



# FEGAT STATUTES

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# STATUTES

## INTRODUCTION

**FEGAT** is an international umbrella organization of national amateur trotting associations with the aim at jointly representing all issues concerning amateur trotting sports in Europe and worldwide.

### § 1 NAME AND RESIDENCE

The name of the organization is "**FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE DES GENTLEMEN AMATEURS ET CAVALIÈRES DU TROT**" and is based at the General Secretariat.

### § 2 FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year is the calendar year.

### § 3 PURPOSE, OBJECTIVE AND TASKS

The purpose of FEGAT is horse sports, particularly amateur sports, within the field of trotting racing through the unification of national amateur associations. The organization does not seek to attain any profits. The existing national supervisory bodies in the trotting sports and their regulations are fully recognized.

FEGAT has to ensure that the organizers of official championships meet the usual sports and safety requirements as well that the championship is carried out according to the rules of FEGAT, applicable at the respective time.

A key purpose of FEGAT is the promotion of international friendship meetings and the European Championships for men and for women, respectively the World Championship (mixed) as well as the FEGAT Europe Cup (mixed) for amateur drivers.



A key objective of FEGAT is to promote and support a good relationship between the member associations.

Through sports and social activities the friendship among all nations is to be intensified.

## § 4 MEMBERSHIP

FEGAT consists of:

- a. **Ordinary members.**
- b. **Honorary members.**
- c. **Partners (guest members, associated members and affiliated members).**
  - a. Ordinary members are those ladies and gentlemen amateur drivers' associations, which by a written application to FEGAT are accepted by its General Assembly. This requires at least 3/4<sup>th</sup> majority of the votes cast. The national amateur associations must have legal status, i.e. are legally recognized associations. As a rule, each nation is represented by the nationwide amateur organization. Each nation can only be represented by one national association.
  - b. To honorary members may persons, who have acquired great and long-standing merits for the prestige and promotion of FEGAT, be appointed with no less than 3/4<sup>th</sup> majority of the votes cast. They have the right, at their own expense, to participate in all official events of FEGAT, with the exception of the Executive Board meetings, and they have the right to attend the General Assembly and are allowed to comment but not to vote.
  - c. Countries outside Europe can become affiliated members with minimum 3/4<sup>th</sup> majority of the votes cast at a General Assembly. These members pay a membership fee determined by the Executive Board. They have the right to express their opinion at the General Assembly, but are not allowed to vote in the resolutions.

## § 5 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

### a. RIGHTS

The member associations of the individual countries have seat and vote at the General Assembly. When voting, each member nation of FEGAT has one vote.

Each nation must be represented independently. A transfer of votes from one nation to another is not allowed.



**FEGAT RACES** and international friendship meetings are:

**1. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

Drivers' championship of member associations of FEGAT for gentlemen.

Drivers' championship of member associations of FEGAT for ladies.

Both categories gentlemen and ladies amateur drivers shall hold a national license.

**2. FEGAT EUROPE CUP**

A joint driving championship for gentlemen and ladies amateur drivers of the member associations of FEGAT.

**3. FEGAT RACES**

These are races that are organized between member associations of FEGAT (i.e. country competitions, city competitions, friendship meetings between associations of member federations).

The allocation of the European and World Championships respectively the FEGAT Europe Cup is in principle decided by the General Assembly with a simple majority of votes. In the event of a tie, the chairman of the General Assembly shall have the casting-vote.

The member associations of FEGAT have the right to participate in driver contests approved by FEGAT. Comparative competitions between member associations (FEGAT races), international friendship encounters and other driver comparisons (internal amateur races, ladies' match races) are to be reported, including the result of which, to the FEGAT Executive Board for the annual statistics.

**4. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

FEGAT members and non-European gentlemen and ladies amateur drivers holding a national license.

**b. OBLIGATION**

**ORDINARY MEMBERS**

Each ordinary member of FEGAT pays an annual contribution. The amount of the annual membership fee shall be preset at the annual General Assembly. Payment of the annual contribution shall be made no later than 31<sup>st</sup> of March each year.

To participate in a Championship organized by FEGAT, the membership fee for the current financial year must have been paid and there must be no debts vis-à-vis FEGAT.

**HONORARY MEMBERS**

They do not pay any membership fee.

**PARTNERS, AFFILIATED MEMBERS**

These members pay a membership fee decided by the Executive Board.



The member countries are obliged to organize the FEGAT Championships in accordance with the resolution adopted by the General Assembly.

Each member is obliged to abide the resolutions of the Executive Board and the General Assembly and to ensure their implementation.

## **§ 6 CANCELLATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

The membership ends by withdrawal or exclusion.

The withdrawal is voluntary and must be accomplished by registered mail by 1<sup>st</sup> of December of the current financial year. The annual contribution is payable for the entire financial year.

Exclusion from FEGAT may be due to serious reasons, such as dishonest behavior, deliberate and persistent violation of the STATUTES and the resolutions of the General Assembly. A member who has not paid his membership fee for the calendar year preceding the General Assembly or in any other form is in debt to FEGAT may be excluded.

The elimination of a membership shall be notified in writing to the member concerned. The affected parties can appeal to the Executive Board within 30 days. The next following General Assembly will finally come to a decision. Those concerned have the right to be heard in the General Assembly. There will be no refund of contributions.

## **§ 7 BODIES OF FEGAT**

1. The General Assembly
2. The Executive Board
3. The President
4. The Auditors

## **§ 8 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The General Assembly is the supreme body of FEGAT. It is summoned by the President, one of the Vice-Presidents, or by a person appointed by the Executive Board. The announcement of the day, the place and the hour must be made at least 60 days prior to the General Assembly by means of a written invitation, with the announcement of the agenda.

The President presides over the General Assembly. In the event of an impediment, a Vice-President, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in that order, appointed by the Executive Board shall preside.



The General Assembly shall be summoned at least once a year. The agenda is drawn up by the Executive Board.

Proposals from ordinary members must be submitted to the FEGAT General Secretariat 40 days prior to the General Assembly.

An extraordinary General Assembly can be summoned by the Executive Board or by a person appointed by the Executive Board. This must be done within 30 days with the announcement of the agenda. If more than half of the members demand the summoning of an extraordinary General Assembly, the Executive Board must summon a General Assembly within 40 days of receipt of an application.

An ordinary or extraordinary General Assembly is quorum if at least half of the ordinary members are present.

The resolutions of the General Assembly are passed with a simple majority of votes. In the event of a tie, the chairman of the Assembly shall have the casting-vote.

Minutes must be written of the General Assembly and its resolutions. The minutes shall be signed by the General Assembly chairman and the secretary of the General Assembly minutes and sent to members no later than 60 days before the next General Assembly.

## **§ 9 TASKS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. Election of the President
2. Election of Vice-Presidents
3. Election of the Secretary-General
4. Election of the Treasurer

### **ELECTIONS:**

The Executive Board makes election proposals for items 1, 2, 3 and 4. These are to be sent to the members together with the invitation to the General Assembly no later than 60 days prior to the General Assembly.

Counter-proposals from the members must be handed in at the FEGAT General Secretariat 40 days prior to the General Assembly. After this deadline no further candidatures are possible.

5. Acceptance of the annual report prepared by the President, or on her/his behalf by the Secretary General.
6. Approval of the accounts and the grant of discharge of the Treasurer and Executive Board.
7. Election of two member nations which are to appoint 2 auditors from their ranks.



8. Decision of the membership fee.
9. Approval of proposed levies by the Executive Board and possible admission fees.
10. Resolution on the formation of committees and their dissolution.
11. Amendment (-s) to the statutes.
12. Resolution on the admission and exclusion of members.
13. Appointment of Honorary Members.
14. Settlement of proposals from the members
15. Execution of proposals by the Executive Board.
16. Resolution on the accession to other organizations and the acceptance of new tasks.
17. Resolution on the dissolution of FEGAT.

A change of the rank of topics above can be decided by the Executive Board or the General Assembly.

## **§ 10 THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1. The Executive Board consists of the President and 3 Vice-Presidents, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.
2. The General Assembly elects a President for the term of office of three years. The three Vice-Presidents are also elected for a period of three years, but in such a way that one Vice-President, eldest in office, resigns annually and a replacement person is elected.  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President is the person with the longest tenure in the FEGAT Executive Board  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President is the person with the second longest tenure in the FEGAT Executive Board  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President is the person with the shortest tenure in the FEGAT Executive Board
3. A re-election as a member of the Executive Board may take place.
4. In the event of the withdrawal, resignation or death of members of the Executive Board, the Executive Board has the right to temporarily fill the vacant seat. The next General Assembly will elect a new Executive Board member for the remaining tenure of the empty seat.
5. Upon the resignation of the President, only the General Assembly may execute the election.
6. Board meetings are summoned by the President, in the event of his/her being prevented by a Vice-President, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in that order, or by a person appointed by the Executive Board.



7. The Executive Board shall represent FEGAT regarding all dispositions and administrative questions.
8. The Executive Board has the right to propose a Secretary General and a Treasurer to be elected by the General Assembly.
9. The Executive Board is quorum with the presence of the President and one Vice-President. An alternative is that a resolution can be taken in the presence of all 3 Vice-Presidents. In both cases, the entire Board must be summoned in writing. A resolution can also be taken with an email dialogue linking at least three of the four Executive Board members.
10. The Executive Board is responsible for monitoring the day-to-day business, implementing the resolutions of the General Assembly, preparing the annual report and drawing up the agenda for the General Assembly.
11. Minutes from meetings of the Executive Board and its resolutions shall be written.
12. The members of the Executive Board are idealistically engaged. However, all members of the Board are to be reimbursed for costs and possible loss of income in connection within FEGAT activities. The Executive Board may, nevertheless, settle a fee for special services.
13. In consultation with the respective organizers, the Executive Board determines the number of participating drivers at FEGAT Championships.

## **§ 11 THE PRESIDENT**

The President, in case of impediment of one of the Vice-Presidents, presides over the General Assembly and the Executive Board and represents the interests of FEGAT.

If there is more than one candidate the President and the Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the General Assembly by secret ballot with a simple majority of votes.

## **§ 12 THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

The Secretary General is elected by the General Assembly and works idealistically. All personal expenses and possible loss of income incurred in connection with his/her FEGAT activities shall, however, be reimbursed. The Executive Board may, nevertheless, settle a fee for special services.

The Secretary General is responsible for the Office and is responsible to the Executive Board. The Office of the Secretary General may be held by a Vice-President.

## **§ 13 THE TREASURER**

The Treasurer is elected by the General Assembly and works idealistically. All personal expenses and possible loss of income incurred in connection with her/his FEGAT activities shall, however, be reimbursed.





The Office of the Treasurer may be held by the Secretary General or by a Vice-President. The Treasurer is responsible to the Executive Board and the auditors.

The Treasurer is responsible for the collection of membership fees and levies, as well as the management of FEGAT's assets. In particular, a budget has to be drawn up for the coming calendar year.

## **§ 14 OFFICE SITE**

FEGAT maintains a business address at the location of the General Secretariat. The Secretary General is duty-bound by the instructions of the President, the Executive Board and the General Assembly. The costs for the operation of the office, but not the rent of premises, are financed by membership fees.

## **§ 15 STATUTE CHANGES**

Requests for amendments to the Statutes must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board at the latest by 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the current financial year. The application (-s) shall be submitted to the next General Assembly for consideration. The Executive Board is obliged to deal with such requests and to send them to the member associations at least 60 days before the General Assembly, which is then to discuss these requests. In order to obtain legal force, a resolution must be passed at two successive General Assemblies at least 6 months apart, one of which must be an ordinary General Assembly. At least 3/4<sup>th</sup> of the votes cast must be positive to the amendments to the Statutes at the last Assembly held.

## **§ 16 THE AUDITORS**

The accounting and regularity of the account and cash management as well as the financial statements must be carried out by 2 auditors who submit their report to the Executive Board. At least once a year, the auditors have to check the cash management and the expenditure as well as the economic use of the funds. The Executive Board may issue special audit assignments.

Member nations which appoint the auditors are elected by the General Assembly for a period of one year. The auditors may not be members of the Executive Board. A summary of the results of the audit shall be presented to the General Assembly.

## **§ 17 ARBITRATION**

In case of litigation, the General Assembly shall decide by a simple majority of votes. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the Assembly shall have the casting-vote. The General Assembly may delegate its tasks to the Executive Board.



## § 18 DISSOLUTION OF FEGAT AND LIQUIDATION

The dissolution and liquidation of FEGAT may only be decided upon the following condition: The application of dissolution and liquidation of FEGAT must be submitted to the members at least 60 days before the General Assembly which is to deal with this request. In order to obtain legal force, a resolution must be passed at two successive General Assemblies at least 6 months apart, one of which must be an ordinary General Assembly.

At least 3/4<sup>th</sup> of the votes cast must be positive to the dissolution and liquidation of FEGAT at the last General Assembly held.

Remaining values after the repayment of all liabilities are to be transferred to the International Red Cross.

## § 19 SURPLUS

Possible surpluses may only be used for the purposes of statutory tasks.

## § 20 SALVATORY CLAUSE

If a provision of these Statutes becomes invalid in whole or in part, the effectiveness of the remaining valid provisions shall remain unaffected.

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- Agreed on at the a.o. HV 17<sup>th</sup> June 1978, expanded at the o. HV 16<sup>th</sup> May 1981, 19<sup>th</sup> May 1984 and 8<sup>th</sup> July 1989)
  - Agreed on at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of FEGAT September 1996 in Gelsenkirchen
  - FEGAT-STATUTES – thoroughly revised - **Mönchengladbach** February 2009.
  - Presented at the General Assembly of FEGAT 2009 in Avenches. Finally in force since the General Assembly of FEGAT March 2010 in Mönchengladbach.
  - Revised and translated into English, Fegen November 2017, will be presented to the General Assembly 2018.

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