WDSF Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions

Based on Model Rules
by the Olympic Movement Unit
on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions

Version 1.1.

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Preamble

a. Acknowledging the danger to sports integrity from the manipulation of sports competitions, the World DanceSport Federation (hereinafter - WDSF) restates their commitment to safeguarding the integrity of sport, including the protection of clean athletes and competitions as stated in Olympic Agenda 2020;

b. Due to the complex nature of this threat, the WDSF recognises that they cannot tackle this threat alone, and hence cooperation with public authorities, in particular law enforcement and sports betting entities, is crucial;

c. The WDSF declares their commitment to support the integrity of sport and fight against the manipulation of competitions by adhering to the standards set out in the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, this Code, to those of the WDSF and by requiring their members to do likewise.

Application and Scope

a. This Code will come into force on **1 January 2023**;

b. It shall be the personal responsibility of every Participant to make himself or herself aware of this Code including, without limitation, what conduct constitutes a violation of this Code and to comply with those requirements. Participants should also be aware that conduct prohibited under this Code may also constitute a criminal offence and/or a breach of other applicable laws and regulations including other rules and regulations of WDSF. Participants must comply with all applicable laws and regulations at all times.

Article 1 – Definitions

1.1 "**Benefit**" means the direct or indirect receipt or provision of money or the equivalent such as, but not limited to, bribes, gains, gifts and other advantages including, without limitation, winnings and/or potential winnings as a result of a wager; the foregoing shall not include official prize money, appearance fees or payments to be made under sponsorship or other contracts;

1.2 "**Competition**" means any sports competition, tournament, match or event, organised in accordance with the rules of WDSF or its affiliated organisations (including national sports federations of National Olympic Committee), or, where appropriate, in accordance with the rules of any other competent sports organisation;

1.3 "**Inside Information**" means information relating to any competition that a person

possesses by virtue of his or her position in relation to a sport or competition, excluding any information already published or common knowledge, easily accessible to interested members of the public or disclosed in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the relevant Competition;

1.4 "**NMB**" means World DanceSport Federation National Member Body;

1.5 "**Participant**" means any natural or legal person belonging to one of the following categories:

a. "athlete" means any person or group of persons, participating in sports competitions;
b. "athlete support personnel" means any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, team official, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating athletes participating in or preparing for sports competitions, and all other persons working with the athletes;
c. "official" means any person who is the owner of, a shareholder in, an executive or a staff member of the entities which organise and/or promote sports competitions, as well as referees, jury members and any other accredited or engaged persons. The term also covers the executives and staff of WDSF, or where appropriate, other competent sports organisation or club that recognises the competition.

1.6 "**Sports Betting, Bet or Betting**" means any wager of a stake of monetary value in the expectation of a prize of monetary value, subject to a future and uncertain occurrence related to a sports competition.

Article 2 – Violations

The following conduct as defined in this Article constitutes a violation of this Code:

2.1 **Betting**

Betting in relation either:

a. to a Competition in which the Participant is directly participating; or
b. to the Participant's sport; or
c. to any event of a multisport Competition in which he/she is a participant.

2.2 **Manipulation of sports competitions**

An intentional arrangement, act or omission aimed at an improper alteration of the result or the course of a sports competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the sports competition with a view to obtaining an undue Benefit for oneself or for others.

2.3 **Corrupt conduct**

Providing, requesting, receiving, seeking, or accepting a Benefit related to the manipulation of a competition or any other form of corruption.

2.4 **Inside information**

2.4.1 Using Inside Information for the purposes of Betting, any form of manipulation of sports competitions or any other corrupt purposes whether by the Participant or via another person and/or entity.

2.4.2 Disclosing Inside Information to any person and/or entity, with or without Benefit, where the Participant knew or should have known that such disclosure might lead to the information being used for the purposes of Betting, any form of manipulation of competitions or any other corrupt purposes.

2.4.3 Giving and/or receiving a Benefit for the provision of Inside Information regardless of whether any Inside Information is actually provided.

2.5 **Failure to report and reporting mechanism**

2.5.1 Failing to report to the WDSF concerned or a relevant disclosure/reporting mechanism or authority, at the first available opportunity, full details of any approaches or invitations received by the Participant to engage in conduct or incidents that could amount to a violation of this Code.

2.5.2 Failing to report to the WDSF concerned or a relevant disclosure/reporting mechanism or authority, at the first available opportunity, full details of any incident, fact or matter that comes to the attention of the Participant (or of which they ought to have been reasonably aware) including approaches or invitations that have been received by another Participant to engage in conduct that could amount to a violation of this Code.

2.5.3 Reports to WDSF concerning incidents that could amount to a violation of this Code shall be made by means of submitting a duly completed Complaint Form available at WDSF website (https://www.worlddancesport.org/Rule/Athlete/Operating_Policies/Complaint_Form). The report shall include:

a. the full name, address and contact details of the writer;
b. the designation of the NMB or organisation the writer belongs to;
c. a clear designation of the person alleged to have violated the Code;
d. a complete description of the facts of the case;
e. evidence and names of witnesses to the alleged violation, if possible, and
f. a designation of the article(s) of the Code alleged to be violated.

2.6 **Failure to cooperate**

2.6.1 Failing to cooperate with any investigation carried out by the WDSF Presidium, WDSF Ethics Committee or WDSF Sports Commission Enforcement Committee in relation to a possible breach of this Code, including, without limitation, failing to provide accurately, completely and without undue delay any information and/or documentation and/or access or assistance requested by the WDSF or any of its organ as part of such investigation.

2.6.2 Obstructing or delaying any investigation that may be carried out by the WDSF Presidium, WDSF Ethics Committee or WDSF Sports Commission Enforcement Committee in relation to a possible violation of this Code, including without limitation concealing, tampering with or destroying any documentation or other information that may be relevant to the investigation.

2.7 **Application of Articles 2.1 to 2.6**

2.7.1 For the determination of whether a violation has been committed, the following are not relevant:

a. whether or not the Participant is participating in the Competition concerned;
b. the outcome of the Competition on which the Bet was made or intended to be made;
c. whether or not any Benefit or other consideration was actually given or received;
d. the nature or outcome of the Bet;
e. whether or not the Participant's effort or performance in the Competition concerned were (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omission in question;
f. whether or not the result of the Competition concerned was (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omission in question;
g. whether or not the manipulation included a violation of a technical rule of the WDSF;
h. whether or not the competition was attended by the competent national or international representative of the WDSF.

2.7.2 Any form of aid, abetment or attempt by a Participant that could culminate in a violation of this Code shall be treated as if a violation had been committed, whether or not such an act in fact resulted in a violation and/or whether that violation was committed deliberately or negligently.

Article 3 – Disciplinary Procedures

3.1 **Investigations**

3.1.1 The Participant who is alleged to have committed a violation of this Code must be informed of the alleged violations that have been committed, details of the alleged acts and/or omissions, and the range of possible sanctions.

3.1.2 Notice to a Participant may be accomplished by delivery of the notice to the NMB concerned. The NMB shall be responsible for immediately communicating the notice to the Participant.

3.1.3 Upon request by the WDSF Presidium, WDSF Office, WDSF Ethics Committee or WDSF Sports Commission Enforcement Committee, the concerned Participant must provide any information which the WDSF body requesting the information considers may be relevant to investigate the alleged violation, including records relating to the alleged violation (such as betting account numbers and information, itemised telephone bills, bank statements, internet service records, computers, hard drives and other electronic information storage devices), and/or a statement setting out the relevant facts and circumstances around the alleged violation.

3.1.4 WDSF Presidium may establish violation of the Code and impose sanctions based on recommendation by WDSF Ethics Committee or WDSF Sports Commission Enforcement Committee, or on WDSF Presidium's own accord.

3.2 Rights of the concerned person

In all procedures linked to violations of the present Code, the following rights must be respected:

3.2.1 The right to be informed of the charges; and

3.2.2 The right to a fair, timely and impartial hearing either by appearing personally in front of the WDSF body (WDSF Presidium, WDSF Ethics Committee or WDSF Sports Commission Enforcement Committee) conducting the investigation and/or submitting a defence in writing; and

3.2.3 The right to be accompanied and/or represented.

3.3 Burden and standard of proof

The WDSF shall have the burden of establishing that a violation has been committed. The standard of proof in all matters under this Code shall be the balance of probabilities, a standard that implies that on the preponderance of the evidence it is more likely than not that a breach of this Code has occurred.

3.4 Confidentiality

The principle of confidentiality must be strictly respected by the WDSF during all the procedure; information should only be exchanged with entities on a need to know basis. Confidentiality must also be strictly respected by any person concerned by the procedure until there is public disclosure of the case.

3.5 **Anonymity of the person making a report**

Anonymous reporting is facilitated through IOC's Integrity and Compliance Hotline available at: www.olympic.org/integrityhotline. However, it is encouraged that personal information is disclosed to enable appropriate follow up when reports are made.

3.6 **Appeals**

3.6.1 An appeal may be filed by the concerned person with The Court of Arbitration for Sport (**CAS**) against a decision rendered by WDSF Presidium establishing violation of the Code and imposing sanctions.

3.6.2 Appeal may be filed with CAS within 30 (thirty) days after the date on which the decision of the WDSF Presidium establishing violation of the Code and imposing sanctions was transmitted to the concerned person and within 10 (ten) days in case of WDSF Presidium decision imposing provisional measures.

Article 4 – Provisional Measures

4.1 If in its opinion a certain behaviour, offence or situation merits or requires immediate action the WDSF Presidium may impose provisional measures, including a provisional suspension, on the Participant where there is a particular risk to the reputation of the sport, while ensuring respect for Articles 3.1 to 3.4 of this Code. Such decisions become effective immediately.

4.2 Where a provisional measure is imposed, this shall be taken into consideration in the determination of any sanction which may ultimately be imposed.

Article 5 – Sanctions

5.1 Where it is determined that a violation has been committed, the WDSF Presidium shall impose an appropriate sanction upon the Participant from the range of permissible sanctions, (which may range from a minimum of a warning to a maximum of life ban) according to, but not limited to, the following catalogue:

a. warning (reminder of the existence of a provision in the WDSF's Governing Documents and the Code; warnings shall include a period of probation, together with the notice that repeated misbehaviour of the same kind during that period may lead to a more severe sanction than a warning);
b. withdrawal of accreditation for a specific competition;
c. retroactive disqualifications;
d. rescission and return of awards;
e. prohibiting individuals from attending any WDSF competition or other event for a certain period of time;

f. ban of an athlete, couple or team from participating in WDSF competitions or other events for a specific period of time;
g. prohibiting individuals from taking part in any function in any WDSF competition or other event for a certain period of time;
h. prohibiting a person or legal entity from organising any WDSF competition or other event for a certain period of time;
i. ban of a person to be elected or appointed in any formal position within WDSF;
j. suspension of any licence, accreditation or permit issued by WDSF for a specific period of time
k. revocation of any licence, accreditation or permit issued by WDSF, including concurrently;
l. granting permission to reacquire the respective licence, accreditation or permit at a later stage in time;
m. permanent revocation of any licence, accreditation or permit issued by WDSF;
n. permanent revocation of all licences, accreditations and permits issued by WDSF;
o. fines up to an amount of CHF 5000.

5.2 When determining the appropriate sanctions applicable, the WDSF shall take into consideration all aggravating and mitigating circumstances and shall detail the effect of such circumstances on the final sanction in the written decision.

5.3 Substantial assistance provided by a Participant that results in the discovery or establishment of an offence by another Participant may reduce any sanction applied under this Code.

5.4 If a Participant violates any prohibition on participation in a Competition imposed in accordance with this Code, such Participant shall be disqualified immediately from the relevant Competition and the period of ineligibility originally imposed in accordance with this Code shall recommence from the date of such violation.

5.5 This Code shall continue to apply to any ineligible Participant and any violation committed during a period of ineligibility shall be treated as a distinct violation and separate proceedings may be brought against the Participant in accordance with this Code.

5.6 Once the period of the Participant's ineligibility has expired, he or she will become automatically re-eligible to participate in DanceSport provided that he or she has:
a. completed to the WDSF's satisfaction any official integrity education imposed on him or her as a sanction by the WDSF's Presidium;
b. has paid, in full, any fine imposed under this Code and/or any order of costs made against him or her by the WDSF's Presidium; and
c. has agreed to subject himself or herself to any reasonable and proportionate monitoring of his or her future activities in connection with DanceSport as WDSF's Presidium may reasonably consider necessary given the nature and scope of the

violation that he or she has committed.

Article 6 – Mutual recognition

6.1 Subject to the right of appeal, any decision in compliance with this Code by any other Sports Organisation bound by the Olympic Charter (**Sporting Organisation**) will be recognised and respected by the WDSF.

6.2 The WDSF will recognise and respect the decision(s) made by any other sporting body or court of competent jurisdiction which is not a Sporting Organisation as defined under this Code.

Article 7 – Implementation

7.1 Pursuant to Rule 1.4 of the Olympic Charter, all Sports Organisations bound by the Olympic Charter agree to respect this Code. The WDSF is bound by the Olympic Charter and therefore agrees to respect the Code.

7.2 The WDSF commits to the implementation of the present Code within its own jurisdiction, including educational measures.