



**STATUTES OF THE  
CENTRAL AMERICAN AND  
CARIBBEAN ORGANIZATION CACSO**

**APPROVED AMENDMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF CACSO ON APRIL 16, 2004**

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **NAME AND ADDRESS**

**ARTICLE 1.** The Central American and Caribbean Sports Organization (CACSO), is the oldest regional sports organization, recognized by the International Olympic Committee in accordance with the principles and norms of the Olympic Charter. It has as its main objectives, the realization of the Central American and Caribbean Games and the development and protection of sports in the countries of the area that are affiliated through the National Olympic Committees. It promotes Peace, the Involvement of Women in Sports; promote the diffusion of Ethics, the defence of the Environment and the application of Doping Control.

**ARTICLE 2.** The Executive Office of CACSO shall be where the President resides.

**ARTICLE 3.** The CACSO is a non-political, and shall neither practice nor approve discrimination on the grounds of political ideology, religion, language, sex and race.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **ARTICLE 4.**

The purpose and objective of the organization:

- a- To strengthen the bonds of **union and** friendship among the Nations of Central America and the Caribbean.
- b- To support the endorsement and development of the Olympic Ideal according to the rules of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

- c- To cooperate with the **National** Olympic Committees of Central America and the Caribbean in the organization of special courses, which will ensure a better preparation of their coaches, athletes, directors and sport doctors with the support of Olympic Solidarity, according to a programme, approved by CACSO.
- d- To advise the **National** Olympic Committees of Central America and the Caribbean through qualified specialists in **marketing**, construction of sport installations, technical and administrative programmes, and sports medicine **with** the support of Olympic Solidarity and in keeping with the approved programmes for CACSO.
- e- To ensure the periodic celebration of the **Central American and Caribbean Games**, observing that the **organization of the Games follow** the Statutes and General Regulations, **in accordance with the Olympic Charter**.
- f- To maintain a close relationship with the **Continental and Regional Confederations** and **give them the corresponding** technical advice, just treatment and respect in controlling the Central American and Caribbean Games similar to the relationship between the International Olympic Committee and the International Federations, **without prejudice to the rights of each National Olympic Committee of our region**.
- g- To establish and maintain a relationship with the International **Sports** Federations without any prejudice as expressed in Articles 3 and 4 f.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **SYMBOLS AND LANGUAGES**

#### **ARTICLE 5. LOGO**

The official **Logo** of the Organization consists of three disks pierced from left to right with a black javelin. The first disk on the left has a yellow border and a red field; the second in the middle has a green

border and a white field and the third on the right has an orange border and a blue field. The concentric circles and where the javelin goes through are in black and gold.

## **ARTICLE 6.**

### **FLAG**

The flag is white in a rectangular form **size** one and a half times longer than wide and carries in the centre the **Logo** described in Article 5.

## **ARTICLE 7.**

### **ANTHEM**

The official anthem of the Games is the one played **in** Mexico during the celebration of the VII Central American and Caribbean Games.

## **ARTICLE 8.**

### **FLAME**

The Central American and Caribbean flame we shall be kindled only in **the City of Teotihuacan in** Mexico and from there the torch w shall be taken to the site of the Games. **The Special Ceremony will take place in coordination with the Mexico Olympic Committee.**

**The use of the flame and the torch are property of CASO.**

## **ARTICLE 9.**

### **LANGUAGE**

The official languages of the Organization (**ODECABE**) are **Spanish and English**. In case of any discrepancy in the texts, the **Spanish** version shall prevail.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE MEMBERS

**ARTICLE 10.** Members of CACSO are the **National** Olympic Committees of: Antigua and Barbuda, Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, **US** Virgin Islands, Venezuela.

**ARTICLE 11.** Any other **National** Olympic Committee **of** the region **recognized by the** International Olympic Committee and whose application to CACSO is favourably approved by the Executive Committee **of CACSO** and ratified by the General Assembly shall become a member.

## CHAPTER V

### RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS

**ARTICLE 12.** All members of the Organization (**ODECABE**) have the same rights and duties, except the vote, as **covered** in Articles **13**.

**ARTICLE 13.** The rights of the members are:

- a. To be represented in the General Assembly **by a maximum** of two delegates (**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>**), duly accredited and residing in the jurisdiction of the **National** Olympic Committee represented. Only one delegate shall have the right to vote.
- b. At the Assemblies, the National Olympic Committees in whose countries where the Games have been celebrate, shall have the right of two votes- one from each delegate and the NOC that hosted more than two Games will have the right to three (3) votes.

- c. To bid for the hosting of the Central American and Caribbean Games, having satisfied the conditions set **forth** in these statutes for such a purpose.
- d. To request the summoning of an extraordinary session of the General Assembly.
- e. To request to **hold** a General Assembly, ordinary or extraordinary **and the** meeting of the Executive Committee **of CACSO**.
- f. To request advice and/or support from the Organization **(CACSO)** to resolve sports problems, in it's Jurisdiction.
- g. To send relevant matters to be discussed at the Assembly, **thirty (30)** days prior to the date of that Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 14. Duties of the members of CACSO**

**To** comply faithfully and loyally with the Statutes and General Regulations as well as the Resolutions passed by the governing departments of the Organization **(CACSO)**.

### **CHAPTER VI**

#### **GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**ARTICLE 15.** CACSO has its governing departments in hierarchic order: the Assembly, the Executive Committee, and the President of the Executive Committee.

### **CHAPTER VII**

#### **THE ASSEMBLY**

**ARTICLE 16.** The General Assembly is the supreme authority of CACSO. It can be either Ordinary or Extraordinary.

**ARTICLE 17.** The Assembly will be **formed by:**

- a. **Up to two (2) delegates(1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>)** duly accredited by an affiliated **National** Olympic Committee, but only one can vote.
- b. The members of the Executive Committee of **CACSO, who,** when acting in that function shall only speak at an Assembly, **with no vote.**
- c. **The members of the IOC residing in our region, the** Ex-officio members and the honorary members of CACSO, as well as the special members of the Assembly in session, shall only be allowed to speak.
- d. In case of a voting tie, the President or the Chairperson of the Assembly shall have the casting vote.

**ARTICLE 18.** The Ordinary General Assembly shall be convened as follows:

- a. In the week before the Central American and Caribbean Games at the **Host City** of the Games.
- b. One year after the Games, for the election of officers to the Executive Committee of CACSO
- c. Two (2) years after said Games, will be selected the future site of the Games to be celebrated six years later.

**ARTICLE 19.** Any other Assembly besides those specified in the previous Article shall be an Extraordinary one and can be convene only with the approval of not less than half of the members of the organization or when the Executive Committee **of CACSO** determined. An Extraordinary Assembly shall consider only those matters mentioned on the “Agenda”, attached to the notice convening the meeting.

**ARTICLE 20.** The convocation **to an Ordinary** General Assembly shall be sixty (60) days **in advance.**

**Notice of an Extraordinary General Assembly, including of the Order of Business shall be circulated fifteen (15) days in advance.**

**ARTICLE 21. QUORUM and DECISIONS:**

- a. The QUORUM for an Ordinary General Assembly shall be more than one half of the affiliated National Olympic Committees. All the decisions of the Assembly must be validated by more than one half of the votes cast.
- b. The QUORUM for an Extraordinary General Assembly shall be more than one half of the affiliated National Olympic Committees. All the decisions of the Assembly must be validated by at least two thirds of the votes cast.
- c. **In the event that a QUORUM is not present at the first convocation of an Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly, a second Assembly will be called within eight (8) hours of the initial one, when the affiliated National Olympic Committees present shall be the QUORUM.**

**ARTICLE 22.** All Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly shall be binding on all affiliated members.

**ARTICLE 23.** The **National** Olympic Committee hosting an assembly shall be responsible for all expenses incurred and related to the meeting such as: Assembly room, Commission room, **stationery**, Secretary's work, employees, publications, local transportation, communications, translations, etc. That **National** Olympic Committees shall decide with the Executive **Committee** of CACSO on the payment of travel, food and lodging for the delegates to the Assembly.

**ARTICLE 24.** The Organizing Committee of the Olympic Committee chosen to host the Central American and Caribbean Games shall be responsible for the cost of economy air travel, lodging in a double room, and local transportation for two (2) delegates, **the President and the Secretary General of each of the National** Olympic

Committee, the Executive Committee and three other designated persons at each Assembly, Ordinary and Extraordinary, convened for any purpose related to the **support of the organization** of the Games.

The expenses of visits of Commissions (**Technical and Medical**), **the Chancellor and the Adjunct Secretary** of CACSO and the delegates of the NOCs (President and General Secretary) during to the Games would also be borne by the Organising Committee.

## **ARTICLE 25.**

**The Responsibilities of the General Assembly are:**

- a. **To elect the Executive Committee of CACSO, in accordance to the elections regulations.**
- b. To adopt any agreements according to the purpose and objective of CACSO.
- c. To elect Honorary members of CACSO on the recommendation of the Executive Committee **of CACSO** by a secret ballot and ratified by two thirds of the members of the Assembly.
- d. To admit new members (**NOCs**) to **CACSO**.
- e. To consider the Report from the Treasurer and approve the quarterly budget of the Organization (**CACSO**).
- f. To consider the Report of the President presented on behalf of the Executive Committee **of CACSO**.
- g. To sanction **CACSO** members when **necessary, giving** the warning, fines and suspensions, in the exercise of its rights, fixing the terms in each case, after due process has been followed.
- h. **To take notice of and approve amendments** to the Statutes if necessary but without retroactive effect.

- i. To approve or reject proposals from affiliated members providing that such proposals were submitted by the Secretary, to the Members, at least thirty (30) days before the Assembly.

## **CHAPTER VIII**

### **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 26.** The Executive Committee of CACSO shall be composed of 11 members, ten (10) elected officers and one (1), the General Secretary, proposed by the President, pending ratification by the Assembly.

The election of the President, three (3) Vice-Presidents, the treasurer and five (5) Vocals, shall take place one by one, in that order. The elected members will have a four (4) year term and could be re-elected without any prejudice.

Also, The Executive shall include a designated Ex Officio Member shall be recommended by the Organizing Committee of the Games and nominated by the respective National Olympic Committee.

The permanent Honorary Members of the Executive Committee of CACSO shall also be members of the Executive Committee.

The Ex officio and Honorary members of the Executive only have voice but no vote.

To be a member of the Executive Committee of CACSO and the commissions of CACSO the he/she must have the written permission of his/her respective National Olympic Committee.

**ARTICLE 27.** The meeting of the Executive Committee of CACSO previous of the realization of the Game should be celebrated in the host city of these Games. As to the cost of transportation, air travel, lodging, food and local transportation, the cost of the chancellor, Executive

**Secretary, Medical and Technical Commissions these will be borne by the Organizing Committee.**

**ARTICLE 28.** Besides the sessions named in the previous article, the Executive Committee could meet in extraordinary session whenever the President considers necessary, the Committee decides to do so or when three (3) or more members of the Committee petition the President. In these meetings only matters included in the convocation can be discussed. To submit consideration of the members of CACSO, matters that require its approval by letter, fax, e:mail or telephone.

**ARTICLE 29.**

Duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee:

- a) Assure the continuity of the Central American and Caribbean Games.
- b) Make known and fulfil all agreements approved by the General Assembly.
- c) Call all Sessions, ordinary and extraordinary of the Assembly.
- d) Appoint, suspend, fire, institute jobs, fix salaries of the employees of the organization.
- e) Give technical advice requested by the Organizing Committee of the Games or any other affiliated organization.
- f) Inspect, one year prior to the Games, the sports installations that must meet the requirements of the International Sports Federations, and/or **the Pan American** and the Central American and Caribbean Confederations, and examine the bases of the organization of the Games, as well the villages, having the competence and exclusive faculty of approval.
- g) Approve, on the petition of the Organizing Committee of the Games, the dates of the Games. CACSO's Executive Committee is the only authority with the right to inform the

International Olympic Committee, the International **Sports Federations**, and the **Continental and Regional Confederations** of the dates of the Games.

- h. If the Organizing Committee of the Games does not comply with the rules of the International Olympic Committee or the enactments of this constitution or with the decisions and Resolutions of the Assembly or the Executive Committee of **CACSO**, it shall be admonished and in case of grave mistakes the Organizing Committee can be suspended and the Games can be transferred to another site. In such a case the Assembly shall sanction the **National** Olympic Committee in default and impose a fine to compensate for the default. The Executive Committee of **CACSO** has the right to decide upon a new site.
- i. To collaborate with the International Olympic Committee and the International and/or **Continental and Regional Confederations** in resolving all matters which affect the sport interest of the Organization and establish a relationship with the regional and Continental Organizations.
- j. To comply with the Olympic Charter.
- k. To accept or reject provisionally the requests for admission of new members. Such acceptance or rejection is subject to the confirmation by the General Assembly.
- l. To interpret and apply the present statutes of **CACSO**.
- m. To present a **detailed** Report to the Ordinary Assembly held on the occasion of the Central American and Caribbean Games.
- n. To administer the funds of the Organization (**CACSO**) and to give a proper account to the **corresponding** Assembly, as well as **to approve** the quarterly budget which must be submitted to the Assembly for its approval.
- o. To grant awards and recognitions, as appropriate. These will be announced at the General Assembly.

- p. To approve the internal regulations of the organization (CACSO), to appoint and designate the personnel for the appropriate functions. To approve the **General Regulations, the Electoral Regulations and other regulations** that are necessary for the better functioning of CACSO.
- q. To function as an appellate court of last resort in controversial matters. which are not of a technical nature related to the Central American and Caribbean Games. Only the National Olympic Committees, Continental and Regional Confederations or an Organizing Committee shall present such matters. The Executive Committee **of CACSO**, on its own initiative, can mediate in any matter, which it considers necessary.
- r. To be the guardian of the Statutes and ensure that the Articles **are respected** and not breached.
- s. To provide advice to the affiliated members on the best instructions in methods of teaching sports preparation, sports medicine as approved by the Medical Commission of the International Olympic Committee, sports administration, **and the ways to organize scientific studies and Congresses about Sports Medicine in accordance with the Sports Medicine Commission of the International Olympic Committee.**
- t. After listening to the Chancellor to approve the programme prescribed by the Organizing Committee of the Games pertaining to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and award ceremonies of the events, in accordance with the protocol of **the Olympic Charter.**
- u. **To inform the Members of CACSO, the presentations and initiatives that entail modifications of the structure or affect the organization of CACSO, if they are received by the General Secretary thirty (30) days before the Assembly. He shall study them and, where possible, resolve them. Where the content of the presentations and modifications are diverse in nature, the Executive Committee of CACSO shall receive them, even after the start of the Assembly.**

- v. **To ensure the most complete information through the different means of communication to an ample possible audience for the Central American and Caribbean Games, the Executive Committee of CACSO shall determine all the necessary dispositions that shall be applied by the Organizing Committee of the Games.**

**To ensure and oversee adequate facilities for the working media (press, radio and television).**

- w. To submit for consideration of the members of CACSO, matters that require its approval by letter, fax, **e mail** or telephone.
- x. To approve the programme of the Central American and Caribbean Games, and two (2) years before, the **Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Games** and the **Elimination System** as prescribed by the relevant International and/or **Continental and Regional Confederations.**
- y. To help financially, according to its capacity, **needy affiliated National** Olympic Committees and to promote and expand their activities for the benefit of sport in the region.
- z. To comply with the Statutes and General Regulations and Accords of CACSO.

## **CHAPTER IX**

### **THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **ARTICLE 30.**

The functions of the President:

- a. To appoint a Secretary General of CACSO.

- b. To preside at all the meetings of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and the General Assembly.
- c. To sign any official or private document that would be necessary.
- d. To authorize the expenses of the Organization (**CACSO**).
- e. To represent CACSO with full powers **before any authority in any case involving administrative matters, dispute, recovery of monies, including the delegation of such powers.**
- f. To summon the Executive Committee or the General Assembly with sixty(60) days notice. In case of grave urgency the President may summon a meeting without any prior notice.
- g. To submit any matter for the consideration and **vote** to the Executive Committee **by means of** letter, fax, **email**, telephone and other technological means available.
- h. To appoint or suspend the Chancellor, **the members of the Technical and Medical Commissions** and the **Executive Secretary** and other **appointed members** and to determine the functions of those officers.
- i. To appoint, modify or dissolve any special Commission and report to the Assembly the reasons for doing so.
- j. To confer his representation to any member of the Executive Committee in order to resolve any matter in accordance to the instructions receive from him, such member must render a report on his findings.

### **ARTICLE 31.**

The functions of the Vice Presidents:

The First Vice-President will perform the functions of the President in his temporary or definitive absence. In which event the Second Vice-

President shall perform the functions of the First Vice-President, and the Third of the Second.

**ARTICLE 32.** The duties of the General Secretary

- a. To inform the President of all correspondence and matters received by the Organization.
- b. To sign the official correspondences of the Organization **(CACSO)**.
- c. To obtain from the President or in his absence the Vice-President, **all decisions taken, so as to proceed accordingly.**
- d. To assist at all the meetings of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and the General Assembly.
- e. To inform within a reasonable time all of the affiliated **Regional and Continental Confederations**, as well as the **International Sports Federations** about decisions taken by the Organization **(CACSO)**.
- f. To prepare **in due time and in coordination with the President** the Agenda of matters to be discussed at the meetings of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and the Assembly **with all pertaining documents.**
- g. To prepare **and read** the Minutes of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and the Assembly and send them to its members **with all pertaining documents asked for. The minutes should be distributed within the next thirty (30) days before the next meeting.**
- h. To organize the administration of the office of the Organization **(CACSO)**.

## **ARTICLE 33.**

### **The duties of the Treasurer**

To take care of the accounting of the Organization; to present a report at the meeting of the Executive Committee **of CACSO** and the General Assembly, and to secure, with the approval of the President, increased funds for the Organization (**CACSO**).

- a. To present quarterly financial report for the consideration of the Executive Committee **of CACSO** and the subsequent approval of the General Assembly, **which must be audited by a Certified Public Accountant as least once a year.**

## **ARTICLE 34.** The **duties** of the Vocals

- a. The First Vocal shall perform the **duties** of the Third Vice-President or the Secretary-General in their absence, **either temporary or permanent.**
- b. The Second Vocal shall perform the **duties** of the First Vocal or the Treasurer in their absence, **either temporary or permanent.**
- c. The Third Vocal shall perform the **duties** of the Second or Fourth vocal in their absence, **either temporary or permanent.**
- d. The Fourth Vocal will perform the **duties** of the Third Vocal in his/her absence, **either temporary or permanent.**
- e. The Fifth Vocal will perform the **duties** of the Fourth Vocal in his/her absence, **either temporary or permanent.**

**ARTICLE 35.** Any member of the Executive Committee **of CACSO** shall **cease to perform** his duties, when he/she resigns, **and is substituted** by the respective following member. **Any** member is absent, without any justification, from two consecutive meetings of the **Executive Committee of CACSO**, **he/she** shall be substituted, but before he/she shall be replaced, he/she shall be heard, in respect of his/her absences.

- a. In case a vacancy occurs in the Executive Committee of **CACSO**, the vacancy shall be filled temporarily, and in accordance with the procedure established in the Statutes.
- b. All replacements mentioned in this Chapter shall be of a temporary nature, until the **corresponding** Assembly appoints or elects someone to fill the vacancy for the remaining term of office.

**ARTICLE 36.** The attributions of the members of the International Olympic Committee of the Region: **The members of the IOC that are present the Assembly have the right to speak (but not to vote) and advise on matters concerning the Olympic Movement and other relevant issues.**

**ARTICLE 37.** The duty of the Honorary Life President and the Honorary Life Members is to assist the meetings of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and General Assembly with **the right to speak (but not to vote).**

**ARTICLE 38.**

The duties of the ex-officio members:

- a. To **attend** the meeting of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and General Assembly **representing the Organizing Committee of the Games that are going to be held, in the matters pertaining to the Games.**
- b. To present a report to the Executive Committee of **CACSO** about the progress **and development of the work** of the Organizing Committee **of the Games.**

**ARTICLE 39.** All members have the obligation to **attend** the meetings of the Executive Committee of **CACSO** and the General Assembly **and comply with the statutes.**

## CHAPTER X

### THE REQUEST FOR THE HOSTING OF THE GAMES

**ARTICLE 40.** The **National** Olympic Committees of CACSO which **aspire** to host the Games must make a request in writing not later than January 31, six (6) years before the celebration of those Games, setting out in detail and in precise form the warranties and facilities as well as an official guarantee from the government of the country and city, **accepting** the responsibility of hosting the Games and that the Government shall arrange that the Central American and Caribbean Games Identity Card accompanied by a valid passport of the respective country guarantee the entry of the athletes, officials, judges, managers and all other participants.

**The City shall guarantee the responsibility of hosting the Games and covering the costs of lodging, food, sanitary services and local transportation.**

The Host City shall **guarantee the payment** for eight (8) athletes and two (2) officials of each participating **National** Olympic Committees tourist class air tickets, and full board and lodging in the Olympic Village.

If the requesting **National** Olympic Committee, satisfies all the requirements, it must be accepted, but it shall be necessary to provide in writing, the following complementary information:

- a. List of the existing **sport** venues, with the specification of capacity, annexed services, transportation and communication services, distance from the village, **and lodging of the athletes and their officials.**
- b. List of the **sport** venues to be constructed, that must be finished no later than (60) sixty days before the Opening Ceremony of the Games.

- c. Place and details of the Village for Athletes, Delegates and Coaches preferably with Olympic flavour, **with the details of existing and projected commodities.**
- d. Description of the **food** services for the **athletes at the Olympic Village.**
- e. List of hotels in the City or Cities of the Games, for Press, Guest, VIP's. etc., **identifying** the capacity, category and rates.
- f. Climatic and physical conditions of the Host City or Cities.
- g. **Available** air, land and sea transportation services in the host City/Cities.
- h. Financial sources.
- i. **Experience of the organization** of International Sport Competitions.
- j. List of the Statutorily required sports that they have the capacity to organize.
- k. **A deposit of US \$ 15,000.00 (FIFTEEN THOUSAND US DOLLARS) shall be placed in a Bank (escrow account) in the named of CACSO (in a Bank of CACSO'S choice) within the next seven (7) days after delivery of the Bid. If the site is allocated to the Bid City, the funds will automatically be payable to CACSO. the country (ies) that the Bid is not accepted US \$ 10,000.00 shall be return due to that US \$ 5,000.00 shall be charged toward the analysis of the Bid.**
- l. **Conditions related to the handling of the monies received from TV and Radio coverage of the Games.**
- m. **Set the rate**, in USA dollars, **per person**, in the Village and **also** the rate for the Equestrian horses, **boats and canoes.**
- n. **If the petition for the Games** is not accompanied with all the above information or requirements, it shall be rejected. In case no one requests to Host the Games, the Executive Committee **of CACSO** has the authority, to receive requests, to **make** decisions in **this matter**. If there are still no applications, the

Executive Committee of **CACSO** shall **take the necessary steps to decide on a Host City, notifying** the affiliated Members of the decision taken.

**ARTICLE 41.** The host country has the obligation to accommodate delegations **as** originally indicated or **even better** conditions.

## **CHAPTER XI**

### **THE GAMES**

**ARTICLE 42.** The Central American and Caribbean Games **and the symbols of CACSO** are the exclusive property of CACSO **with the rights related to the Games.** CACSO can **cede those rights.**

**ARTICLE 43.** The Central American and Caribbean Games shall be **held** every four (4) years, **starting from** the year 1926, when the first Games were held in Mexico City.

**ARTICLE 44.** Only the affiliated **National** Olympic Committees of CACSO can take part in the Games.

**ARTICLE 45.** The duration of the Games from the opening and the closing ceremonies inclusive, must not exceed **sixteen (16) days.**

- a. The Games must be held at the site where the opening and closing ceremonies will be held; **but other venues in the same country may be used.**
- b. When a venue is more than one hundred (100) kilometres from Games Village, the Organizing Committee **of the Games** must make provision for adequate **Village** facilities for the lodging and dining of the athletes and officials, as well as the judges and other functionaries **needed** for the competition. Then they must also provide proper facilities for communication such as telephone, telegraph, **email**, fax, etc. **Other facilities as transportation, electricity, water, TV sets, radios, sports and medical facilities,** etc. must be provided.

- c. All the expenses incurred by transporting the athletes and managers to **those other venues shall be** covered by the Organizing Committee **of the Games**.
- d. The sports installations at all venues must satisfy the technical requirements **set forth** by the International Sports Federations.

**ARTICLE 46.** Only the affiliated **National** Olympic Committees can submit entries **by their** National Sports Federation recognized by the respective International Federation, **such competitors shall be eligible**, according to the Olympic Charter.

**ARTICLE 47.** The costs determined by the Organizing Committee **of the Games** for the participants (athletes and officials) **for food and lodging** in the Central American and Caribbean Games Village, approved by CACSO, will be borne by the **corresponding National** Olympic Committees.

**ARTICLE 48.** The **National Olympic Committees** shall be responsible for the eligibility and nationality of their entries in the Games and shall take care of the rest of the costs for lodging and food in facilities that the Organizing Committee of the Games had set for those purposes.

**ARTICULO 49.** The **National Olympic Committees** shall integrate their delegations respecting the Rules and Regulations set forth in the Olympic Charter, and by the International Sport Federations, the Pan American and Central American and Caribbean Confederations and the National Federations.

**ARTICLE 50.** The Organizing Committee **of the Games** shall submit to the Executive Committee **of CACSO** and the **corresponding** Assembly the sports programme with a minimum of twenty four (24) **determined as follow:**

Athletics	W and M
Badminton	W and M
Basketball	W and M
Baseball	M
Bowling	W and M

Boxing	M
Canoeing	W and M
Cycling	W and M
Equestrian	W and M
Fencing	W and M
Football	W and M
Gymnastics	W and M
Handball	W and M
Hockey	W and M
Judo	W and M
Karate	W and M
Weight Lifting	W and M
Wrestling	W and M
Swimming	W and M
Diving	W and M
Water Polo	<b>W</b> and M
Synchronized Swimming	W
Roller Skating	W and M
Pelota Vasca	W and M
Modern Pentathlon	W and M
Racquetball	W and M
Rowing	W and M
Water skiing	W and M
Softball	W and M
Squash	W and M
Take Won Do	W and M
Tennis	W and M
Table Tennis	W and M
Shooting	W and M
Archery	W and M
Triathlon	W and M
Sailing	W and M
Volleyball	W and M
Beach Volleyball	W and M

**ARTICLE 51. The Organizing Committee of the Games shall plan, organize, promote the Chefs of Mission Meeting ninety (90) days prior to the Opening Ceremony of the Games and invite the regional sports organizations designated by the International Sports Federations of the sports that are in the Competition**

**Programme of the Games and the Sports Medicine Congress, sixty (60) days prior to the Opening Ceremony of the Games.**

**ARTICLE 52.** An exhibition of architecture, literature, music, painting, photography, sculpture, etc. must be organized.

**ARTICLE 53.** There shall be no age limit for the competitors of the Games, unless so decided by the International Federation and/or the **Pan American** and Central American and Caribbean Sports **Confederations** with prior approval of the Executive Committee of CACSO.

**ARTICLE 54.** The Organization of the Central American and Caribbean Sports Games **is granted** to the **National** Olympic Committee in whose country **is the City of the Games**. That **National** Olympic Committee must appoint a Special Committee within (90) days, from the date when it was notified of the decision. **The Committee shall be known as** the Organizing Committee **of the Games**. The Organizing Committee **of the Games** thereon **will have** the responsibility of organizing the Games and shall report to the Executive Committee of CACSO. The **National** Olympic Committee of the host country shall be responsible for all acts for the Organizing Committee **of the Games**.

**ARTICLE 55.** The Organizing Committee **of the Games** shall be entrusted with the administration of the Games, and subject to the approval of its **National** Olympic Committee and the Executive Committee of CACSO; it must do whatever is necessary for the Games to be held. **The Organizing Committee of the Games must consult on Technical issues with the International and/or Pan American and Central American and Caribbean Sport Confederations in coordination with the National Sports Federations.** It is responsible for the integration of the different sports on the programme and must comply with the technical standards of the International Federations and/or **Pan American and Central American and Caribbean Sport Confederations**.

**ARTICLE 56.** A complete story (Memoria) of the Games shall be **publish and distributed** to the Members of CACSO and the Executive Committee of CACSO within the period of one year

**after the last day of the Games. The Organizing Committee of the Games shall guarantee the publishing of the complete story (Memoria) of the Games with a bond of US \$25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars).**

**ARTICLE 57.** The Organizing Committee **of the Games** must have completed not later than sixty (60) days before the Games, the venues for the sports programme and places for training; as well as the Olympic Village. It must take all the necessary steps to secure the best result of the programme.

**ARTICLE 58.** When a participant (athlete, judge, official or managers) suffers an accident during the course of the Games, because of his participation, the Organizing Committee **of the Games** shall be responsible for the expenses relating to his treatment hospitalisation while he remain in the host country.

## **CHAPTER XII**

### **ADDITION OF NEW SPORTS,** **CATEGORIES AND EVENTS**

**ARTICLE 59.** For the addition of new sports in the Central American and Caribbean Games Programme it is required that the sport be practiced in at least sixteen (16) countries of the **National** Olympic Committees of CACSO.

ARTICLE 60. The National **Olympic** Committees desiring to join CACSO must be integrated by National Sports Federations, recognized by the respective International and **Continental and Central American and Caribbean Federations**, and must apply to the Executive Committee of CACSO, within sixty (60) days prior to the General Assembly, accompanied by its Statutes and by Laws with an evaluation development of their sports, in the area.

## CHAPTER XIII

### FINANCIAL RESOURCES

**ARTICLE 61.** The Sports Organization of Central America and Caribbean shall have as its disposal of the following **fiscal** resources:

- a. US\$15,000.00 (Ten thousand dollars), which shall be paid by the **National** Olympic Committee hosting the Games. ( **Refer to Article 40 (k)**).
- b. US\$30.00 (Thirty dollars) per sport, as entry or right to take part with it in the Games. This sum must be paid by the **National** Olympic Committee **to the Treasurer of CACSO** at the moment of the ratification of the entries after the technical meeting.
- c. US\$5.00 (Five dollars) payable by each **National** Olympic Committee for the cost of each athlete entered for the Games.
- d. US\$3.00 (Three dollars) **payable to CACSO**, daily for each participant (athlete, official, etc.) **that will reside** in the Central American and Caribbean Games Village or any other **lodging facility (Hotel, etc.)** during his or her stay in it (**between its arrival and departure**).

It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer **of CACSO** to collect **before the end of the Games** the sum shown above **(b), (c) and (d)**.

- e. The 25% of the rights for television and radio broadcast calculated upon the gross amount of the contracts, which must be signed by the Organizing Committee **of the Games** with prior approval from the Executive Committee of CACSO. When an agreement is reached the amount to be paid for those rights, must not be less than US\$250,000.00 (two hundred and fifty thousand dollars). The Executive Committee of CACSO shall make an agreement with the Organizing Committee of the Central American and Caribbean Games the date of the

corresponding payment, **no later than thirty (30) days before the commencement of the Games.**

- f. The 10% collected from the sale of tickets for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Games shall be delivered by the Organizing Committee **of the Games** within the time specified **by both parties (CACSO and the Organizing Committee of the Games), at the conclusion of the Games**
- g. Thirty (30) days after having been granted the Site of the Games the Host City would sign a contract with CACSO that shall include the Articles 61 e and 61 f above, and the other administrative and financial considerations. The signatories shall be the Mayor or the highest political authority of the Host City, the President of the NOC and the President of CACSO
- h. The subventions and contributions that are done **to CACSO.**

**ARTICLE 62.** Anyone of the Members of CACSO not complying with any of the financial conditions shall be disqualified from taking part in the Games.

## **CHAPTER XIV**

### **THE OLYMPIC CHARTER**

**ARTICLE 63.** These Statutes will be interpreted and set forth in the spirit of the Olympic ideals respecting the Olympic Charter.

## **CHAPTER XV**

### **AMENDMENTS**

**ARTICLE 64.** These Statutes shall be amended only at a General Assembly, Ordinary or Extraordinary, with a two-thirds majority of the members present at that Assembly, **given the existence of a QUORUM as per Article 21.**

The proposing **National** Olympic Committees must send all amendments to the Executive Committee of **CACSO** at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Assembly. The Executive shall submit such amendments with its comment to the **National** Olympic Committees affiliated to CACSO at **least thirty (30)** days before the date of the Assembly, which shall consider the amendments. The amendments shall come into effect thirty days after having been approved.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

Approved by the Executive Committee on April 16, 2004

Signed in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 2004