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Constitution of the International Trotting Association

Proposition of amendments August 2023

1. Name

The name of the Federation is “The International Trotting Association” (ITA).

It is understood that outside the countries of The European Trotting Union (UET) the term “trotting” refers to both trotting and pacing.

2. Objectives

The objectives for which the Association is formed are:

- To determine strategies for the promotion and enhancement of trotting, globally.
- To stimulate public and government interest in trotting.
- To encourage uniform international rules and regulations concerning the export and import of trotting horses and races throughout the world and data exchange of racelines and race earnings and to encourage their development, implementation and maintenance.
- To implement and modify the provisions of the International Agreement on Trotting Races (appendix 1) subject to any local restrictions which may apply in member countries.
- To encourage uniform methods of identification of trotting horses.
- To encourage and promote interest in the breeding, training and care, equine research and veterinary science relating to trotting horses.
- To determine and encourage the uniform use of politics and rules amongst trotting administrations.
- To promote an electronic communication process between the various federation members in order to establish and update, regularly, a common database, including the performance of the trotter, race results and all other information sources to facilitate the business of the Federation and its members.
- To share information from an administrative viewpoint to improve the understanding of racing issues, internationally.

3. Membership

A) Membership

Membership in the Association (listed in appendix 2) shall be open to the governing bodies of all countries (or groups of countries) that pursue the above objectives and actively conduct trotting races.

There shall be only one ITA member per country.

The candidate for membership shall provide evidence of its role and responsibility in trotting and breeding and racing and shall undertake to fulfill its obligation as set out in the Constitution.

- Should a member not attend several consecutive **three General Assembly meetings** of the International Trotting Association, the country’s membership should be reviewed by the Constitution Committee, which may take such action as is necessary.

B) Lifetime Membership

Lifetime membership may be accorded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the industry and this Association, upon the recommendation of the Constitution and Regulation Committee and upon acceptance by the General Assembly. Such members may take part in all discussions but shall not have the right to vote.

C) New Membership

Applications for new membership of the Association shall be made to the President at least three months before the next scheduled biennial meeting of the Association and should contain the required report on trotting races and breeding in the candidate country. Such application to be considered at the next General Assembly.

3. Meetings

- A) Meetings of the Association (**Committees, General Assembly**) shall be held at least once every **three** years **on the occasion of the World Trotting Conference**, circulating between the countries in the order of: Europe – North America – Europe – Australasia (Australia and New Zealand).
- - **An Interconference meeting is organised each year between two World Trotting Conferences. The delegates of the Constitution Committee of the prior World Trotting Conference attend the interconference meetings. Interconference meetings may be held by videoconference, with the exception of the meeting held six months prior to the World Trotting Conference, which delegates must attend in person.**
 - **The duration of the WTC during which the Committee meetings and the General Assembly are held is four days. An additional day is dedicated for visits and meetings with local actors of the industry.**
 - **The Inter-conference meetings can be organised in a different place than the one of the upcoming World Trotting Conference.**
 - **An ITA Liaison Officer, working with the country organizing the upcoming World Trotting Conference, is nominated by the General Assembly. He must ensure the organisation of the Interconference meetings and annual meetings of the different Committees.**
- B) Each member country shall be entitled to be represented at all meetings of the Association by two delegates duly appointed in writing by the respective member country. The delegate or delegates so appointed need not be nationals or residents in the country they are representing, and substitute delegates may from time to time be appointed by the respective member countries. Delegates so appointed shall be the representative entitled to participate in the **World Trotting Conference meeting** and vote on any motion thereat.
- C) Every member country shall, in addition to its official delegates, be entitled to have not more than four official observers duly appointed by the member countries. These observers shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the **World Trotting Conference** but otherwise have full rights under the authority of the delegates. The chairholder of the committee shall always be a delegate. In addition, interested persons who shall be classified as visitors may attend meetings of the International Trotting Association at the discretion of the host country, providing they obtain the accreditation of the member country of which they are resident.
- D) Voting at Association meetings shall be done by the delegates present and in the event of an equality of votes the President of the **World Trotting Conference** shall have a casting as well as a deliberate vote with the exception of changes to the constitution where the provisions of clause 9 apply. **If urgent decisions or resolutions have to be taken between two World Trotting Conferences, a postal vote can be organised with the agreement of two-third of the delegates registered for the former World Trotting Conference.**
- E) At all meetings of the Association, the proceedings shall be communicated to all participants in the original languages of the Association, which will be: English, **French** and the language(s) of the host country at its discretion.
- F) All papers delivered at each meeting of the Association shall be presented in all official languages.
- G) The host country for any **World Trotting Conference** may invite a non-member country to attend the **World Trotting Conference** as an observer nation. Attendees from that nation shall have the same rights as clause 4 C).

5. Officers

- A) There shall be a President and Secretary and other such officers as the General Assembly may appoint.
- B) The President shall be appointed from the official delegation of the host country of the current **World Trotting Conference** and shall hold office until the first day of the next succeeding **biennial World Trotting Conference**.
- C) The Secretary shall be appointed from the official delegation of the host country of the current **World Trotting Conference** by which time the official minutes will have been prepared and distributed. In any event not later than 120 days following the conclusion of the **World Trotting Conference** a new Secretary shall be appointed from the official delegation of the next host country.
- D) In the event of the death or loss of qualification of any officer a replacement shall be made by the delegation from the country of the incumbent officer.

6. Minutes

On the appointment of each President and Secretary all minutes taken and other records of the Association shall be forwarded immediately to the incoming Secretary and a copy of such minutes and documents retained for recorded purposes.

All reports and minutes must be prepared and sent to members and other **World Trotting Conference** attendees within two months of the conclusion of the World Trotting Conference.

7. Standing Committees

- A) There shall be an Advisory Committee comprising the two immediate Past Presidents and a delegate from the incoming host country whose functions shall be to advise and assist the President in ensuring continuity between **World Trotting Conferences** and assistance to the incoming host country in the planning of the next **World Trotting Conference** timetable.
- B) There shall be the following Standing Committees, each of which shall elect its own Chairman at the first meeting of the Committee:
 - 1. Constitution and Regulation
 - 2. Equine Health and Integrity
 - 3. Breeding
 - 4. Marketing and Business Development
 - 5. Racing and Wagering

It is suggested that at least **one meeting** of each Committee be held over the course of the **World Trotting Conference**. Meetings of these Standing Committees are to be scheduled as part of the **World Trotting Conference** timetable.

- C) Only one WTC delegate per member country is eligible to be a member of the Constitution and Regulation Committee. This Committee would meet, separate to the other committees, largely to review and confirm the ITA Constitution. The other four committees would meet over the course of the **World Trotting Conference**, with delegates and observers eligible to attend two of the four committees. Members of the other Standing Committees and special Committees shall comprise official delegates.
- E) ~~The President, with the approval of the Conference, may appoint ad hoc committees to study and consider subject which may come up from time to time.~~
- D) **In order to maintain and improve the contacts and discussions between the Standing Committee members, digital video meetings are held annually between each World Trotting Conference in order to prepare the next one. WhatsApp groups can be created for each Standing Committee. The ad hoc**

committees once they have completed their studies and made their reports will be automatically disbanded.

- F) **Standing Committees Presidents are in charge of the organisation of these digital meetings. The objective is to propose the agenda of Committees meetings during the next World Trotting Conference.** In the event of death or loss of qualification of any committee member, a new appointment may be made by the member country concerned.
- G) **WhatsApp groups will be created between the members of the Standing Committees of the World Trotting Conference.**

8. Member Country Fees

- A. Each member country shall pay an annual fee to the Association. This annual fee shall be collected by the designated host country for the next coming biennial meeting of the Association. The annual fee shall be set by the General Assembly of the Association (based on UET categories Group 1 - \$1,000 USD, Group 2 - \$500 USD, Group 3 - \$250 USD). The said fee shall be due and payable on or before July 1st of each year. Should the fee not be paid when due, then membership may at the discretion of the Constitution Committee be considered to have lapsed.
- B. Each member country shall pay a registration fee for each appointed delegate, observer or visitor attending any meeting of the Association. Such fee shall be set by, and paid to the host country Fees: Up to US\$2,000 for **World Trotting Conference** attendees and up to US\$2,000 for accompanying persons.
- C. All **World Trotting Conference** fees shall be notified to all member countries at least six months prior to the opening of the **World Trotting Conference**.

Confirmation of Schedule for future World Trotting Conference and World Driving Championships (To be verified)

2026 New Zealand

2029 Italy

2032 United States of America

2035 Europe, UET to confirm

9. Changes to the Constitution

Changes to the Constitution of the International Trotting Association may be proposed by notice of Motion in writing to the Secretary General of the Association not later than two months prior to the next meeting of the Association and the Secretary General shall immediately on receipt notify all member countries. Such alterations to the Constitution must be considered by Constitution and Regulation Committee.

Any changes to the Constitution recommended by the Constitution and Regulation Committee shall then be considered by General Assembly. Approval by the General Assembly shall require a two thirds majority of those delegates present and voting.

10. World Driving Championship

At the General Assembly of each meeting of the Association, the host country will provide a report on the conduct of the World Driving Championship (WDC). This report will outline any recommended changes to the rules for the conduct of the next championship, which will be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly.