

DISCIPLINARY REGULATION OF COMPETITIONS AND RINK HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TITLE I: GENERAL PART

FIRST CHAPTER - PROVISIONS AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1

(Area of application)

This Regulation applies to Confederations, Federations, Clubs, their members and the bodies of the TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF RINK HOCKEY FIRS (**FIRS RHTC**), sports officials, referees, agents and Sports practitioners and executives and any collaborator or other individual or collective persons submitted to the **FIRS RHTC**, as the maximum body worldwide for the practice of Hockey.

ARTICLE 2

(Disciplinary Infringement)

1. The intentional or simply negligent act practiced by the persons and entities listed in Article 1, which violates the sports duties and ethics envisaged and sanctioned by these Disciplinary Regulations, Specific Regulations and other applicable legislation, is considered to be a disciplinary infraction.
2. The disciplinary infraction is punishable by action or by omission.
3. Negligence is punishable only in the cases expressly provided for, in this regulation.

ARTICLE 3

(Disciplinary Competence)

1. The disciplinary power is exercised in accordance with the Statutes of the **FIRS**, these Regulations and the specific Regulations in force. The exercise of the aforementioned sports disciplinary authority shall be the responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee and against the resolutions of the Disciplinary Committee, may be appealed to the **Executive Bureau of FIRS**, which shall resolve in the last and final instance.
2. The application of sanctions does not depend on the establishment of disciplinary process, except in case of infractions considered very serious.
3. The disciplinary powers of the Disciplinary Committee may be delegated under the conditions established in Article 55 of these Regulations.

TITLE II

CHAPTER I - ABOUT DISCIPLINE

ARTICLE 4

(Applicable sanctions)

1. The applicable sanctions to persons guilty of the infractions mentioned in this regulation are:
 - a) The warning and admonition;
 - b) Written reprimand;
 - c) The fine;
 - d) Suspension of activity or execution of functions;
 - e) Compensation / Indemnity;
 - f) Removal from office or discharge of functions;
2. The penalties applicable to the Confederations, Federations and Clubs are:
 - a) The fine;
 - b) Disqualification / Relegation;
 - c) Loss of game;
 - d) Temporary closure of the venue or temporary suspension in competitions;
 - e) The realization of matches or tests behind closed doors;
 - f) The compensation / Indemnity.
3. Irrespective of these penalties, specific sanctions of the "Rules of the Game or competitions" that may lead to the defeat of the participants during matches shall always be applicable.
4. The Agent, Club or Federation in case of breach of the statutory pecuniary obligations, will be suspended for the practice of sports until the fulfilment of this obligation.

ARTICLE 5

(Regarding the warning, the admonition and the written reprimand)

1. The warning penalties, admonition and written reprimand, consist of simple observations on the irregularity produced.
2. The warning penalties, admonition or written reprimand will be applied in the case of minor infractions.

ARTICLE 6

(Regarding the fine and its determination)

The application and fixing of the amount of the fine shall take into account the seriousness of the disciplinary offense, the act of disorder caused, the violent and injury caused behaviour, the security conditions, the premeditation and the relapses, the degree of disturbance of the matches or tests, the level of competition where the infractions are committed, as well as the damage to the good image of the **FIRS RHTC**, or rink hockey in general.

ARTICLE 7

(Graduation of the fine)

1. Determining the fines, the circumstances of the case shall be taken into account, in particular: the seriousness of the facts, their importance and impact on the game, the conduct of the Confederations, Federations and Clubs and their representatives with respect to the facts or their diligence in the avoidance of the facts, safety measures taken, as well as the amount of damages caused.
2. In the case of repeated offenses and in repetitions of new cases of identical or higher gravity, the limits of the fines are increased as follows:
 - a) The minimum limit shall be equal to the maximum limit;
 - b) The ceiling will be raised once and a half of its amount.

ARTICLE 8

(Payment of the fine)

1. The fine shall always be set at an exact amount. The guilty part must make the payment within thirty days from the date on which the decision became irreversible.
2. If payment is not made within the deadline set in the previous point, the fine **will be aggravated by 25%**, and must be paid within ten days of notification.
3. Failure to pay an aggravated fine within the period stipulated in the preceding paragraph automatically prevents and independently of any notification, the exercise of any function or activity related to the **FIRS RHTC**, until payment is made. If the offender is a player and participates in a match or competition in this period, failure to pay will result in an improper alignment by the Club, Federation or Confederation that has aligned it and will be sanctioned in accordance with the provisions in this Regulation.
4. The payment of the fines imposed on the players, leaders, technicians, delegates and collaborators shall be jointly and severally liable to the Confederation, Federation and the Club to which they belong, which shall be notified for their respective payment. In case of breach of this obligation, the sanctions provided for in the previous numbers shall be applied to the Confederations, Federations and Clubs.

ARTICLE 9

(Other circumstances)

For the purposes of the application of fine penalties provided for in the terms of the previous article, the occurrence of the facts in the defined temporal and physical space will be considered as follows:

- a) **Temporary space:** From two hours before the expected official beginning of the match until its end and the departure from the facilities, in good safety, from the referees and sports teams involved;
- b) **Physical space:** sports facilities, in the rink, the nearby area, stands intended for the public, stands, hallways, changing rooms for teams and referees, meeting rooms of committees, as well as the accesses, streets and parking spaces, properly closed and protected, of the sports facilities.

ARTICLE 10

(Suspension of activity or functions)

1. The suspension involves the complete departure of the offender from his activities or functions during the duration of the sentence. If, at any time during the execution of his sentence, the offender is subject to another sanction that emanates from his participation in official matches or competitions, the penalty to be served is increased by twice the first penalty.
2. The suspension can be calculated in period of time or in number of official games.
3. The suspension must be notified to the offender, and begins to be complied with as of the date of notification.

ARTICLE 11

(Temporary suspension of sports practitioners, technicians and managers)

1. Players, coaches and officials shall be considered temporarily suspended until the resolution of the Disciplinary Committee, provided that they have been expelled from the sports venue (whatever the means used) for events occurring in the sports hall before, during the interval or after the end of the match and that was mentioned by the referees in the report of the match.
2. If the Disciplinary Committee considers that the information contained in the record of the match or in the referees' report relating to the expulsion of a sports agent to qualify and punish the fault is insufficient, it may maintain the temporary suspension until the final decision, notifying this decision to the agent, the Confederation, Federation and the Club that represents or the entity to which it is subordinated.

3. The suspension imposed, whether in number of official matches or in length of time, must be fulfilled immediately and supposes the prohibition of being aligned or intervening in as many official games as it covers the sanction by the order in which they take place from the when the penalty is imposed, although by alteration of the schedule or postponement would have varied the pre-set at the beginning of the competition.
4. If the suspension mentioned in the previous point is not fulfilled in the season where it has been imposed, it must be fulfilled in the following season or seasons.
5. The suspension imposed by official matches will always be fulfilled in the matches and in the Official Tournaments or Competitions organized by the **FIRS RHTC**, as well as in those that have the official recognition of the **FIRS RHTC**.
6. With the safeguarding of the provisions of point 8 of this Article, in the European competitions of Rink Hockey, any suspension of activity, whether in number of games or for a certain time, will be fulfilled in the competition where this suspension was performed, this is:
 - a. A sanction related to a European competition of nations, must be fulfilled in a European competition of nations;
 - b. A penalty for a European club competition must be fulfilled in a European club competition.
7. The sanction of suspension by time means the total prohibition of this practitioner to align in any other category of games or tests during the prescribed period.
8. Any sanction that is determined by the doping of any athlete implies the suspension of all sports activity of the offender, both nationally and internationally, throughout the period of the respective sanction.

ARTICLE 12

(Regarding the compensation / indemnity)

1. The penalty of compensation / indemnity involves the payment, by the Confederations, Federations, Clubs or sports agents, of a pecuniary amount and complementary to other sanctions imposed in accordance with the regulations.
2. Compliance with the penalty of compensation / indemnity is subject to the system of fines provided for in Article 8.

ARTICLE 13

(Regarding the temporary closing of the venue or temporary suspension in competitions)

1. The temporary closure of the venue has the following effects:
 - a) It prevents the Confederation, Federation or the sanctioned Club from organizing / playing games supervised by the **FIRS RHTC** in its venue or the one considered as such.
 - b) The Confederation, Federation or sanctioned Club is obliged to organize / play the games or other competitions, in neutral territory, to be designated by the Confederation, the Federation or the Club, placed in a minimum distance of 70 km of the border of the country in the assumption of the Confederation and the Federation or of its headquarters, in the case of the Club.
2. The temporary closing of the playing venue of a Confederation, Federation or Club that is not fully complied within the course of the season in which it has been imposed, must be completed in one or several subsequent seasons.
3. The temporary suspension in competitions prevents a Confederation, Federation or a Club from participating in official competitions organized by the **FIRS RHTC** and in those that have the official recognition of the said Committee.

ARTICLE 14

(Regarding the penalty of dismissal of office or functions)

1. Dismissal of functions disables the offender to perform any function or activity.
2. In view of the seriousness of this penalty, its imposition is conditioned to its ratification by the **Executive Bureau of FIRS**.

ARTICLE 15

(Regarding the penalty of loss of a match)

The penalty of loss of a match entails the consequences foreseen in the Official Competitions Regulations of the **FIRS RHTC**.

ARTICLE 16

(Regarding the penalty of disqualification)

The penalty for disqualification entails the following consequences:

1. The Confederation, the Federation or the Club will not be able to continue in the competition, being disqualified, consequently, all the points corresponding to the already played.
2. In qualifying competitions, all qualifications will be considered lost.

ARTICLE 17

(Regarding the sanctions registration)

For the purpose of this and in particular of second offences, a special register of sanctions shall be kept in the **FIRS RHTC** Secretariat, which shall record those imposed.

ARTICLE 18

(Aggravating Circumstances)

These are aggravating circumstances of any disciplinary offense, particularly:

- a) The deliberate causing of injury.
- b) Premeditation.
- c) The failure to comply immediately with the decisions of the referees.
- d) The impact on the public or other parties involved in the match of the unsportsmanlike aspect of the foul.
- e) To produce the infringement alterations of the public order.
- f) Failure to comply with a sanction.
- g) A second offence in a period of less than one year of the fulfilment of an earlier penalty, of equal or greater gravity or two or more of lower seriousness.
- h) Resulting from the infringement, discredit for the **FIRS RHTC** or for any of its members.

ARTICLE 19

(Attenuating Circumstances)

1. These are attenuating circumstances of disciplinary offenses, particularly:
 - a) The good behaviour, determined by the fact that the sports agent had not received any sanction during the last two years.
 - b) The spontaneous confession of the infraction.
 - c) The provision of important services to the sport as a player, referee, coach or leader.
 - d) The fact of having been provoked.
 - e) Being a minor.
 - f) The fulfilment of higher orders.
 - g) The sincere repentance.
2. In addition to these, may be exceptionally considered other attenuating factors, when their relevance justifies.

ARTICLE 20

(Exempting circumstances of liability)

Exemptions from liability:

- a) The Coercion.
- b) The accidental and involuntary deprivation of the exercise of their intellectual faculties at the moment of practice of the fault.
- c) Self-defence or self-defence of a third party.
- d) The non-enforceability of different conduct.
- e) The exercise of a right or the fulfilment of a duty.

CHAPTER II - DISCIPLINARY INFRACTIONS GRADUATION AND CORRESPONDING SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 21

(Minor infractions)

1. Minor offenses are: minor misconduct that violates a sports ethic and correct behaviour, which reveals disagreement or disrespect towards the adversary, with respect to the public, with respect to referees, officials or others who in any way, suppose discredit or imply less correction in the development of the game or competition and also the behaviours or acts that unintentionally violate the rules and regulations.
2. Minor infractions are punished with:
 - a) **Warning and / or admonition**
 - b) **Written reprimand**
 - c) **Fine of up to 600 USD.**
 - d) **Suspension of activity or exercise of functions of up to one month, or of one to three games suspension.**

ARTICLE 22

(Serious infractions)

1. Faults or acts consisting in the practice or promotion of indiscipline, disobedience to the legal and legitimate provisions of the **FIRS RHTC** bodies, acts or facts that reveal insubordination, insults and offenses against FIRS. RHTC, Confederations, Federations, Clubs and their leaders, their members or agents or representatives, are considered serious, as well as acts of indiscipline or actions that endanger the physical integrity of a third party.
2. Serious infractions are punished with:
 - a) **A fine from 601 USD up to 3,000 USD.**
 - b) **Suspension of activity or exercise of functions of one month and one day to two years, or four to 15 games suspension.**
 - c) **Loss of the match.**
 - d) **Closure of the venue for up to two months, or up to three games.**
 - e) **Compensation / Indemnity.**

ARTICLE 23

(Very serious infractions)

1. Crimes considered to be very serious are violent acts of indiscipline or involving violence or serious harm, which endanger the interests of the **FIRS RHTC**, violent actions that endanger the physical integrity of third parties, false statements in disciplinary matters that cause serious consequences for third parties, falsification of documents directly associated with the sporting modality, accept, give and promote any reward that pretends to falsify the results or obtain other illicit benefits, as well as the practice of any criminal act in the framework of the sport activity.
2. Very serious infractions are punished with:
 - a) **Fine from 3,001 USD up to 30,000 USD.**
 - b) **Suspension of activity or exercise of functions of two years and one day to five years.**
 - c) **Loss of the match.**
 - d) **Closure of the venue from 2 months to 2 years, or from 4 to 10 games.**
 - e) **Removal of positions or functions.**
 - f) **Compensation / Indemnity.**

CHAPTER III - THE EXTINCTION OF DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITY,
SUSPENSION OF THE EXECUTION

ARTICLE 24

(Extinction of disciplinary responsibility)

Disciplinary responsibility is extinguished:

- a) When the sanction is executed.
- b) By the prescription of the disciplinary procedure.
- c) By the prescription of the sentence.
- d) By the death of the offender or the extinction of the Confederations, Federations or Clubs.
- e) By the renewal or substitution of the sentence.
- f) By an amnesty.
- g) By the decriminalization of the fact.

ARTICLE 25

(Prescription of disciplinary procedures)

1. The right to launch a disciplinary procedure prescribes after two months for minor offenses, after two years for serious offenses and three years for very serious offenses, counting from the date they were committed.
2. It shall also prescribe if, the infraction is known by the competent authority and the disciplinary procedure, is not initiated within a period of three months.
3. If, before the expiration of the period fixed in paragraph 1, certain acts of instruction are carried out that have an effective effect on the progress of the process, the limitation period shall count from the day on which the last act was performed.
4. The result of a match is considered to have been approved after forty-eight hours since its conclusion, unless there is a complaint. Complaints of disciplinary infractions made and admitted after this deadline will not have consequences with respect to that party in the classification table, being the violators only subject to the disciplinary sanctions anticipated and applicable to the faults that were proven.

ARTICLE 26

(Prescription of sanctions)

The disciplinary sanctions are prescribed in the following periods, from the date on which the decision became firm:

- a. Six months for penalties sanctions of warning and written reprimand;
- b. Two years for fine and suspension sanctions;
- e. Three years for the remaining sanctions.

ARTICLE 27

(Amnesty)

1. The amnesty puts an end to voluntary disciplinary persecution. In case the sanction has already been pronounced, it ends the execution of the main sanction, as well as the accessory sanctions.
2. The amnesty does not imply the annulment of the registration of the sentence, and does not eliminate the effects already produced by its application.
3. In the case of accumulation of infractions, the amnesty is applicable to each of the offences to which it has been granted.
4. The sanction of compensation is not susceptible to amnesty.
5. The amnesty is exclusively of the responsibility of the **FIRS** General Assembly, on its own initiative or at the proposal of **the Executive Bureau of FIRS**.

TITLE III

CHAPTER I - COMMON INFRINGEMENTS

ARTICLE 28

(Bribery)

1. The one who, in a way, contributes to a game being held in abnormal conditions that are reflected in its result, will be punished in the following way:
 - 1.1. Individuals, with a suspension penalty that may vary between:
 - a. A suspension of activity or functions from three to five years.
 - b. Dismissal of duties.
 - 1.2. A Confederation, Federation or Club, with a fine that can vary between 3,001 USD to 15,000 USD.
2. Clubs and Federations shall be held jointly liable, in the terms of the previous number, for acts committed, directly or indirectly, by members of their governing bodies, technicians, partners and collaborators.
3. The attempted bribery is liable to be punished by the penalty applicable to the consummated offense, reduced by half.

ARTICLE 29

(Against **FIRS RHTC**, Confederations, Federations and their members)

1. Disrespect, the use of expressions, drawings, writings or gestures that are abusive, defamatory or gross with respect to **FIRS RHTC**, Confederations or to the Federations and their respective members in the exercise of their activities, will be sanctioned as follows:
 - a. The athlete, the coach or the leader, with the suspension of activity from three to twelve months, aggravated up to two years for cases of threat of aggression;
 - b. The club, Confederation or the Federation with a fine of 601 USD to 2,000 USD.
2. Clubs, Confederations and Federations shall be held jointly liable, in the terms of the previous number, for acts committed, directly or indirectly, by members of their governing bodies, athletes, coaches, employees and collaborators.

ARTICLE 30

(Regarding the declarations and the appearance in disciplinary process)

1. Who, having been notified to appear before the Disciplinary Committee, unjustifiably does not attend or does not give a statement, does not respect the decisions of any body of **FIRS RHTC**, resort to fraudulent means of response, clarification or information, on his own initiative or request of third party, will be sanctioned with the penalty of suspension of activity or functions of two to six months and a fine of 601 USD to 900 USD. The period of time to justify the non-appearance shall be of 5 working days, counting from the time in which it was scheduled.
2. Any person who, in a disciplinary proceeding where he or she is not accused, makes false declarations, uses false documents, acts in a simulated manner or acts in fraud regarding the provisions of the sports legislation, shall be punished with the penalty of suspension of activity or functions of six to twenty-four months and a fine of 901 USD to 3,000 USD.

ARTICLE 31

(Regarding cooperation or collaboration)

The person who incites or who directly contributes to others who commit offenses under this title shall be punished with the same penalty imposed on the offender.

CHAPTER II - SPECIFIC INFRACTIONS
SECTION I - ABOUT THE PLAYERS

ARTICLE 32

(Against the referees' team)

The offences of the players committed against the referees and their assistants will be punished in the following way:

1. MINOR OFFENCES

- a) Protests, incorrect attitude or other minor offence: punished in accordance with the provisions of article 5.
- b) Use of expressions, interviews, drawings, gestures, defamatory or of defamatory character: suspension of activity of up to 20 days, or one to two games.

2. SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Non compliance with decisions: suspension of activity of four to six games or one month and one day to three months.
- b) Attempt of aggression: Suspension of activity of five to ten games or three months to one year.
- c) Aggression without physical consequences: suspension of activity from one to two years.

3. VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Aggression with physical consequences: suspension of activity of two years and one day to five years.

ARTICLE 33

(Against other players, delegates and other parties involved in the matches)

The players' offences with regard to other players, match delegates, coaches, technical secretaries, physicians, masseurs, technical assistants and others involved in the sporting events, with a right of access or permanence on the rink intended for competition, are sanctioned as follows:

1. MINOR OFFENCES

- a) Protests, incorrect attitude or other minor offence: punished in accordance with the provisions of article 5.
- b) Use of expressions, interviews, drawings, gestures, defamatory or of defamatory character: suspension of activity of up to 20 days, or one to two games.

2. SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Use of expressions or gestures threatening or revealing indignity: suspension of activity of up to 20 days, or one to two games.
- b) Practice of violent play: suspension of activity of up to one month, or two to three games.
- c) Attempt of aggression: Suspension of activity from four to six games or from two months to one year;
- d) Aggression without physical consequences: suspension of activity from six to ten games or from three months to two years;
- e) Respond to an aggression without physical consequences: suspension of activity of four to six games or a month and a day to six months.

3. VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Aggression with physical consequences: suspension of the activity of two years and one day to four years;
- b) Respond to an aggression with physical consequences: suspension of activity of two years and one day to three years.

ARTICULO 34°

(Against the public)

The offences committed by the players against the public are sanctioned in the following terms:

1. MINOR OFFENCES

- a) Incorrect behaviour: suspension of activity of up to 20 days, or one to two games.
- b) Expressions, interviews, drawings and gestures that are abusive, defamatory or rude: suspension of activity up to one month or one to three games.

2. SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Expressions or gestures threatening or that represent an attempt of aggression: suspension of activity of four to six games or of two months to one year;
- b) Respond to an aggression or mutual aggression: suspension of activity from four to eight games or from four months to two years.

3. VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Aggression: suspension of activity of two years and one day to four years.

ARTICLE 35

(Other infringements)

1. The player who presents himself to the match when he is in the conditions indicated in article 40 will be sanctioned as follows:
 - a) In the case of a player who is not registered or who is irregularly registered: suspension of activity from two to twelve months;
 - b) In the case of a player sanctioned by ten official matches in the category, the penalty will be doubled in case of recidivism.

ARTICLE 36

(Refusal to leave the rink)

The player who, despite the intervention of the team captain and the delegate of the Confederation, Federation or Club, requested by the referee, refuses to leave the rink, after having received an order of expulsion, resulting in the referee to end the match before the regulation time, will be sanctioned with a penalty of six months to one year of suspension of activity.

SECTION II - ABOUT TRAINERS, DELEGATES, PHYSICAL PREPARERS, TECHNICAL SECRETARIES, PHYSICIANS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS, AND CONFEDERATION, FEDERATION OR CLUB COLLABORATORS

ARTICLE 37

1. All acts defined previously as infractions of the players, will be sanctioned with double penalty to the same ones when they are committed by the coaches, delegates, physical trainers, technical secretaries, doctors, masseuses, technical auxiliaries and collaborators of the Confederation, Federation or Club.
2. When the persons mentioned in the previous paragraph encourage the players, inciting them to commit acts defined as punishable in these Regulations, they will be sanctioned with the same penalty as the one indicated for the players for committing them, even if they refrain from doing them.

SECTION III - CONFEDERATIONS, FEDERATIONS AND CLUBS

ARTICLE 38

(From non-attendance to tests)

Confederations, Federations and Clubs that do not inform to **FIRS RHTC** their intention not to participate in the official matches or competitions for which they were classified, at least 15 days before the date fixed for the draw, will be punished with suspension of activity for a year, in the competitions organized by that Committee.

ARTICLE 39

(Aggravation)

If the withdrawal of the Confederation, Federation or Club takes place after the draw has taken place but before the start of the competition, the offender will be sanctioned with a fine that can go from 3,001 USD to 9,000 USD and will be prevented from participating in the competitions organized by **FIRS RHTC** the following year.

ARTICLE 40

(Regarding the irregular inclusion of players)

The Confederation, Federation or Club that in official matches uses players, through their inclusion in the match report, who are not in legal or regulatory conditions to be eligible to play, will be sanctioned with the loss of the match by the result of 0-10 and deduction of a point added to those obtained in competitions by points; And with the loss of the game in the competitions disputed in the eliminating form. In both cases, a fine of USD 3,001 to USD6,000 will be applied.

ARTICLE 41

(Regarding non-appearance to games)

1. The Confederation, Federation or Club that does not participate in the games for which it has been qualified and committed, except in the case of force majeure, will be considered non-appearance and will be sanctioned with the loss of the game with the result of 0- 10 and deduction of two points added to those obtained in competitions by points; And with the loss of the game in the competitions disputed in the eliminating form.
In both cases, a fine of US \$ 3,001 to US \$ 6,000 will also be applied, doubled in the case of a repeated offense.
2. The justification for the absence must be submitted within 48 (forty-eight) hours, to the Organizing Committee of the competition, who will appreciate and decide.
3. The Confederation, Federation or offending Club shall also be liable to compensate / indemnify the referees' costs and the organization expenses, as well as the travel and accommodation expenses of the opposing team, if applicable.

ARTICLE 42

(Regarding the abandonment of the premises or collective misconduct)

1. The Confederation, Federation or Club whose teams intentionally leave the rink, after the match has started, or those that have a collective behaviour that prevents the referees from continuing and concluding the match, will be sanctioned with the loss of the game as a result of 0 -10 and with a fine of USD 800, doubled in case of a second offence;
2. The players, coaches, leaders and collaborators involved in the abandonment shall also be subject to a disciplinary procedure.
3. It is considered abandonment of the rink, the intentional exit of a number of players that prevents the continuation of the match.
4. The Confederation, Federation or the Club is held liable, under the terms of paragraph 1, of the offenses committed, directly or indirectly, by any of the members of its governing bodies.

ARTICLE 43

(Regarding the non realization or suspension of games for aggression to the referee's team)

The Confederation, Federation or Club that participates in a match, whose sports agent, whether or not registered in the match record, physically assaults one of the referees in a way that causes injury that makes it impossible to start or restart the match, this being, by virtue of that fact, finished before the regulation time, will be sanctioned with the loss of the game with the result of 0-10 and also with a fine of 3,001 USD to 10,000 USD.

ARTICLE 44

(Failure to comply with the expulsion order)

1. When the referees, before the regulation team, have finished the game, as a result of an expelled player refusing to leave the game rink, after the attempts of their team captain and the game's delegate has been frustrated, the Confederation, Federation or the Club to which he belongs, shall be punished by the loss of the game for a score of 0-10 and a fine of USD 800, doubled in case of a second offence.
2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply to any member showing on the game's report.

ARTICLE 45

(Regarding the obstruction of the television transmission and other infractions)

1. The Confederation, the Federation or the Club that somehow prevents the transmission of matches or tests by television, are liable to be punished by a year of suspension of activity and to the payment to FIRS of a compensation that can go from 1,000 USD to 3,000 USD.
2. The same sanction shall be imposed in cases in which a Confederation, Federation or Club permits the transmission without authorization of the Executive Bureau of the FIRS.
3. The Confederation, Federation or Club disputing a match against a Confederation, Federation or Club that is suspended by the F.I.R.S., will be sanctioned with a fine of 300 USD per player aligned participating in the said game.

SECTION IV - DELEGATES OF CONFEDERATIONS, FEDERATIONS OR CLUBS**ARTICLE 46**

(Failure to fulfil their duties)

Delegates to games who fail to perform the duties assigned to them by the Regulations and Rules of the game, will be sanctioned up to thirty days of suspension of activity and a fine of 100 USD to 600 USD.

SECTION V - REGARDING THE SPECTATORS**ARTICLE 47**

(Disturbances)

1. Confederations, Federations and / or Clubs that do not ensure order and discipline within the areas of the sports complexes, before, during and after the matches, will always be held responsible and punished as follows:
 - a) Whenever there are acts of disruption of order or discipline, particularly: the throwing of objects; Aggressions, threats or attempts of aggression; Serious instigations against spectators, agents of authority, leaders, doctors, coaches, auxiliaries, employees, elements of the referee's team and players; The invasion of the rink, with or without the intention of protesting or disturbing the participants in question, the Federations or Clubs will be sanctioned with a fine of up to 600 USD.
 - b) If any of the incidents mentioned in the preceding paragraph results in a temporary interruption of the game, or cause special difficulties to its beginning, recommencement or continuation of the game, the Confederations, Federations or Clubs will be sanctioned with a warning of closure of its venue for one to two games and a fine of 601 USD to 1,000 USD. In case of a second offence, the penalty will be to ban the venue from one to two games and a fine of 800 USD to 2,000 USD.

2. The same sanction shall be applied to the Confederation, Federation or Club in case of a serious attempt of aggression or serious intimidating acts organized against the persons mentioned in section a) and have caused significant property damages.
 - a) If the disturbances cause discomfort to the persons mentioned in section a), but do not cause the interruption of the game, do not cause special difficulties for its beginning, recommencement or continuation of the game, the Federations or Clubs will be sanctioned with the warning ban of its venue from one to two matches and a fine from 601 USD to 1,000 USD.
 - b) In case of a second offence, the penalty will be for the closure of the venue for one to two games and a fine of 800 USD to 2,000 USD.
 - c) If the disturbances cause discomfort to the persons mentioned in subparagraph a) and cause the referee to interrupt the game or cause special difficulties for its beginning, recommencement or continuation of play, the Confederations, Federations or Clubs will be sanctioned with the closing of their venue, or the one considered as such, from one to three games and a fine of 1,000 USD to 3,000 USD.
3. If the disturbances cause discomfort to the persons mentioned in subparagraph a), preventing the referee, not to initiate or restart the game, or terminate the game before the regular time, the Confederations, Federations or Clubs will be sanctioned with the closing of their venue, or the considered like such, for four to ten games and a fine of 3,001 USD to 15,000 USD.
4. In cases in which the referee does not start the match, or when the match ends before the regulation time, a disciplinary procedure will be initiated to those responsible for the disorders.
5. If in such case it is proven that the disorders were made by members or supporters of a Confederation, Federation or of a Club, this will be sanctioned with the loss of the game by the result of 0-10; And if it is proven that those same acts were carried out by members or supporters of both Confederations, Federations or Clubs, these will be sanctioned with the loss of the game.
6. A sports complex is defined as the set of grounds, constructions and facilities intended for the sporting practice of one or more modalities, belonging to or exploited by a single entity, including spaces reserved for the public and for car parking, as well as streets and adjoining units necessary for the proper functioning of the whole.
7. External limits of the sports complex mean the public roads which lead to its access doors.
8. Sports venue means the space created exclusively for the practice of sport, which has a permanent character and construction structures that guarantee this use and function, endowed with permanent sites and reserved for assistants, subject to controlled entrances.
9. Competition area means the area where the competition is held including the protection zones defined in the international regulations of the sport.
10. In all circumstances, the Federation or Club will always be responsible for the disorders provoked, on the occasion of the games, by their partners or supporters or by persons related or subordinated to the Federation or Club, when they are duly proven.

ARTICULE 48

(Compensation to members of the referee's team, players, Confederations, Federations, Clubs and others)

1. When in a sports venue, someone of the referee team, players of the opposing team, coaches, managers and employees, suffers bodily injury or material damages, the Confederation, Federation or Club responsible for the harmful act are obliged to pay a compensation.
2. The Confederation, Federation or Club are responsible in the terms of the previous number when the facts are generated within the framework of numbers 6 to 9 of article 47.
3. When it cannot be proved which Confederation, Federation or Club is responsible for harmful acts, the compensation referred to in number 1 shall be borne equally by both Confederations, Federations or Clubs.
4. In the case of games played on neutral ground, both Confederations, Federations or Clubs shall be jointly and severally liable.
5. The system established in this Regulation for fines imposed on Confederations, Federations or Clubs is applicable to compensation.

SECTION VI – REGARDING THE REFEREES

ARTICLE 49

The referees will show consideration to the players, coaches, managers and employees of the Confederations, Federations and Clubs while exercising their functions.

Under no circumstances may the referees address to the public, under any pretext or excuse.

The referees, who commit any of the infractions against the players, typified in these Regulations, will be sanctioned with the same sanctions as the players, but in their maximum degree.

ARTICLE 50

The offences of the referees are sanctioned as follows:

MINOR OFFENCES

- a) The lack of punctuality in the fulfilment of their obligations, especially with regards to their presence in the cities or on the playing venues, before the start of the matches.
- b) The defective or incomplete wording of the report of the game.
- c) Sending of the match report to the Technical Committee outside the deadlines and the form established by the regulations set by the said Committee.
- d) To reject, without justifiable cause, the nomination to referee a game, that has been made by the Technical Committee.

These offenses shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of article 21, paragraph 2

SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) The unjustified absence to referee a game for which he was appointed.
- b) The suspension of a game without justifiable cause and without evaluating all the means at his disposal to allow the continuation of the game.
- c) Failure to report, when it is required to do so or is required by the Technical Committees on events occurring before, during or after the game.
- d) To adopt a passive or negligent attitude to unsporting behaviour of the members of the participating teams.
- e) The second offence of a minor offence.

These infractions will be punished with suspension of activity of one month and one day to two years and a fine consisting in the loss of all the rights to referee.

VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES

- a) Misrepresentation or manipulation of the game's report intentionally changing, in whole or in part, its content, so that the notes do not correspond to the real facts, as well as the issuing of malicious and false reports.
- b) Repeating a serious offence.
- c) These infringements will be punished with suspension of activity of two years and one day to five years and a fine consisting of the loss of all refereeing rights.

ARTICLE 51

The referees cannot reject the nominations, except for reasons of force majeure, which they must prove before the Technical Committee. If it is found to be false the allegation to reject the nomination, the responsible will incur in a serious infraction that will be sanctioned with the suspension of the activity of one month and one day to two years.

In the event of a repeated offense, the infraction will be considered very serious and will be punished with the suspension of activity of two to five years.

TITLE IV: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

CHAPTER I - SPORTS DISCIPLINARY BODIES

ARTICLE 52

(Regarding the disciplinary bodies and their composition)

1. As stated in Article 3 of these Regulations, the disciplinary bodies responsible for exercising the power of this nature are the **Disciplinary Committee and the Executive Bureau of the FIRS**, in their respective instances and competencies.
2. **The Disciplinary Committee shall be composed of a single member, which shall be graduated in law** and may receive remuneration if so agreed by the President of FIRS.

ARTICLE 53

(Competence of the Disciplinary Committee)

The Disciplinary Committee has the following competences:

- a) To evaluate and punish all disciplinary sports infractions attributed to individual or collective persons listed in article 1 of this Regulation.
- b) To instruct and direct the Disciplinary Proceedings;
- c) To evaluate and resolve protests presented to them.

ARTICLE 54

(Basis of deliberation)

The Disciplinary Committee shall deliberate on the basis of the report of the referee's team, of the **FIRS RHTC** delegates attending the game (if any), of the video record if it exists and of all documents and information at its disposal.

ARTICLE 55

(Regarding the delegation of competences)

1. In the rink hockey events not attended by members of the Disciplinary Committee, its competences shall be delegated in favour of one of their members attending the Championship, who shall act as the only Judge;
2. When none of the members of the Disciplinary Committee are attending a rink hockey event, their competences shall be delegated to the President of the **FIRS RHTC**, taking into account the following conditions in the exercise of the disciplinary action:
 - a) This delegation of powers only becomes effective for any infraction that determines a possible disciplinary sanction until 3 games of suspension;
 - b) In all other situations, the offender in question will have to be preventatively suspended, and a disciplinary participation will be sent to the Disciplinary Committee by the President of the **FIRS RHTC**, detailing the situation.

CHAPTER II - PROTESTS OF GAMES AND TESTS, INSTRUCTION PROCESSES AND DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES

SECTION I - GENERAL RULES

ARTICLE 56

(Classes of procedures)

The investigation of the facts and of the unlawful disciplinary acts are carried out by summary instructions or disciplinary procedures.

ARTICLE 57

(Summary instruction)

The summary instruction is designed to investigate the facts, to instruct generically the processes and to determine the responsibilities for the acts or minor or serious offences.

ARTICLE 58

(Disciplinary procedure)

Disciplinary proceedings are intended to clarify facts and circumstances and to determine responsibilities for misconduct, infractions or disciplinary actions, in order to allow for disciplinary action and the application of sanctions.

ARTICLE 59

(Sanctions applicable without procedure)

The application of sanctions does not depend on the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, except in the case of infractions classified as very serious.

SECTION I – PROTESTS

ARTICLE 60

(Admissibility)

1. Federations and Clubs may submit protests on the validity of games, only based on the following grounds:
 - a) An "administrative" protest, which is strictly related to any irregularities and / or violations of the Rules or Technical Regulations of the discipline in question, such as - eligibility of Teams and / or Players, poor surface conditions of skating or playing rink, use of clothing and / or irregular equipment, etc.
 - "Administrative" protests may only be made by the party involved who has a direct interest in the matter and who may benefit from the follow-up given to the protest in question.
 - An "administrative" protest cannot be made where the responsibility for the irregularity invoked is the sole responsibility of the requesting party.
 - b) A "technical" protest, which is strictly related to alleged technical errors or other judgments erroneously made during a match by the referees, in violation of the Official Rules in force or which may have had a direct influence on the final result of a match.
2. In compliance with the rules, regulations, procedures and deadlines established by FIRH RHTC, all protests must be communicated by the interested party and formally recorded, in writing, in the Minutes / Report by the Referees of the game in question. For this reason, delegates should require the referee to record this information in those documents.
3. Protests must be confirmed by writing to FIRH RHTC:
 - a) Within a maximum period of 4 hours after the conclusion of the match corresponding to the championships that are played in a single sports venue and on consecutive days.
 - b) In the maximum period of 48 hours after the conclusion of the match corresponding to the championships that are not disputed in a single sports venue and on consecutive days.

4. Protests will only be admitted when the intention of the claim is recorded in the Minute / Report of the game. In addition, protests submitted outside the period indicated in the previous section or that are not accompanied by the fee provided for in Article 64 of this Regulation, will be rejected.

ARTICLE 61

(Legitimacy)

1. Protests may be made only by those who have a direct interest and benefit from their follow-up.
2. No protest shall be admitted when it is established that the alleged irregularity is the responsibility of the Confederation, Federation or Club protesting.

ARTICLE 62

(Founded grounds)

Protests must be motivated in writing and should describe in detail:

- a) The facts that determine it and the elements that confirm it.
- b) The regulatory provisions on which they are based.
- c) What are the intentions of the Confederation, Federation or Club on presenting the protest.

ARTICLE 63

(Form and conditions)

1. Protests must be confirmed by writing to **FIRS RHTC**, as organizer of the championship.
2. The document containing the protest must be delivered to the Secretariat of the said Committee in person by the Delegate of the Federation or Club, or by sending it by registered letter, facsimile, burofax or electronic mail.
3. When the protest is made by registered letter or burofax, the deadline is confirmed by the date of delivery in the postal service and that is recorded in the respective record.
4. Protests relating to technical referee's judgments will only be admitted if they are the object of legal offences which violates the official **FIRS RHTC** Rules in force.

ARTICLE 64

(Protest fee)

1. The fee relating to the filing of the protest is 300 USD.
2. If the protest is declared to be valid, the total amount of the fee will be refunded.

ARTICLE 65

(No confirmation and fine)

1. When a protest is not confirmed, a fine of 200 USD will be imposed on the Confederation, Federation or the Club that presented it.
2. In case of a second offence, the Confederation, Federation or the Club will be fined with 400 USD.

SECTION III - SUMMARY PROCEDURE

ARTICLE 66

(Organization and procedures)

1. The summary investigation procedure is organized with the participation of all the people involved in what happened to be analysed.
2. Accused persons' subject to discipline must have the right to pronounce themselves on the facts, particularly those attributed or imputed to them.
3. The hearing of the accused, as well as any witnesses, is not subject to special formalities, and may be made by letter, fax or e-mail, in response to an invitation to speak on the facts.
4. The diligences must be carried out diligently, without dilatory procedures.

SECTION IV - DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

ARTICLE 67

(Preventive suspension)

1. The Disciplinary Committee or who acts by delegation thereof, may, in the specific circumstances of the case, suspend preventively the alleged offender, if the gravity of the offense justifies it.
2. The preventive suspension is notified to the alleged offender, by a certifiable writing, at the moment in which he is informed about the initiation of the investigation or the disciplinary procedure.
3. If the penalty applied is that of suspension, the period of preventive suspension will be deducted from the time actually imposed for suspension.

CHAPTER III – RESOURCES

ARTICLE 68

(Appeals)

1. Resolutions issued by the Disciplinary Committee in full or by a single judge (point 1 of article 55) may be appealed to **the Executive Bureau of the FIRS**:
 - a) The period for lodging the appeal is of 10 calendar days from the date of notification to the interested party.
 - b) The document containing the appeal must contain the allegations of the appellant and the evidence that he deems appropriate.
 - c) The appeal must be delivered to the Secretariat of **FIRS RHTC** by the delegate of the Confederation, Federation or Club, or by sending it by registered letter, fax, burofax or electronic mail.
 - d) When the appeal is made by registered letter or burofax, the deadline is confirmed by the date of delivery in the postal service and that is recorded in the respective record.

ARTICLE 69

(Appeals fee)

1. The fee related to the filing of the appeal, to the Disciplinary Committee, stated in Article 68.1, shall be of USD 300.
2. The fee for the filing of the appeal to **the Executive Bureau of the FIRS**, in Article 68.1 is of USD 500.
3. The payment of the fees will be made simultaneously with the delivery of the documents.
4. In case the appeal is declared valid, the amount paid will be fully refunded.
5. In the event that the appeal is rejected, the refund of the fee will not be made, to allow the expenses incurred to be paid.
6. In all disciplinary proceedings, the person punished, jointly with the Confederation, Federation or the Club to which it is linked, is subject to payment of the existing costs and expenses.

ARTICLE 70

(Admissibility)

1. The appeals shall only be admitted to proceedings when they are submitted within the periods established in Article 68 of these Regulations and are accompanied by proof of payment of the respective fee provided for in Article 69 of these Regulations.
2. The filing of a protest, a complaint or an appeal does not suspend the decisions that have been challenged, unless there is a contrary decision of one of the governing bodies of FIRS.
3. The supreme body of instance to try and decide any appeal is always the FIRS Congress.
 - a) The deliberations approved by the FIRS Congress are "final decisions" and are not open to any appeal, disputes or legal claims of any kind.
 - b) Only National Federations in good standing of FIRS and without outstanding quotas will have the right to file appeals before Congress.

CAPÍTULO IV - DISPOSICIONES FINALES

ARTICLE 71

(Gaps, omissions and hierarchy of the norms)

1. To any existing gaps and / or omissions in this Regulation - and without prejudice to any gaps and / or omissions that may be later incorporated in these Bylaws, by deliberation of the Congress - the procedures established in the following points of this article are applicable.
2. All situations will be analysed and object of specific resolution by **the Executive Bureau of the FIRS**, after taking into consideration:
 - a) All similar provisions that may exist in the Statutes or other Regulations of FIRS.
 - b) The opinion of the Disciplinary Committee of the **FIRS RHTC**.
3. Statutory rules prevail over all others where there is duplicity or incompatibility between them.

ARTICLE 72

(Entry into force of this Regulation)

The Disciplinary Regulation of FIRS-RHTC will be effective on August 1, 2017.

Date: 2017, August

FIRS RINK-HOCKEY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE



Carmelo Paniagua Manso, Chairman