

Agenda Item 7: Youth representation in the membership standard

Summary:

In June 2022, following the approval of the amendments to the IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership by the Board, it was agreed that the next meeting will review the standard 2.1 and the best way to ensure its implementation.

This paper suggests the way to handle the situation of certain MAs that are struggling to meet all the requirements of the concerned standard.

Action Required:

The Board of Trustees is requested **to approve** the suggested additional clause to the accreditation procedure to deal with the implementation of membership standard 2.1 with regards to the requirement for "At least 20% youth representation"

Background

As discussed during the June 2022 BoT Meeting, the board approved the revised IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership but asked that standard 2.1 should revert to the initial requirement on 20% youth requirement. It was also agreed that this be brought back to its next meeting for a final decision.

As it stands, standard 2.1 reads as follow: *"The Association's Governing Body is composed of at least 50% women and 20% young people and of individuals with a diverse set of skills and backgrounds drawn from its membership and externally in accordance with IPPF policy."*

Furthermore, the next Strategic Framework provides under pillars one and four a special place for young people and it is the Federation's aim that all MAs will rise to the required level of youth-centredness.

The current practice on the review of the accreditation outcomes by the Membership Committee has been to take the situation of the MAs on a case by case basis. However, this is not built into the accreditation procedures.

Cognizant of the conversation that took place at the last BoT meeting around the challenge by some MAs to be compliant with the youth requirement of the standard 2.1. In order to solve the problem, the following approaches are being recommended:

- 1- The above standard 2.1 remains as it currently stands.
- 2- To solve the problem posed by the non-compliance of some of the MAs on the youth requirement, it is therefore recommended that the BoT approves an additional clause to the accreditation procedure to have **clause B- 2.10** as follow:
 - i. While MAs can provide explanations as to why they consider a particular standard should not apply in their case, we suggest making it more explicit for this: In case of non-compliance by an Association of the requirement to have 20% youth representation within the Board, the MA should provide a detailed rationale for such non-compliance including the mechanism in place to ensure meaningful young people participation
 - ii. The Membership Committee to consider each rationale provided and make the appropriate recommendation to the Board of Trustees on a case-by-case basis.
 - iii. The Board of Trustees, following the recommendation by the Membership Committee will make the appropriate decision.