

## Code of Conduct for Integrity in TAFISA's Work

This code of conduct addresses voluntary office-bearers (including TAFISA Board Members, for the avoidance of doubt) and professional staff of TAFISA alike, with a distinction between the two only when specifically necessary, and therein described.

### 1. **How we interact with each other**

#### 1.1 *Culture of appreciation and respect*

The culture, enjoyment, image and reputation of TAFISA are shaped significantly by how its professional and volunteer staff and representatives interact, behave and appear in public. Hence, all TAFISA representatives shall conduct themselves in a respectful, fair and professional manner, with each other and towards third parties.

As the leader of the global Sport for All movement, TAFISA operates predominantly within the sports and social wellbeing sectors. Inherent to this is a culture of knowledge and experience sharing, relationship building, physical activity and fun. A sense of community is critical, and it creates close ties; an easy-going, laid back tone is the general rule, and also appreciated. However, this must not lead to personal boundaries being crossed. People are different, with varying desires and expectations for interactions with others. This too is appreciated, and as such, TAFISA representatives shall respect individual preferences without judgment, and remain open minded and willing to communicate with all, whilst maintaining appropriate personal space of others.

Where hierarchical issues come into play, and to avoid misunderstandings, professional distance and clear communication of intention is of particular importance, both up and down the chain. What some may consider sporting camaraderie may be perceived by others as too much (forced) intimacy, resulting in discomfort and/or conflict. TAFISA representatives shall maintain a positive, constructive, friendly and inclusive attitude, whilst respecting personal and professional boundaries.

#### 1.2 *Foundation of our actions*

The employees in leadership positions have a special responsibility. Their actions shall be marked by a friendly and committed manner. They shall trust their staff and allow them – as far as practicably possible – to assume responsibility in their work and make their own decisions. This does not exclude appropriate professional supervision.

Voluntary office-bearers and professional staff shall adhere to the applicable laws and observe the guidelines and rules of TAFISA, be they written or unwritten.

## **2. Conduct in business dealings**

### *2.1. Conflicts of interest*

Voluntary office-bearers and professional staff shall make their decisions for TAFISA independently of considerations not linked to the work, i.e. of personal interests or advantages. Even the mere semblance of considerations not related to the work playing a role must be avoided.

This means:

- a) If personal interests may be affected by a specific task/decision, this must be reported and it must be clarified whether it is possible to be involved in the discussion and decision or if the tasks should be transferred to someone else.
- b) Personal relationships going beyond normal professional solidarity and personal interests relating to member organisations, other sports federations, customers, suppliers, service providers or other business partners of TAFISA and that may lead to a conflict of interests in individual cases must also be reported.
- c) The members of the Board of Directors or others in a leadership position shall disclose all material and non-material interests that may lead to a conflict of interests or could be perceived as such by the Board of Directors.
- d) The members of the Board of Directors or others in a leadership position shall disclose – prior to accepting them - any new professional or volunteer position(s) that they are willing to take during their TAFISA mandate, which may lead to a conflict of interests or could be perceived as such by the Board of Directors.
- e) Voluntary office-bearers and professional staff shall refrain from any actions, in particular private or professional dealings of their own, which run counter to the interests of TAFISA or which may influence decisions or their work for TAFISA.
- f) The voluntary involvement of staff in the decision-making bodies of sports-related organisations shall be welcomed in light of the contact it provides to the grassroots. Involvement in the bodies of the member organisations shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.
- g) Board Members and staff shall only use their title to inform external stakeholders of their position or for official TAFISA business. TAFISA titles should not be used to conduct business that does not concern TAFISA or involve TAFISA interests.

### *2.2. Gifts and other benefits*

Voluntary office-bearers and professional employees must avoid creating any impression of them being open to receiving personal advantages in the scope of their work for TAFISA. Gifts and benefits related to or which may relate to their respective role in TAFISA may therefore only be accepted or provided in the scope stipulated and in a transparent fashion.

This means:

- a) Voluntary office-bearers and professional employees may only accept gifts from member organisations, other sports federations, customers, suppliers, service-providers or other business partners of TAFISA in the scope of what is socially acceptable.
- b) If the gift is accepted/received as a representative of TAFISA, it must be passed on to TAFISA upon receipt.
- c) When judging whether a personal gift is socially acceptable, a monetary value of 44 Euro can be applied (Section 8 (2) of the German Income Tax Act - EStG Non-cash benefits allowance for benefits exempt from income tax). For several benefits or perks in the same year the limit applies as a total.
- d) Personal gifts made at international level which would be impolite to reject given the situation can be accepted in exceptional cases and must be passed on to TAFISA upon receipt.
- e) The provision of discounts or other concessions shall also count as a perk or benefit.
- f) The acceptance of benefits in the form of (cash) monetary gifts shall be prohibited without exception, as shall be requesting a gift or other advantages.
- g) If voluntary office-bearers and professional staff of TAFISA order goods or services from member organisations, other sports organisations, customers, suppliers, service providers or other business partners

of TAFISA for private use, this must be done purely privately in line with the usual business framework and for the usual market price.

- h) The employees of TAFISA shall be prohibited from accepting commissions or the promise of commissions for brokering deals of any kind in connection with the exercise of their office for themselves or people close to them without the explicit consent of the Executive Board.

### 2.3. *Invitations*

Invitations from third parties may only be accepted in the scope permitted and in a transparent manner.

For invitations to sporting events, there must be a distinction between official or representative events and invitations of a (largely) recreational value. The latter must be rejected if there is any doubt.

This means:

- a) Voluntary office-bearers and professional employees may only accept invitations to meals or to events from member organisations, sports federations, customers, suppliers, service providers or other business partners of TAFISA if this serves a legitimate business/official purpose and the invitation is made voluntarily.
- b) Invitations to cultural, sporting or other events must be reported. A representative of the host must be present to ensure the event serves an official business purpose.
- c) Invitations of any kind must be appropriate and take place in the scope of usual cooperation (for instance food and beverages during a meeting or a seminar, a reception following an event). In each case, the decisive factor is that the invitation serves the purpose of official business or representation and that unpermitted exertion of influence can be ruled out.
- d) If so agreed, the attendance of recurring events, participation at standard meetings and comparable official appointments and the hospitality accorded in this context may be reported in a general way rather than each time separately or the respective travel approval/travel expense claim may suffice as reporting.
- e) If such events and meetings are obviously higher-end hospitality or invitations permission must always be sought ahead of time.
- f) In general, frequent invitations by the same customer, supplier, service provider or other business partners should be viewed with caution, and only be permitted as an exception and after being duly approved.

### 2.4. *Representation of interests*

Voluntary office-bearers and professional employees shall represent the interests of TAFISA in a transparent and responsible way and shall refrain from providing any unpermitted advantages to third parties.

This means:

- a) The aforementioned rules on "Gifts and other benefits" and "invitations" shall apply duly for gifts, other benefits and invitations TAFISA or its voluntary office-bearers and employees provide to representatives of politics and administrations, member organisations, other sports federations, customers, suppliers/service providers or other business partners.
- b) In particular, elected officials, office-bearers, those with special public service obligations, as well as the employees of members of parliament and parliamentary groups as well as persons from other nations in comparable roles may only be invited to information events or for representative purposes, for instance to sporting events with appropriate and socially acceptable hospitality. Additional attendance by a companion and invitations to entertainment or recreational programmes shall not be permitted unless they are an integral and socially acceptable part of the information event. Any impression whatsoever of unpermitted exertion of influence must be ruled out.
- c) The group of people under 4. b) must only be incorporated into the events of TAFISA (for instance in the form of a presentation or participation on a panel) in the scope of their respective official capacity and without remuneration. Travel expenses shall only be paid in line with the travel expenses arrangement and if attendance or participation was specifically requested by TAFISA, if official representation under 4b) does not apply.

- d) TAFISA may invite its own voluntary office-bearers and employees to its own events and similar. This must be based on plausible criteria communicated ahead of time.
- e) Invitations to cultural, sporting or other events shall be made in writing as a general rule. Even if not expressly stated in the invitation, the compliance rules and tax stipulations in force for the company or authority, the sports federation or the relevant institution of the person invited must be complied with.
- f) All invitations by TAFISA must be documented as part of normal recordkeeping, for instance in the form of lists of participants.

#### 2.5. Donations

Definition: Donations are monetary and non-monetary benefits provided voluntarily and free of charge to promote officially recognised donation purposes without any services or benefits being provided in return.

- a) Donations and other non-reciprocal benefits provided by TAFISA to third parties must be documented.

Donations must be transparent and plausible. The recipient of the donations must be known to TAFISA. Possible donation recipients are in particular institutions officially recognized as charitable organisations or authorised to accept donations on the basis of special legal provisions.

(Monetary) donations should be tax-deductible and be made in such a way that ensures their ability to be deducted from taxes (for instance by means of a certificate of donation). Donation payments to private bank accounts shall not be possible as a general principle.

- b) Incoming (monetary) donations must always be issued with a receipt and documented regardless of the sum. Donated funds shall be used in such a way that the purposes of TAFISA stated in the statutes are promoted with the greatest effectiveness and cost-efficiency whilst observing economic criteria. The Executive Board shall decide how to use donations. If the donor stipulates a specific purpose for the donation this must be complied with. The general legal provisions governing charity and non-profit activities must be observed as must TAFISA's reimbursement rules.

#### 2.6. Sponsoring

In contrast to donations, sponsoring is always based on the principle of reciprocity.

Definition: Sponsoring is the contribution of money or services in kind by a legal or natural person with economic interests who in addition to wishing to promote TAFISA is also pursuing other interests.

- a) To ensure greater transparency and oversight of TAFISA's sponsoring decisions, every agreement on a sponsoring arrangement must be set forth in a written agreement which in particular states the type and scope of the benefits provided by the sponsor and by TAFISA.
- b) TAFISA shall not be permitted to enter into any sponsoring agreement running counter to its basic sporting ethics principles. Special care must be taken when working with companies producing or selling the following products:
  - Pharmaceutical products listed on the respective current WADA list of prohibited products,
  - Tabaco products,
  - High-proof alcohols,
  - Offers and products whose sale to persons under 18 years of age is restricted by the JuSchG (Youth Protection Act), the GjSM (Act on the dissemination of printed and media content harmful to young persons) or any other legal stipulation designed to protect young people, as amended,
  - Weapons of war
  - Betting agencies
- c) Sponsorship shall always be prohibited if the decision-making freedom of the sponsored party is endangered as a result of the contribution. The provision of sponsorship must not have any influence over the decisions of TAFISA, in particular decisions relating to the award of contracts or tenders.
- d) Existing sponsoring agreements shall be reviewed regularly to minimize the risk of relationships of dependency.

2.7. *Policy towards public allocations*

The allocations provided to TAFISA by public authorities (municipal, regional, federal) shall be managed in line with the stipulations of the respective official allocation decision, the general and specific ancillary provisions contained therein and in compliance with all other statutory rules governing such allocations.

2.8. *Stakeholder involvement*

TAFISA hereby states its commitment to sustainable, responsible and transparent action. The internal and external stakeholders of TAFISA are organisations, groups, and individuals who influence the actions of TAFISA or who are affected by the implementation of TAFISA's aims and objectives.

- a) The aim is to intensify the open dialogue with stakeholders so as to maintain a better understanding of the concerns and expectations addressed towards TAFISA but also to better communicate TAFISA's objectives, motivations and required actions.
- b) To ensure a fair dialogue with the stakeholders, the following conditions must be met:
  - Fairness and reliability: Promises and agreements must be honoured. Should fundamental changes to the underlying conditions or new circumstances arise, this must be communicated.
  - Transparency: Both sides must convey complete and up-to-date information.
  - Early and regular action: Information on emerging changes or news shall be made available to the affected stakeholders as soon as possible.
- c) At the beginning of the stakeholder involvement, the planned nature (pure information, dialogue, discussion or further-reaching participation), the framework conditions of the exchange and the aims pursued by both sides must be defined clearly.
- d) Relevant findings and results from the stakeholder dialogue shall be incorporated into the strategic decisions of TAFISA. The fundamental responsibility for decisions shall remain with TAFISA's decision-making bodies.
- e) The limits to the dialogue shall be set by the legitimate business interests, the rights of third parties, or if the dialogue impeding is an internal discussion, decision-making processes inside TAFISA. TAFISA shall also take steps to ensure that no information is given to stakeholders which must first be presented to other parts or bodies of TAFISA due to statutory regulations or TAFISA's own internal regulations.

2.9. *Fees*

The following policy shall apply to income from fees for voluntary office-bearers and employees, for instance for drafting expertise, giving speeches or presentations, participating in discussion events or forums etc.:

- a) If the activity takes place to serve TAFISA i.e. the person is acting clearly and unequivocally in the scope of their voluntary or professional capacity for TAFISA then he or she (as the performer of the work) shall invoice the organisation for whom the work is being performed for the services rendered through the accounting department, unless otherwise agreed on a case-by-case basis. The organisation for whom the service is being rendered or the work is being performed shall have no entitlement to the issuance of a donation certificate as a result of the exchange of services between TAFISA and said organisation.

The following features are indicative of an activity in the service of TAFISA in particular:

- Initiation by an authority or agency empowered to issue directives
- Initiation by resolution of a decision-making body
- Submission of an application for approval of an official trip
- Submission of an application for the reimbursement of travel expenses
- Time spent on (preparatory) activities counting as working time
- Work done by virtue of holding an office
- Acquisition or invitation takes place in the scope of work for TAFISA

- b) If the activity comes under the scope of the private sphere of the person in question, i.e. the person performing the work is clearly and unequivocally acting outside of his or her voluntary or professional work for TAFISA, then the private individual (as the performer of the work) shall submit a fee note for the work performed on his or her own behalf and account to the organisation which commissioned the work, and shall receive the according payment as personal income. Proper tax declaration of this income shall be the responsibility of the individual performing the work in this case.

The following features are indicative of a private activity for professional employees:

- The activity is reported as a secondary activity to TAFISA (in accordance with the employment contract)
- The work is performed and prepared outside working hours
- An application for leave or flexitime is submitted in relation to this, if applicable
- Acquisition or invitations happened privately

#### 2.10. Dealing with resources

- a) Dealing with TAFISA property and materials

Voluntary office-bearers and employees shall handle TAFISA's property and resources carefully and prudently.

The resources owned by TAFISA include tangible property (for instance office equipment, computer systems and equipment, inventory, sports equipment where applicable, tools) as well as intellectual property (for instance recorded data, commercial or business secrets, specialist expertise of TAFISA if applicable).

Damage to TAFISA's property must be reported immediately and the procurement of a replacement must be clarified.

TAFISA's resources may only be used for purposes related to the person's official work and not be passed on to third parties.

Software may only be used in line with the license provisions. All data required to access an official account on a social network and registration codes are the property of TAFISA.

Voluntary office-bearers and professional employees shall comply with any internal TAFISA rules or guidelines such as on the (private) use of the Internet, e-mail, (mobile) telephones, laptops/tablets and pool or leased vehicles.

- b) Origin and use of financial resources

The following must be observed for the origin and use of financial resources by both voluntary and professional staff:

- Should there be cause for suspicion that the monies are of illegal origin or that the integrity of the organisation or person providing the financial resources is compromised, this must be reported immediately.
- All financial transactions of TAFISA shall be scrutinised to make sure they are correct and proper and shall be subject to approval of at least two persons with power of signature (compliance with the crosschecking principle).
- TAFISA Statutes and Financial Rules and Regulations, and any other applicable bylaw.

- c) Intellectual property / expertise / confidentiality

In line with the obligations regarding confidentiality and secrecy set forth in the employment contract for employees, the following shall also apply to voluntary office-bearers:

- For the duration of the term of office, all information and documents disclosed by TAFISA must be kept confidential and secret until they have been recognisably made public. This obligation of secrecy shall also extend to the affairs of other organisations TAFISA has economic or organisational ties to.

- After the end of the term of office, the obligation of secrecy shall continue to exist.
- All the letters, faxes and printed e-mails concerning TAFISA and its interests must be returned without delay and unbidden regardless of the addressee as must all other items of business correspondence or documents, drawings, notes, books, templates, materials etc. when asked or at the end of the working relationship. There shall be no rights of retention.
- The texts, drawings etc. stated as confidential and secret must be kept in safekeeping as stipulated.

### 3. **Framework**

#### 3.1. *Procedure*

Should disclosure, the provision of information, approval, reporting or clarification be necessary under this code the following shall apply:

- For professional employees, the superior (or the Secretary-General) shall be the person with this responsibility.
- For the Secretary-General, the President shall be the person with this responsibility.
- For members of the bodies or volunteers the President shall be the person with this responsibility.
- For the President, the Good Governance Officer shall be the person with this responsibility.
- Disclosures and decisions must be documented in each case.

#### 3.2. *Good Governance Officer*

TAFISA shall deploy a voluntary Good Governance Officer. He or she shall be elected by the General Assembly upon nomination by the Board of Directors. The Good Governance Officer may not hold any other position in TAFISA and must be independent. It has a preventive, advisory role for all employees and office-bearers (for instance in the event of potential conflicts of interest).

He/she shall also have a right of initiative if he/she is not requested to become active directly but gains knowledge of possible governance incidents from external sources.

#### 3.3. *Data protection*

In addition to respecting the German Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG) the following guidelines shall apply for voluntary office-bearers and professional employees alike:

- a) No data shall be included in documents that is not required for organising work and the respective area of competence.
- b) Inside TAFISA verbal or written information shall only be provided to those who are clearly authorised to receive it.
- c) No verbal information shall be issued to persons or bodies outside of TAFISA or individuals, unless there are particular instructions to do so. Such a special instruction may exist for instance for the dealings and transactions with insurance providers and the tax office.
- d) Written notifications or messages including the data of individuals to persons or bodies outside of TAFISA must always be signed as an official letter. If this concerns the data of employees, the Head of Office shall process this message or notification.
- e) For all requests for information by affected parties going beyond the standard routine requests at the workplace or for which it is clear that it is a request for information pursuant to the BDSG, the respective superior or data protection officer must be involved. He or she will then take action to ensure that the information is provided in accordance with the law.
- f) Documents must be kept so that they are not accessible to unauthorised persons both during and outside working hours. It must be ensured that documents of a confidential nature that are no longer needed are destroyed in a verifiable way, i.e. they are shredded or made illegible so that they cannot be

reconstructed by unauthorised parties; they must not then be added to the general refuse. Address labels and comparable index cards – if they occur in larger quantities – must be placed in the special refuse.

In any cases of doubt, the respective superior, the data protection officer – or if employee data is concerned – the Head of Office shall be the relevant contact.

**4. Disciplinary Procedures**

In accordance with Chapter XVII, Article 1 of the TAFISA Statutes, TAFISA voluntary office-bearers and staff are subject to potential sanctions in case of breach of this Code of Conduct for Integrity. Breaches may lead to disciplinary procedures, defined in TAFISA bylaw “Disciplinary Procedures in TAFISA’s work”.

**5. Entry into Force**

This Code of Conduct entered into force with the passing of a resolution by the Board of Directors on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and were approved by the TAFISA General Assembly on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in Seoul, Korea. This version was approved by the General Assembly on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 In Prague, Czechia.