

GREAT BRITAIN SAVATE FEDERATION

Constitution

1. Name and Registered Office

1.1 The association called the Great Britain Savate Federation (hereinafter referred to as the GBSF), was founded on 17th March 1998 in London, England, at the Extraordinary Meeting held that day at Brixton Police Station. It aims to bring together all practitioners of Savate in Great Britain.

1.2 The GBSF shall be affiliated to the *Federation Internationale de Savate* (FISav).

1.3 The association is established for an unlimited length of time.

1.4 The registered office may be transferred to any place in Great Britain by decision of the Executive Committee.

2. Membership

2.1 GBSF Membership includes the following categories:

- a) Affiliated Member Club
- b) Individual Licensed Member (adult or junior)
- c) Honorary Life Member

as defined in the Procedural Regulations.

2.2 Membership of the GBSF implies necessarily and ipso facto, the respect and the acceptance of the present statutes, as well as of all the various regulations adopted by the GBSF.

2.3 Membership of the GBSF can be terminated by resignation or be lost by expulsion. The expulsion can be made by the GBSF Executive Committee – eg. for non-payment of contributions or for any serious reason. It can only intervene according to the terms of the Procedural Regulations.

2.4 GBSF Member Club Affiliation fee and Individual Licensed Member fee will be agreed and set annually by the GBSF Executive Committee, and such fees will be paid when requested by the Membership Secretary.

3. Aims, Purpose and Objectives

3.1 To promote the art of Savate, and its Associated Disciplines, in Great Britain. This includes the sporting disciplines of: Savate Boxe and Canne de Combat, as well as: Savate Defence, Cane & Baton Defence, Savate Forme and Grappling (la Lutte).

3.2 To ensure regulation, organisation, direction, control, ways of expression and of development in the practice and teaching of said disciplines at the national level.

3.3 To encourage, respect and develop ethical and friendly sporting relations between members and others through the practice of these disciplines, and to ensure a duty of care to all members of the GBSF. Consequently, no distinction or discrimination against a person, for reasons of race, sex, religion or political affiliation, can be practised within the GBSF.

3.4 To establish rules and regulations governing the meetings and national Savate championships and to ensure an efficient organisation and a good and proper progress of the national competitions concerning members affiliated to the GBSF.

3.5 To promote mutual respect in relations between members and ensure the mutual acceptance of sanctions and possible suspensions imposed by the GBSF.

3.6 To ensure that the income and assets of the GBSF are used exclusively to achieve its goals and its purpose.

3.7 To assist the *Federation Internationale de Savate* to attain its goals.

3.8 To ensure that the award of a GBSF title is not subject to commercial trade. Official Savate titles, whether national or international, are always awarded by the official national or international organisations, which determine the regulations for selection and defence of the titles obtained. Accordingly, no Savate fighter can claim commercial ownership of an official title of the national Federation or negotiate financial terms for the defence of it.

4. Executive Committee

4.1 The GBSF will be managed through the Executive Committee, who will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

4.2 The Executive Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the GBSF.

4.3 The Executive Committee will consist of the following positions:

a) President

b) General Secretary

c) Treasurer

d) Membership Secretary

e) DTN (Director of Technique).

f) Any other relevant positions such as Vice President, Canne de Combat representative, Child Protection Officer, Publicity Officer, Welfare Officer elected in that year.

g) An agreed number of Ordinary Committee Members.

as defined in the Procedural Regulations.

4.4 Election and re-election of officers and ordinary members of the Executive Committee will take place at the AGM each year via a majority vote in a secret ballot. All Officers and Ordinary Committee Members will retire after two years but will be eligible for re-appointment.

4.5 Each GBSF Affiliated Member Club may nominate candidates for the Executive

Committee each year at the AGM. Nominations must be sent to the General Secretary prior to the AGM

4.6 Any single Affiliated Member Club cannot hold a majority on the Executive Committee.

4.7 Members of the GBSF Executive Committee who assume any function in the organisation of another combat sport must declare this function and may be excluded from votes where there is a conflict of interest.

4.8 Only elected members of the Executive Committee will have the right to vote at Executive Committee meetings.

4.9 Executive Committee meetings will be convened by the Chair (the President) and held no fewer than two times per year. The quorum for Executive Committee meetings will be not less than two thirds of the number of the Committee in post.

4.10 The Executive Committee will have powers to appoint commissions, such as a Disciplinary Commission. Commissions must be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also appoint advisers to the Executive Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

5. Finance

5.1 All GBSF monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the GBSF. The GBSF Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the GBSF. The financial year of the GBSF will coincide with the UK tax year.

5.2 An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.

5.3 Any cheques drawn against GBSF funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus the President, or Vice President in the President's absence. Likewise, payments made by the Treasurer via internet banking must have the prior approval of the President. Payments of over £500 must have the prior approval of the Executive Committee.

6. The Annual General Meeting (AGM)

6.1 An AGM must take place every year. It will be attended by representatives of GBSF Affiliated Member Clubs. Subject to the authorisation of the President, representatives of the FISav may also attend the AGM, in a consultative role.

6.2 The place and date of the AGM are set by the Executive Committee and communicated to Affiliated Member Clubs by the General Secretary at least two months in advance.

6.3 A draft agenda of the AGM is set by the Executive Committee and must be sent to Affiliated Member Clubs no later than one month before the Meetings.

6.4 The AGM will receive reports from officers of the Executive Committee and a statement of the accounts. The AGM makes decisions, based on the reports, concerning

the financial and legal situation of the GBSF. It votes on the membership of the Executive Committee. It also considers proposals, which must have been submitted to the Chair (the President), via the General Secretary at least two weeks before the Meeting.

6.5 Affiliated Member Clubs each hold only one vote at the AGM. A nominated representative of each Affiliated Member Club must be declared by the start of the meeting. One representative cannot hold more than two votes at the meeting.

6.6 Member clubs must ensure that their affiliation fee is paid at least one month before the AGM in order to hold a vote.

6.7 The AGM is quorate if at least half of the Affiliated Member Clubs are represented. If this proportion is not reached, the Meeting is convened again, after at least a two week interval, and this time will be valid regardless of the number of member clubs represented.

6.8 The minutes of each AGM or other General Meeting must be sent to the members within one month.

7. Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

7.1 The Executive Committee has the right to call an EGM outside the Annual and any other regular Meetings. It may also be requested by a group consisting of two-thirds of Affiliated Member Clubs who must send this request to the President, explaining the reasons for the meeting and specifying the topics to be brought to the agenda. Upon receipt of this request, the President must convene this EGM within three months, immediately notifying all Affiliated Member Clubs. The venue and date will be set by the Executive Committee.

7.2 The EGM is quorate if representation of two thirds of Affiliated Member Clubs is reached. If this proportion is not reached, the EGM is convened again, with at least a two week interval, and this time will be valid regardless of the number of members represented.

8. Discipline and Appeals

8.1 The Disciplinary Commission will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the GBSF rules/regulations/constitution. The Executive Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings after recommendation by the Disciplinary Commission.

8.2 All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of children and young people will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the GBSF child protection policy and procedures. The GBSF Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.

8.3 All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the General Secretary, who will pass them on to the Disciplinary Commission

8.4 The Disciplinary Commission will meet (either face-to-face or online) to consider

complaints within two weeks of a complaint being lodged, and will make recommendations to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.

8.5 The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within one month of the complaint being received. There will be the right of appeal to the Executive Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within two weeks of the General Secretary receiving the appeal.

8.6 In the case of a complaint being made against a person on the Disciplinary Commission, it must operate with one member fewer, or may co-opt an Executive Committee member to maintain its size for that hearing.

9. Dissolution

9.1 A resolution to dissolve the GBSF can only be passed at Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) through a majority vote. In the event of dissolution, any assets of the GBSF that remain will become the property of the existing member clubs at that time, and shall be equally divided between them after all costs and expenses have been finalised and met.

10. Amendments to the constitution

10.1 The constitution can only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM of the GBSF.

11. Declaration

11.1 The GBSF hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.