



# IOC Code of Ethics

## PREAMBLE

The International Olympic Committee and each of its members and its administration, the National Olympic Committees, the International Federations, the cities taking part in any type of candidature procedures of the IOC, the Organising Committees for the Olympic Games, Olympic Games participants and the Recognised Organisations (hereinafter “the Olympic parties”) restate their commitment to the Olympic Charter and in particular its Fundamental Principles, and reaffirm their loyalty to the Olympic ideal inspired by Pierre de Coubertin.

The Olympic parties undertake to disseminate the culture of ethics and integrity within their respective areas of competence and to serve as role models.



## Scope of application

The Olympic parties undertake to comply and ensure compliance with the IOC Code of Ethics in the following circumstances:

- the International Olympic Committee (IOC), each of its members and its administration, and the National Olympic Committees (NOC) and their officials, at all times and in all circumstances;
- all Olympic Games participants, throughout each edition of the Olympic Games for which they are accredited;
- the International Federations (IFs) and the Recognised Organisations and their officials, in all their relations with the IOC;
- the cities and their officials taking part in any type of candidature procedures of the IOC, throughout the procedure in question; and
- the Organising Committees for the Olympic Games (OCOGs) and their officials, throughout the existence of each such Committee.

The National Olympic Committees, the International Federations, the Recognised Organisations and the Organising Committees for the Olympic Games undertake to adopt, for their internal activities, a code of ethics based on the principles and rules of the IOC Code of Ethics, or in a written declaration to adopt the IOC Code of Ethics.



## A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

### Article 1

Respect for the universal fundamental ethical principles is the foundation of Olympism.

These include:

- 1.1** Respect for the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play;
- 1.2** Respect of the principle of the universality and political neutrality of the Olympic Movement;
- 1.3** Maintaining harmonious relations with state authorities, while respecting the principle of autonomy as set out in the Olympic Charter;
- 1.4** Respect for international conventions on protecting human rights insofar as they apply to the Olympic Games' activities and which ensure in particular:
  - respect for human dignity;
  - rejection of discrimination of any kind on whatever grounds, be it race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;
  - rejection of all forms of harassment and abuse, be it physical, professional or sexual, and any physical or mental injuries;
- 1.5** Ensuring the participants' conditions of safety, well-being and medical care favourable to their physical and mental equilibrium.



## **B INTEGRITY OF CONDUCT**

### **Article 2**

The Olympic parties must use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. At all times, they must act with the highest degree of integrity, and particularly when taking decisions, they must act with impartiality, objectivity, independence and professionalism.

They must refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the Olympic Movement.

### **Article 3**

The Olympic parties or their representatives must not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit or service of any nature, connected with the Olympic Games.

### **Article 4**

Only tokens of consideration or friendship of nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by the Olympic or third parties. Such tokens may not lead to the impartiality and integrity of the Olympic parties being called into question.

Any other form of token, object or benefit constitutes a gift which may not be accepted, but must be passed on to the organisation of which the beneficiary is a member.



## **Article 5**

For hospitality shown to the Olympic parties, as well as those accompanying them, a sense of measure must be respected.

## **Article 6**

The Olympic parties must refrain from placing themselves in any conflict of interests, and must respect the Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interests Affecting the Behaviour of Olympic Parties.

## **C INTEGRITY OF COMPETITIONS**

### **Article 7**

The Olympic parties shall commit to combat all forms of cheating and shall continue to undertake all the necessary measures to ensure the integrity of sports competitions.

### **Article 8**

The Olympic parties must respect the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code and of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.



## Article 9

All forms of participation in, or support for betting related to the Olympic Games, and all forms of promotion of betting related to the Olympic Games are prohibited.

## Article 10

Participants in the Olympic Games must not, by any manner whatsoever, manipulate the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics, infringe the principle of fair play or show unsporting conduct.

## D GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES

### Article 11

The Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, in particular transparency, responsibility and accountability, must be respected by all Olympic parties.

### Article 12

The Olympic resources of the Olympic parties must be used only for Olympic purposes.



## Article 13

- 13.1** The income and expenditure of the Olympic parties must be recorded in their accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. An independent auditor will check these accounts.
- 13.2** In cases where the IOC gives financial support to Olympic parties:
- a. the use of these Olympic resources for Olympic purposes must be clearly demonstrated in the accounts;
  - b. the accounts of the Olympic parties may be subjected to auditing by an expert designated by the IOC Executive Board.

## Article 14

The Olympic parties recognise the significant contribution that broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters make to the development and prestige of the Olympic Games throughout the world.

In order to preserve the integrity and neutrality of the various candidature procedures, the support and promotion of any of the candidatures by broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must be in a form consistent with the rules of sport and the principles defined in the Olympic Charter and the present Code.

However, the IOC TOP Sponsors and other IOC marketing partners must refrain from supporting or promoting a candidature within any of the IOC candidature procedures.

The broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must not interfere in the running of sports organisations.



## E CANDIDATURES

### Article 15

The Olympic parties shall respect the integrity of any candidature procedure initiated by the IOC, in order to allow equal access to the promotion of each candidature and the refusal of any risk of conflict of interests.

Out of respect for the principle of neutrality of IOC members, no public declaration appearing to give a favourable opinion of one of the candidatures may be made.

### Article 16

The Olympic parties will respect the requirements of the various procedures published by the IOC, particularly regarding the selection of Olympic Games host cities, as well as the Rules of Conduct Applicable to All Cities Wishing to Organise the Olympic Games.

## F CONFIDENTIALITY

### Article 17

The principle of confidentiality shall be strictly respected by the IOC Ethics Commission in all its activities.

It must also be strictly respected by any person concerned by the activities of the IOC Ethics Commission.





## **G** REPORTING OBLIGATION

### **Article 18**

The Olympic parties shall inform the IOC Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, in the strictest confidentiality and by using the appropriate mechanisms, in particular the IOC Ethics and Compliance Hotline, of any information related to a violation of the IOC Code of Ethics, with a view to possible referral to the IOC Ethics Commission.

Any disclosure of information must not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organisation.

## **H** IMPLEMENTATION

### **Article 19**

The IOC Ethics Commission may set out the provisions for the implementation of the present Code in a set of Implementing Provisions, subject to the approval of the IOC Executive Board in accordance with the Bye-law to Rule 22 of the Olympic Charter.

### **Article 20**

The IOC Ethics and Compliance Office is available to the IOC Ethics Commission to disseminate and implement the present Code.