



# Bylaws ISF

## 01 Post Address

Although the International Stratego Federation will legally be registered and have its seat in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, the ISF will not have a permanent official office. For official use and representation a central postal address in the Netherlands will be used, as well as an e-mail address and a website.

## 02 Membership

### 2.1 Organizations

A National Stratego Organization (hereafter called NSO) of any country may apply for membership in the ISF and be elected thereto by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the General Assembly of ISF at any meeting at which a quorum is present, provided that the applying NSO shall:

- be the sole national organization controlling Stratego in its country, be open to all nationals and bona fide residents of the particular country, subject only to meeting the requirements of such NSO,
- have an appropriate register of members,
- comply with the Constitution and By-Laws of the ISF,
- comply with all applicable ISF rules and regulations for all Stratego competitions and tournaments with ISF Rating status,
- organize at least a National Championship plus two regular tournaments a year, played according to the ISF Tournament Regulations and ISF Game Rules,
- agrees to play in ISF competitions against all other NSOs which are qualified members of ISF,
- uphold an image of integrity and enforce a standard of ethics acceptable to the ISF.

The expression 'country' shall mean any country, state, territory or a part of a territory recognized by the international community. The name of the NSO must reflect the territorial extent of the NSO.

### 2.2 Junior membership

New ISF members are eligible to opt for a two year status as 'Junior Member', which implies reduced membership dues and reduced voting power in the General Assembly. This status can only be granted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the General Assembly at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

### 2.3 Resignations

Any member of ISF which is not in arrears in dues or in the performance of ISF duties may resign in good standing.

Resignations may be made in writing to the ISF Executive at least 3 months before dues become payable, otherwise members shall be liable for dues for the upcoming year.

### 2.4 Removal and suspension, reinstatements

(i) A member may be removed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds majority at any meeting of the General Assembly at which a quorum is present. This NSO can only be reinstated by the affirmative vote of a majority of a General Assembly meeting at which a quorum is present.

(ii) A member of ISF shall be automatically suspended from membership in the ISF for failing for a period of two full years to pay annual dues or charges. This member may be reinstated by the affirmative vote of a majority of a General Assembly meeting at which a quorum is present, and after paying to ISF an amount equal to the dues and charges in arrears plus any further financial penalty imposed by the general Assembly.

(iii) A member may be suspended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the General Assembly, either for an indefinite or for any defined period, if the general Assembly concludes that the member is not conforming or has not conformed with the requirements for eligibility for membership, or is bringing disrepute upon the ISF or its Stratego competitions. This member may be reinstated by the affirmative vote of two-thirds majority at any meeting of the General Assembly at which a quorum is present.

## 03 General Assembly

### 3.1 Powers

The General Assembly shall have all powers in the ISF not delegated to the Executive or specific persons within the Executive under the Constitution or By-Laws. The General Assembly may also make recommendations to the Executive in respect to any administrative or Executive matters subject to the jurisdiction of the Executive. The General Assembly shall be entitled to receive reports on the affairs of the ISF and the business transacted by the Executive at each of the meetings of the General Assembly.

### 3.2 Meetings

There shall be a regular meeting of the General Assembly at every ISF World Championship. Additional meetings can be

called upon by the Executive, or requested by (minimum 2) NSOs representing at least one third of the ISF members.

The members of ISF have to be notified at least one month in advance on the exact date, time and agenda of a meeting. The member NSOs have to announce to ISF and all ISF members at least one week in advance who their delegates or proxies will be. All Executive members are expected to be present or represented (for reporting duties) on the General Assembly meeting: for voting, Executive members cannot appoint a proxy. Each member NSO may designate and accredit up to 2 delegates to the general Assembly. Informal, not yet legally established Stratego groups in countries without an ISF affiliated NSO can be invited by the Executive to designate one delegate to represent Stratego in their country. Present Executive members are supposed to represent the interest of international Stratego-playing in general, and of not yet affiliated countries in particular. The order of business at a regular meeting of the General Assembly shall be as follows:

- roll call to determine quorum
- reports of all individual Executive members (or their proxies) on their individual field of responsibility
- report of the treasurer
- plans and proposed annual budget for the new calendar year
- unfinished business
- new business
- adjournment

### 3.3 Voting power

The number of delegates and Executive members in a General Assembly meeting is not related to the voting power in the meeting. Voting power within the General Assembly will be as follows:

- full members: 3 votes
- junior members: 2 votes
- delegates of informal Stratego groups: 1 vote on the following issues: all issues that have directly impact on their country.
- Executive: 2 votes.

Where two delegates of an NSO share different opinions, the vote / voting power of this NSO or the Executive will split, each delegate having 1 ½ vote. When Executive members present at the General Assembly share different opinions, the vote / voting power of the Executive will go to the majority stand among the Executive members present or proxied. If there is no majority stand within the Executive, the Executive vote will be split equally.

The Executive (members) do not have the right to vote on any issues related to election, re-election or removal of Executive members, nor on matters related to the delegation / assigning of responsibilities to individual Executive members or the Executive as a whole by the General Assembly.

## 04 Executive Council

### 4.1 Powers

The Executive exercises the executive and administrative powers over the affairs of the ISF, as delegated by the General Assembly to the Executive. Each Executive member is assigned an individual field of responsibility by the General Assembly, and is only accountable to the General Assembly within this field of responsibility. Only on matters delegated to the Executive outside individual responsibilities, the Executive is accountable to the General Assembly as a collective. For all matters not specifically delegated to the Executive, action by the Executive will require a 51 % written consent by the whole General Assembly.

### 4.2 Meetings

A regular meeting of the Executive shall be held in conjunction with the ISF Masters of Stratego and the ISF World Championships. Additional meetings may be held at the request of at least two Executive members, upon at least two weeks notice.

### 4.3 Action without a meeting

In lieu of a meeting, any matter delegated to the Executive but not within the individual field of responsibility of one specific Executive member, may be acted on by Postal Ballot. In such case, at least 5 days notice setting forth the matter to be acted on shall be given to each member of the Executive. Effective action by Postal Ballot shall require 51% written / e-mailed consent of the Executive.

### 4.4 Annual budget

Each annual General Assembly meeting at the ISF World Championships, the Executive shall present her plans and proposed budget for the subsequent calendar year to the General Assembly.

## 05 Executive Members

### 5.1 Individual operational responsibilities

The Executive of ISF shall in principle include at least a person responsible for 'Technical Affairs' (Game Rules, Tournament Regulations, Appeals, Ranking/Rating), a person responsible for 'Promotion Activities' (promotion in non-affiliated countries and support to junior-members and informal groups), and a person responsible for 'Organisation of ISF Tournaments' (Masters, World Championships, etc). The individual assignments above can be adjusted, combined, rescheduled or expanded by the General Assembly as it sees fit, after consultation of the Executive.

Each Executive member is responsible for submitting periodical reports on his or her individual field of responsibility to the General Assembly.

#### 5.2 President, secretary, treasurer

The positions of president of ISF, secretary and treasurer are distributed among the Executive members by the Executive itself. These positions can even rotate over different Executive members, with a minimum time interval of half a year.

Any two or more offices may be held by the same person, except president and treasurer.

If necessary, election of positions shall be done by secret ballot, requiring a majority vote of all Executive members present at the meeting.

The president shall preside at all meetings of the Executive and the General Assembly, shall sign or countersign all certificates and contracts of the ISF with third parties, and present the yearly plans/budget for the new season to the General Assembly.

The secretary shall issue notice for all meetings, keep minutes of all meetings, and receive and respond or distribute all incoming mail of ISF.

The treasurer shall have the custody of all monies and securities of the ISF and shall keep regular books of accounts, and disburse the funds of ISF as may be ordered by the Executive, and submit reports at the annual meeting of the General Assembly.

#### 5.3 Absence, inability to act, vacancies

In the case of temporary absence or inability to act of any Executive member, the Executive shall delegate the powers or duties of such Executive member to any other Executive member, with a maximum of 2 months. Longer absences and vacancies arising from any cause in the Executive have to be filled by the General Assembly within 2 months at any regular or special meeting.

#### 5.4 Removal

Any Executive member may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of any regular or special meeting of the General Assembly at which a quorum is present.

## 06 Court of Appeal

#### 6.1 Function

The General Assembly shall appoint a minimum three person Court of Appeal. The function of the Court of Appeal shall be to safeguard the playing of ISF tournaments according to the ISF Game Rules and ISF Tournament Regulations, to act as the highest judicial body to rule on protests and appeals from

individual contestants of ISF tournaments, and to formulate and recommend to the General Assembly any desirable additions or amendments to the Game Rules and Tournament Regulations. The process of appeals is described in the ISF Tournament Regulations.

#### 6.2 Composition

The Executive member responsible for Technical Affairs shall be the chairman of the Court of Appeal. The other 2 members shall be appointed by a majority of the General Assembly at any meeting at which a quorum is present. Not more than 2 persons from one nationality may be member of the Court of Appeal.

#### 6.3 Quorum and action without meeting

A quorum of the Court of Appeal consists of a majority of the members. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting, or the written approval of a majority of all members without a meeting shall be sufficient for the approval of any matter within the jurisdiction of the Court. The Court shall fix its own rules of procedure, and shall meet as provided by such rules. The Court shall keep regular minutes of its meetings and rulings to be recorded in books kept for that purpose by the Court's chairman. Rulings on appeals have to be published on the website of ISF.

## 07 Delegated Committees and Officers

#### 7.1 Function and appointment

All individual Executive members may appoint special or standing committees or individual officers to perform (part of the) tasks and activities in their own individual field of responsibility. Delegated committees will be chaired by the Executive member who appointed the committee, and preferably have an international composition. The appointing Executive member will be hold responsible for all acts and decisions of any delegated committees and officers he may have appointed at all times.

The terms of reference of a delegated committee or officer, as well as the appointment of persons in delegated committees or as delegated officer has to be recorded in the minutes of Executive meetings and published on the ISF website.

#### 7.2 Quorum and action without meeting

A quorum of a delegated committee consists of a majority of the members. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting, or the written approval of a majority of all members without a meeting shall be sufficient for the approval of any matter within the jurisdiction of a committee. Any

Committee shall fix its own rules of procedure, and shall meet as provided by such rules.

### 7.3 Overruling

An action / decision by a delegated committee or delegated officer can be overruled in the following ways:

- by the appointing Executive member under whose authority they operate, if the action to be overruled is clearly within the field of responsibility of this Executive member,
- by a majority of any meeting of the Executive, if the decision was outside the jurisdiction of both the committee and the appointing Executive member,
- by a majority of any meeting of the General Assembly at which a quorum is present (always).

## 08 ISF Tournaments and Competitions

### 8.1 ISF Tournaments

ISF tournaments conducted under the sanction and control of the ISF will include:

- Masters of Stratego: held in each year, by invitation only
- Stratego World Championships (Individual): held every year, open to all,
- Stratego National Team Championships: held in conjunction with the Individual World Championships, by qualification only.
- Any other competitions as have been approved and budgetted by the General Assembly.

### 8.2 Preparation Committee

For each ISF Tournament, the Executive member responsible for Tournament Organization will appoint a preparation committee. This Committee will be chaired by the appointing Executive member, and at least further include a representative of the host country NSO and the proposed head of the Tournament Organization Team, and such other persons as the appointing Executive member may select after consultation of the President of the NSO of the hosting country.

Subject to the approval of the General Assembly, it shall be the function and duty of the Preparation Committee to make all necessary arrangements incident to the staging of the tournament.

### 8.3 Organization Team

For each ISF Tournament, the Executive member responsible for Tournament Organization will appoint a Tournament Organization Team (head/coordinator, computer operators, arbiters). Starting from lists of candidates supplied by all ISF member NSOs, the

responsible Executive member will make a final selection, based on (i) experience in performing in a particular task at big tournaments, (ii) language capacities, (iii) international representation.

## 09 Nationality

### 9.1 Representing a country

Any competitor entering a non-individual ISF tournament (World National Team Championship, Country Tournaments, etc) can only represent a particular country in the following cases:

- if he is a national of the country entering him for participation
- if he is a bona fide resident of the country entering him for participating AND originates from a country without an ISF affiliated NSO,
- if he has voluntarily and irreversibly chosen to represent on strong arguments a country of whom is neither a national nor a resident, subject to approval by the Executive.

Persons opting for (iii) have to submit a request to represent a particular country, together with a motivation of their emotional attachment to this country to the Executive, and can if approved by the Executive no longer enter national championships of any other country (including their country of nationality and their country of residence).

### 9.2 Double nationality

If a competitor is a national of two or more countries at the same time, he shall choose to represent either one of them and notify the Executive of his choice. The decision, and any change herein, will have to be submitted at least two months before the start of the new Stratego season, and is valid for a minimum of 2 Stratego seasons.

## 10 Finance

### 10.1 Dues and fees

The amount and time for payment of all dues, fees and other charges shall be as from time to time fixed and determined by the General Assembly. The Executive prepares a yearly budget and proposed membership fee, to approved with a majority vote at the yearly General Assembly.

### 10.2 Funds

The funds of the ISF shall be deposited in the name of ISF in such a bank as the Executive shall designate, and shall be drawn out only signed by persons designated by resolution of the Executive.

### 10.3 Fiscal year

The fiscal year of the ISF shall begin on the first day of January in each year.

### 10.4 Compensations

All Executive members, committee members and delegated officers of ISF will receive only full compensation for all costs made on behalf of ISF, provided that these costs have made for activities/expenses approved by the General Assembly in the annual budget. No financial rewards will be paid for any efforts made by any volunteer of ISF.

## 11 Records

The books, accounts and records of ISF shall be kept in such places as the Executive may from time to time appoint. All full members (not: junior members and informal groups) of ISF shall have the right to inspect any account or book or document of the ISF.

## 12 Amendments

Alterations, amendments or repeal of the By-Laws may be made in accordance with article 9 of the Constitution.