

Middle European Volley- ball Zonal Association

(MEVZA)

Statutes

14 November 2017

including required changes by CEV

Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association

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1. General Principles of Establishment and Operation

1.1

The Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association (further: MEVZA) has been founded through common efforts and shall represent the Association of the National Volleyball Federations (NF) of the countries of Middle Europe, at the moment:

**Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary,
Slovakia, Slovenia**

Members of the MEVZA will be only National Federations, which are affiliated of the CEV and FIVB.

1.2.

The seat of MEVZA is in Vienna, Austria. A change is possible only through a majority decision of the General Assembly. MEVZA's official language is English.

1.3.

MEVZA is a non-profit organization.

1.4.

Their work is governed by the rules and regulations of the FIVB and the CEV. The statutes and activities of the MEVZA fully comply with the "FIVB Constitution", the "FIVB Code of Conduct", the "FIVB General Regulations" and all decisions of the FIVB. In case of dispute the "FIVB Constitution" is authoritative.

However, the MEVZA is administratively and commercially independent with regard to its specific goals.

Any topic that is not explicitly covered by the MEVZA Statutes is governed by "Internal Regulations".

Jurisdiction for disputes arising in connection with the activities of MEVZA is Vienna. Austrian law applies.

1.5

As a sports organization, the purpose of the MEVZA is solely to further develop and promote volleyball in the abovementioned geographical area, for indoor volleyball and beach volleyball, for all ages and categories and for both women and men, both at the member association level and at the MEVZA.

1.6.

It is expressly noted that the goals of MEVZA and the efforts to fulfil them shall in no case have any political content on one hand, nor shall they in any way oppose the administrative policy and activities of CEV and FIVB.

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2. Membership, rights and duties

2.1

In order to become a member of the MEVZA, the National Federation must be situated in the area defined for MEVZA countries (by FIVB and CEV) and should submit a written request to the General Assembly of the MEVZA that will then decide on the full and unreserved acceptance of the Federation's status. Final approval must be made by the FIVB and CEV in writing.

2.2

MEVZA may suspend or even terminate participation of any Member Federation in MEVZA activities, based on particularly justified resolution of the General Assembly in the following cases:

- a. Upon a justified request of its Member Federation
- b. After a serious breach of the Statutes or Regulations on the part of the Member Federation, its legal representatives or its volleyball teams.

2.3

National Federation, member of the MEVZA, which ceases to be a member of the CEV and FIVB by resignation or exclusion, shall lose automatically its membership into the MEVZA. A suspension of a member of CEV and FIVB will automatically lead to suspension of the membership in the MEVZA.

2.4

If a member wishes to withdraw from MEVZA, it has to notify the Executive Committee at least 12 weeks before the General Assembly.

2.5

The member associations are entitled to participate in all MEVZA events.

2.6

The member associations are to be informed in each General Assembly by the Executive Committee about the activity and financial management of the association.

2.7

The member associations are to be informed by the Executive Committee (further: EXCOM) about the audited financial statement (accounting). If this is done in the General Assembly, the Internal Auditors must be included.

The member associations are obliged to promote the interests of the MEVZA to the best of their ability and to refrain from any action that could damage the reputation and purpose of the MEVZA. They have to respect the statutes and the resolutions of the bodies of the MEVZA. The members are obliged to pay the membership fees punctually in the amount decided by the General Assembly.

3. Purpose and Objects of the MEVZA

In all its work and activities, MEVZA shall pursue the following purpose and objects:

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3.1

Cooperation with FIVB and CEV, with particular endeavour to properly implement international rules and decisions of both volleyball authorities in every sports event.

3.2

Establishment of the Middle European Volleyball Championships for National Teams (all youth ages and categories on the National level and level of the MEVZA), which will be included in the official CEV and FIVB Competition Calendar. Any collision of dates with FIVB or CEV events and competitions shall be avoided.

3.3

Establishment of the MEVZA Championships for club teams.

3.4

Strengthening friendship and cooperation among its member Federations and countries on all levels – administration, officials, coaches, referees, players, etc.

3.5

Organization of training camps and matches for preparation of National Teams.

3.6

Organization of seminars for coaches and referees.

3.7

Preparation of specific regulations and by-laws for activities of National Teams.

3.8

Creating awareness and interest of the countries, private organizations and companies of its Member States with the aim to further promote the volleyball sport as well as to find resources for achievement of the goals.

3.9

All zonal activities need to be previously officially approved by the CEV.

4. Institutional Bodies

Institutional bodies of the MEVZA are as follow:

- a. General Assembly
- b. Executive Committee
- c. Internal Auditors
- d. Commission and working groups
- e. Secretariat

4.1 General Assembly

4.1.1

General Assembly is the decision-making body of the MEVZA. Being the supreme body, its decisions are binding to all Member Federations and have immediate effect, prevailing over any other decision of the respective bodies of the Member Federations. Nevertheless, its decisions shall never be in conflict with the decisions of the CEV and/or FIVB.

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4.1.2

General Assembly consists of representatives of the National Federations, members of the Association. The accredited delegates must be members of the National Federation concerned or have the nationality of the country in question. Members of or candidates to the Executive Committee shall not be accredited as delegates.

4.1.3

Every Member Federation shall have one vote, and majority voting will make all decisions. A Member Federation's right to vote is withheld, if the National Federation has an outstanding balance (debt) towards MEVZA.

4.1.4

All voting shall be public except when the General Assembly decides otherwise.

4.1.5

The ordinary General Assembly will be held every year, every fourth year as an election. Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened at any time upon initiative of the Executive Committee or at the request of at least 10% of the Member Federations (i.e. currently one member federation).

4.1.6

General Assembly shall discuss and subsequently make decisions related to the following issues:

- a. Modification and improvement of the Statutes
- b. Election of the members of the MEVZA Executive Committee in General Assembly. Each Member Federation is entitled to nominate one candidate for the Executive Committee.
- c. Approval of the administrative and financial reports for the past year and the budget for the next year.
- d. Decisions concerning all other matters submitted by any of the Member Federations.
- e. All other matters related to the objectives mentioned above (administrative, institutional, organizational, sporting events, etc.)

4.1.7

Agenda of each General Assembly shall imperatively include:

- a. Approval of the minutes of the preceding General Assembly
- b. Report of the work and activities of the MEVZA in the previous period
- c. Financial report related to the balance sheet and budget
- d. Every 4 years the election of the Executive Committee members and Internal Auditors
- e. Sport events program and development of volleyball sports in the Middle European Countries

4.2 Executive Committee

4.2.1

Executive Committee consists of four (4) members – President and three (3) Vice-Presidents (one of them in the function of the treasurer, responsible for the financial matters). Its duty is to provide administrative support for the purposes of the Association. The Executive Committee is elected by General Assembly for four years.

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4.2.2

Majority voting passes resolutions; in case of a tie, the vote of the president is decisive. For decisions, a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee is required.

4.2.3

The President:

- represents MEVZA internally and externally and chairs the meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee
- He supervises the day-to-day operations of the business and implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee
- He is responsible for business operations and is bound by existing resolutions of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee, but otherwise makes his decisions independently, taking into account the tasks of the MEVZA as defined in these Statutes
- He represents the MEVZA in particular in court as plaintiff or as defendant as well as in financial matters. If he is unable to do so, the Vice-President responsible for financial affairs exercises these powers without the need for special authorization.

4.2.4

Executive Committee shall meet whenever necessary (min. once a year), upon notification of the President and take care of any given matter not subject to the General Assembly.

4.2.5

In case of emergency, Executive Committee may also decide on matters from the authority of the General Assembly. These decisions must be approved by the next General Assembly.

4.2.6

Executive Committee convenes the General Assembly and is in charge for its conduct.

4.3. Internal Auditors

The Internal Auditors oversee the work of all institutional bodies of the Middle European Zonal Association and reports all drawbacks and violations of the statutes and regulations immediately to the EXCOM and the General Assembly. Internal Auditors are elected by the General Assembly for four years.

4.4 Other Commissions and Working Groups

MEVZA has permanent Commission and can create additional Commissions or Working Groups, in charge of pursuing particular aims of the MEVZA. Each Commission consists of a President and two (2) members.

The Financial Commission prepares the budget, reviews the financial report of each Commission and submits its report to the Secretariat, which submits it for approval to the General Assembly Meeting.

The Sports Organizing Commission is in charge of the Middle European Championships. It submits plan of events for approval to the General Assembly and is responsible for their realization. It also organizes other various activities, such as

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meetings, seminars, veteran activities, etc., in order to fulfill the objectives of the MEVZA.

The Refereeing Commission is engaged in training and further training referees of MEVZA, their appointment of MEVZA Championship and all other related matters.

The Beach Volleyball Commission has a duty to organize and promote MEVZA Beach Volleyball Championships.

The Marketing Commission is engaged in finding sponsors, TV programs for promotion and creation of income in favour of MEVZA. It is also in charge of creating the image of the MEVZA Championship Events.

4.5 Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Association is the body implements official, administrative and other tasks of the MEVZA and is led by the administrative staff of the MEVZA. The secretariat is located in the country of the elected president.

All documents coming from the Secretariat of the Association must be signed by the President or a Vice-President.

4.6 Arbitration

4.6.1

Disputes between MEVZA and its member associations in volleyball sports must be brought before a court of arbitration in order to safeguard the reputation of MEVZA and its member associations.

4.6.2

The arbitral tribunal consists of a chairman and two other members.

4.6.3

Each party in the dispute shall appoint one member of the arbitral tribunal, who in turn jointly determine a third person as chairman. If no agreement is reached on this person, it will be determined by drawing from three candidates proposed by the Executive Committee.

4.6.4

The provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure (German: ZPO) apply to the proceedings.

4.6.5.

The Arbitral Tribunal shall take its decisions in accordance with the statutes and regulations of national and international volleyball organizations and generally accepted legal principles.

5. Sports Event

5.1

Middle European Championships will be entrusted to the organizing countries by the decision of the General Assembly.

5.2

All events in the previous article will take place according to the rules and regulations

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of FIVB and CEV.

5.3

Due care will be taken to not hold any Middle Europe Championships at the same time as any FIVB or CEV event.

5.4

MEVZA Secretariat shall notify the CEV of the official calendar of MEVZA events in order to have it incorporated in the European events calendar.

6. Financial Matters

6.1

Financial resources of MEVZA and all kind of its income shall come from:

- a. Annual membership fee of the affiliated National Volleyball Federations, the sum will be fixed by the General Assembly
- b. Revenue from Competition Events
- c. Income from sponsorships, sponsors and television rights.
- d. Any additional donations or financial support from Member Federations, countries of FIVB and/or CEV.
- e. Any other income.

6.2

The accounting period begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st. MEVZA Secretariat is in charge of financial management of the MEVZA. The Financial Commission supports the MEVZA secretariat in preparation and auditing of the balance sheet for the last accounting period. Financial report is submitted for approval to the General Assembly.

6.3

At the General Assembly, at the request of the ExCom, the amount of the annual membership fee will be determined.

7. Resolution

7.1

A decision about the resolution of the MEVZA must be unanimous in the General Assembly.

7.2

Upon resolution of the MEVZA or if the previously favored purpose ceases, the General Assembly decides on the use of the remaining MEVZA association assets, which must be used exclusively for charitable purposes in the interests of the volleyball sport in the member associations of the MEVZA.

8. Final Provisions

8.1

The MEVZA logo on printed material shows the initials of the MEVZA.

8.2

The same logo appears on the flag and the stamp. Any future sponsor or supporter of the activities and objectives of the Association will also be shown on any official document or instrument concerning MEVZA.

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8.3

The current statutes in English and German, consisting of eleven (11) articles, constitute the valid statutes of the MEVZA. These were published at the founding meeting in Schwechat (AUT) on 19 October 2002 (including the amendments, which the CEV Legal Commission and the CEV Board of Administration requested, including the changes requested by the FIVB on August 5, 2003, aligned with the General Assembly on December 14, 2009 in Vienna). The German translation was unanimously approved by the General Assembly on June 12, 2013 as a correct and valid translation.

8.4

All six member associations of the MEVZA expressed their agreement with the current statutes in a "Letter of Agreement", which was signed by the president and the secretary-general of each association.