

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

1 General Information

GCR

1.1 Sorts of competitions

- ISF tournaments in team sports for school teams: basketball, football, handball, volleyball.
- Team competitions for school teams or possibly nationally selected teams (following the rules for admission) in the following individual sports: athletics, badminton, cross-country, orienteering, swimming, table tennis, artistic and rhythmic gymnastics and skiing.
- Individual competitions for athletics, swimming and artistic and rhythmic gymnastics at the Gymnasiade.
- The content of the Continental Games is decided by the EC in agreement with the organising country.
- Individual and team competitions in athletics, swimming and artistic and rhythmic gymnastics at continental school sport games
- Patronage: there is the possibility of obtaining patronage from the ISF for competitions at school level not included in the above programme (see point 10.2.)

1.2 ISF Calendar (ST 4.1.4 / RP 1.3.2.m)

At least once a year, the ISF Secretariat shall notify member countries and international sporting federations of the ISF Calendar, established in co-operation with the Technical Commissions and approved by the Executive Committee.

ISF events should take place as follows:

Odd numbered years:

March/April	Orienteering (starting in 2009 after the 2008 event)
April/May	Basketball / Football / Swim Cup
May/June	Gym Cup / Jean Humbert Athletics Cup

Even numbered years:

February/March	Skiing (starting in 2008 after the 2007 event)
March/April	Cross-country / Handball /
April/May	Badminton / Table-tennis / Volleyball
May/ June	Gymnasiade (in rotation with Continental School sport Games)

Exceptions may be granted by the Executive Committee.

2 Technical Commissions	GCR
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- 2.1 Technical Commissions are set up according to article 6 of the ISF Statutes.
- 2.2 The same person cannot be a member of more than one Technical Commission. An elected member of the Executive Committee may not be a member of a Technical Commission.
- 2.3 A Technical Commission shall not include more than one member of the same country.
- 2.4 When proposing their candidates, countries should take the following criteria into account to facilitate the nomination of their candidate:
 - a) Close involvement in school sport in their country;
 - b) Knowledge of and involvement in ISF competitions;
 - c) Active knowledge of one of the official ISF languages and passive knowledge of one of the other two official ISF languages;
 - d) Commitment from the country to bear the expenses of its members in order to ensure their presence and their availability;
 - e) If possible, holding a qualification from the appropriate sporting body.
- 2.5 Each Technical Commission should hold a meeting in the year between 2 events. The Executive Director will be invited at this meeting. In case of prevention he will be replaced by the Secretary General.
- 2.6 Duties of the President:
 - a) Reporting to the Executive Committee on meetings and events.
 - b) Regular contacts with the Executive Director. Regular contacts with the organiser of the next event and with the Executive Committee delegate.
 - c) Where possible, representation of the ISF on the international federation concerned.
- 2.7 Each Technical Commission may decide its own manner of working in agreement with the Executive Director.

3 ISF Control Commission	GCR
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- 3.1 The Control Commission shall decide on the admission of a school team / individual competitor to the event.
- 3.2 The Control Commission is composed of a certain number of members of the Technical Commission and members of the Organising Committee.
- 3.3 The duties of the Control Commission are defined in point 7.8 of the GCR.

4 ISF Disciplinary Commission	GCR
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- 4.1 Scope of duties:

The Commission shall deal, according to the pedagogical principles of the ISF, with all incidents and all violations of the ISF statutes, of the rules of procedure, of the general

competition rules and in general with discipline during an ISF event, in so far as they do not concern the technical regulations of the sport concerned.

4.2 Composition:

- the ISF Delegate
- the President of the Technical Commission concerned
- the President of the Organising Committee.

4.3 Any measure or decision taken by the Disciplinary Commission during an ISF event must be brought to the attention of the ISF Executive Committee.

5 Appeal Jury **GCR**

5.1 The Appeal Jury shall deal with all protests of a technical sporting nature and/or violations of the respective international regulations governing the sport.

5.2 The Appeal Jury is composed of three members:

- the President of the Technical Commission
- one appointed member of the Organising Committee
- the Head Referee / Judge.

5.3 All protests must be submitted in writing in one of the three official ISF languages within a fixed period written down in the respective rules of competition.

5.4 Each protest shall be accompanied by a sum (EUR) fixed by the Executive Committee. The Organising Committee will retain this sum if the Jury rejects the protest. If the protest is upheld, the full sum is refunded.

5.5 Decisions of the Jury shall be handed in writing to the official in charge of the competitor's team concerned. There is no appeal against decisions of the Jury.

5.6 If the President of the Technical Commission belongs to the country making the protest, he/she may not take part in the deliberations of the Jury.

6 Participation / Admission **GCR**

6.1 Provided that there are no limitations from the point of view of organisation, admission is regulated according to the written provisions of the O.C.'s in the bulletins 1,2 and 3

6.2 In the case of football, basketball, volleyball and handball, the number of teams is in principle limited to 24. Any other arrangement requires the agreement of the Executive Committee.

The procedure for the distribution of available places if the number of the teams, which were registered before the deadline, is higher than 24, is as follows:

By rotation from one year's event to the next this procedure starts with boys or girls. The table describes the procedure, starting with the boys. Every two years it is necessary to reverse the words: boys / girls.

	boys	
1	one fixed place is reserved for the organiser	1
2	one fixed place is reserved for the next organiser	1
3	one fixed place is reserved for each continent (Africa, America Asia, Europe, Oceania). If several countries from each continent are registered, the continental places are awarded by drawing of lots. All the countries that were not selected at the first draw will be replaced in the draw pot. If the six continents are not represented, the unclaimed places will be put in the draw pot.	5
4	Six places are awarded by the « bonus point » system. Bonus points are granted to the member countries that have organised ISF events during the last 5 years.	6
5	Seven places are drawn	7
6	Four places are reserved for « wild cards » granted by the Steering Committee	4
	Total	24

	girls	
7	one fixed place is reserved for the organiser	1
8	one fixed place is reserved for the next organiser	1
9	one fixed place is reserved for each continent (Africa, America Asia, Europe, Oceania). If several countries from each continent are registered the continental places are awarded by drawing of lots. All the countries that were not selected at the first draw will be replaced in the draw pot. If the six continents are not represented, the places will be put in the draw pot.	5
10	All the girls' teams of countries which have been eliminated for the boys' event.	NN
11	Six places are awarded by the « bonus point » system. Bonus points are granted to the member countries that have organised ISF events during the last 5 years.	6
12	The places that are left, are designated by drawing of lots	NN
13	Four places are reserved for « wild cards » granted by the Steering Committee	4
	Total	24

NN = not known beforehand

Each year at the beginning of December the general secretary will draw the list of the countries that qualify for the bonus point procedure. The bonus points obtained are valid for each event (boys and girls) of the next year. If necessary, a draw will be carried out between the member countries, which obtained the same number of points.

- 6.3** At the request of the Organising Committee, the Technical Commission may authorise the host country to admit a second team, if the anticipated number of participants does not exceed the limit.

- 6.4** If a team which has entered is absent or through its own fault does not arrive in time at the site of the competition, the deposit on the entry fee, payable at the time of registration, will not be refunded.
- 6.5** A minimum number of 10 entries is required for each event. Any cancellation of the event shall be made on the expiry of the period for registration (first bulletin). The decision shall be taken by agreement between the Organising Committee, the EC delegate, the President of the Technical Commission and the ISF Steering Committee.

7 Duties of participating teams **GCR**

- 7.1** All participants shall be appointed by the responsible authorities or by the national body responsible for school sport.
- 7.2** Participants must conform to the Rules of Participation.
- 7.3** Participants must be attending schools providing a general education. Participants must provide official proof of their attending the respective school since the beginning of the current academic year and must conform to the age regulations for the competition.
- 7.4** Definition of a school: a school with one head.
- 7.5** In a school team, pupils of foreign nationality may participate on condition they are regularly attending this school.
- 7.6** In a selected team, pupils of foreign nationality may participate on condition they are regularly attending a school in the country they represent.
- 7.7** The following are not entitled to participate:
- a) Pupils of a vocational school - i.e. young people attending a vocational school in addition to their vocational training;
 - b) School teams from schools giving sports training without any general education;
 - c) Part time sports schools (schools taking pupils from different schools part time for instruction in sports);
 - d) Teams set up in companies, universities or other institutions.
- 7.8** Checking of participants will be carried out by the Control Commission before the start of the competitions but after the head of delegation has paid the remaining fees. The following documents must be presented to the Control Commission in Latin script:
- a) Collective list of the school team including names and dates of birth on which the management of the school confirms that the pupils have attended the participating school since the start of the school year.

For nationally selected teams, individual documents concerning attendance at a school must be presented;
 - b) Individual identity card or individual passport;

- c) 2 recent photos, if they were not handed to the organiser at the time of nominal registration (3rd bulletin), if necessary.
- 7.9** The passport or identity card will be used to check the age of each participant.
- 7.10** Each participating delegation must be covered by its own liability and accident insurance.
- 7.11** For each participant ISF requires a contribution. The amount of this contribution will be fixed by the EC.
- 7.12** After seeing the above-mentioned documents, the Control Commission shall hand over accreditation cards to the participants.
- 7.13** Each delegation must be present from the opening ceremony till the closing ceremony
- 7.14** Each delegation/school team refusing to compete against another delegation or school team will be excluded by the Disciplinary Commission from the ISF event concerned and will have to return home immediately without any reimbursement of monies paid. Additional measures will be decided by the EC.
- 7.15** In some events, each team or delegation has to supply referees or judges. The number is mentioned in the first bulletin. Teams/delegations failing to bring the referees/judges requested will be penalised by a fine, the amount of which shall be fixed by the ISF Executive Committee. The fine must be paid before the start of the competition; otherwise the team/delegation will not be permitted to enter the competition.

8 Anti-doping	GCR
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8.1 General Provisions

8.1.1 Obligation

According to the WADA Code and the laws in force in the organising country, ISF affiliated countries are obliged to lend their assistance in implementing at sports competitions and events measures for the prevention and punishment of doping.

8.1.2 Initial Information

The country organising a competition must notify all guest countries in the 3 bulletins of the provisions governing testing of athletes in the context of the battle against doping. It is recommended that participating countries pass this information on not just to pupils but also to parents.

8.1.2 Acceptance by the participating country

Any country pledging to participate in competitions organised under ISF auspices agrees to submit to the procedures in force within the jurisdiction of the organising country.

8.1.3 Acceptance by the athlete

Any participant in sports competitions and events and in related preliminary training undertakes to submit to measures used to detect the possible presence of prohibited substances and/or the use of prohibited procedures.

8.2 Procedures for countries where anti-doping laws are in force

8.2.1 Appointment of an official

For each competition the organising country shall appoint a suitably approved person to take charge of the anti-doping plan (information, testing, etc.).

8.2.2 Information on the site of competition

During the meeting of delegation heads on the site of the competition, the organising committee advises the participating delegates of the measures planned as part of the anti-doping program. All such measures must conform to WADA Code principles and best practice.

8.2.3 In accordance with WADA principles and best practice before any test is performed, the heads of the delegations and the coaches of the competitors concerned will be notified personally.

8.2.4 The official, specially appointed by the Organising Committee, must be responsible for all necessary arrangements for administering the anti-doping test in accordance with WADA Code principles and best practice.

8.2.5 Any tests must be conducted in such a way as to provide a non-disciplinary environment which respects the participant both physically and psychologically.

8.3 Sanctions

8.3.1 Disciplinary sanctions

- a) immediate exclusion from the competition for participants refusing to submit to testing for detection of the use of prohibited substances or procedures;
- b) immediate exclusion from the competition for all delegations which, having been notified of the anti-doping test by the relevant authorities, refuses to proceed with it.

8.3.2 Sports penalties

To the above-mentioned disciplinary sanctions may be added sports penalties such as disqualification of a team one of the members of which has tested positive.

9 Advertising on competition clothing GCR

9.1 The name of the institution and / or the logo of the school sport organisation of the respective countries must be represented on every top.

9.2 Advertising on tops and shorts is limited to 15cm x 10 cm.

9.3 The choice of advertising is a matter for the country entering the team or individuals.

9.4 The siting of advertising must be agreed by the school sport organisation of the participating country.

9.5 Advertising will only be accepted if it conforms to the dimensions indicated.

- 9.6 In no circumstances may the advertising dimensions exceed that of the team's identification.
- 9.7 The numbering of tops must conform to the regulations of each sport.
- 9.8 Tops and shorts may only bear one single advertisement.
- 9.9 The organisers of an event cannot prohibit a team from wearing authorised advertising on their shirts and shorts.
- 9.10 Any dispute will be resolved on site by the ISF Delegate in accordance with regulations.
- 9.11 Advertising on tracksuits is accepted.

10	Further Information	GCR
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- 10.1 For organisational reasons, the organiser is entitled to establish in agreement with the Technical Commission and the ISF delegate special regulations and changes to the special rules of competition. In all cases, the general objectives for ISF events must be respected.
- 10.2 To test new models of competition for school teams, international school competitions can be carried out under the patronage of the ISF if the following guidelines are respected:
 - a) Patronage can be granted only if the event in question complements the ISF calendar but does not compete with it;
 - b) The patronage of the ISF will be granted to member countries, to their organising committee or to any other organisation that accepts the principles, aims and philosophy of the ISF and the general rules of competition which are such as to enhance the prestige of the Federation;
 - c) ISF is empowered to give its patronage to trial events in new sporting disciplines with the aim of subsequently developing them;
 - d) The entire responsibility for the organisation rests with the country, which has received patronage from the ISF. In the interests of harmonisation, it is recommended that an invitation be issued to the expert nominated by the Executive Committee to attend both the preparatory meetings and the event.
 - e) ISF records can be ratified only when they are established during an official competition organised by the ISF.
- 10.3 The special competition rules must be set up in accordance with the ISF Statutes, the ISF Rules of Procedure and the general ISF Competition Rules.
- 10.4 All ISF events must be organised according to the rules of competition of the respective international sports federation and according to the special rules of competition of the respective sport discipline.

- 10.5** At each ISF event, an ISF Fair-Play Cup will be awarded to a delegation. The heads of delegation, the TC (including the officials of the competition) and the OC will give their opinion on this awarding. The Disciplinary Commission, chaired by the ISF delegate, will decide.
- 10.6** The official languages of the ISF are English, German and French. In respect of bulletins, the Organising Committee must publish in its first bulletin the name of the designated language of reference.
- 10.7** During each ISF event, the OC will use the ISF flag, the flag of the organising country and the flags that are officially needed or admitted in the country concerned. The national flags of the participating countries can only be visible at a fixed location or can be permitted during the parade of the opening ceremony (only this exception). During **the entire duration of the organisation**, it is strictly forbidden for delegations or delegation members to show their national flag. The illicit use of a national flag will be sanctioned by the Disciplinary Commission.

The ISF anthem has to be used at the opening and closing ceremonies.

- 10.8** The names for the ISF events are fixed by the EC.

The authentic text of this document is French (27th June 2006).