention of Central European fishing federations to cooperate and to give their cooperation a new orientation and new forms.

Based upon the traditions and their similar background and experience, the organization of the six countries seek to launch a long-term project of cooperation in an effort to maintain and improve a civilized environment and conditions for angling, to mutually exploit fishing tourism opportunities by offering a wider perspective for members that belong to the European Union, and to take joint action against the environmental and natural factors endangering fishing conditions.

To promote this,

1. They make efforts to facilitate the development of, and establish the necessary foundations and conditions for angling tourism by all possible means; they take steps to ensure that lawmaking and legislative authorities facilitate the conditions of angling in each other's countries, including the intention to mutually accept the fishing documents or licenses of each other's countries.
2. They make efforts to ensure a regular exchange of fishing specialists in all topics that are relevant to promote cooperation and are of mutual interest, especially in the fields of fishing legislation, the protection of the environment, water conservation, fish-farming, private fishing businesses, and the fight against poachers.
3. They make efforts to encourage young people to have a deeper respect for nature, protect the environment and take concrete action to this effect in both recreational and sport fishing, making use of all means possible, such as exchange camping, sport angler meetings, etc., to make fishing more popular.
4. They provide suitable coverage in their press releases to give an overview of their country's angling possibilities; they regularly exchange their press publications.
5. They make efforts to form common positions in international organizations, especially in the International Sports Fishing Organization (CIPS), which they believe need to be further strengthened to better represent anglers' interests, and on the basis of these common positions they should promote coordinated action by fishing federations.

Cooperation between the fishing federations of the six countries is coordinated through high level consultations held at least twice a year.

The signatories to the Declaration state that their cooperation does not hamper or interfere in forming contacts with other fishing organizations or international organizations. At the same time, they do not exclude the possibility of other countries joining their cooperation.

Visegrád, 22 June 2005

Petr Semeniuk, President
Czech Fishing Federation

Eugeniusz Grabowski, President
Polish Fishing Federation

Ferenc Szalay, Executive President
Hungarian Fishing Federation

Bernd Mikulin, President
German Fishing Federation

Rudolf Harvanek, President
Slovak Fishing Federation

Dr. Peter Kostelka, President
Austrian Workers' Fishing Federation

Visegrád, 22 June 2005

The Introduction and Articles 3. and 5. were modified by the signatories on June 6, 2007 in Breclav, and on 21 September, 2007 in Pruhonice.