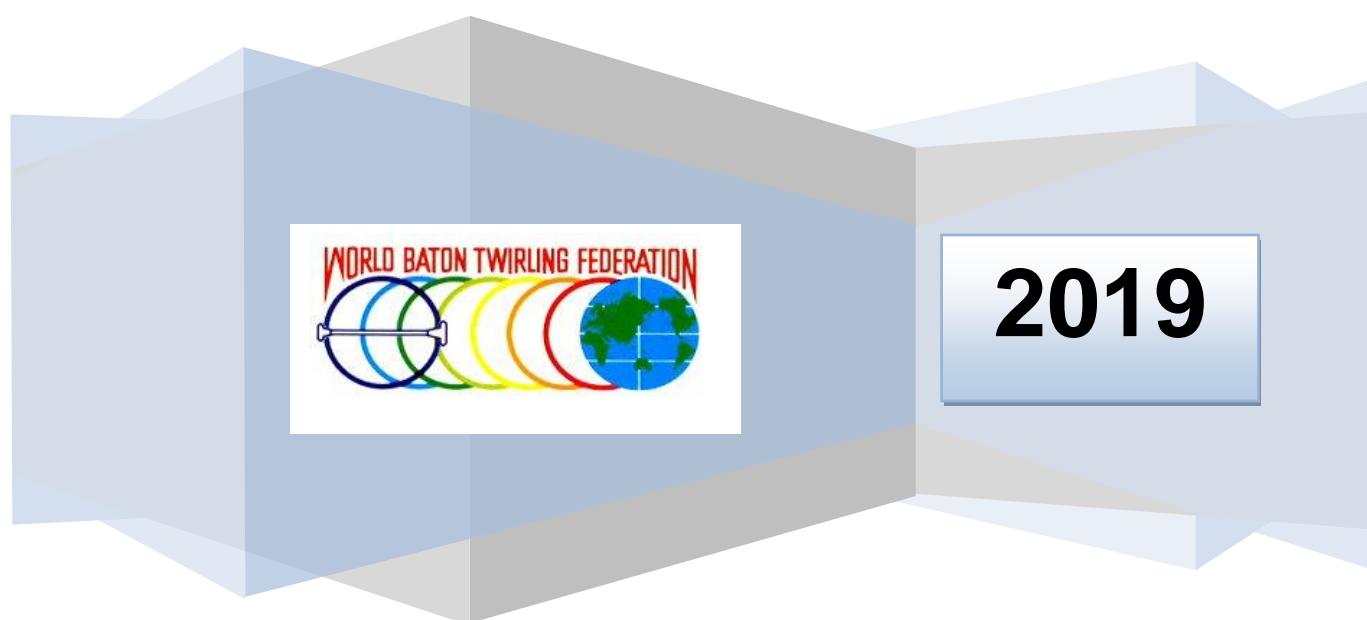


**WORLD BATON TWIRLING
FEDERATION**

MEMBERSHIP

CRITERIA

SECTION 3





MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

Section 3 - Composition of the World Baton Twirling Federation.

The WBTF is composed of Full, Associate and Provisional members who are National Federations and Allied National & International Member Federations.

GOVERNANCE

1. The applicant is a national or international non-profit organization.
2. The applicant applies principles of good governance such as transparency, accountability, gender equity, non-discrimination, fairness etc.
3. The applicant's general assembly is the supreme authority of the organization and elects the executive organs.

Admission is decided by the WBTF Board of Directors. No reason need be given when refusing an application. If an application is rejected, the unsuccessful applicant is entitled to present its application to the next General Meeting, which may admit any applicant by a two-thirds majority vote.

Admission occurs when an applicant's application for membership has been accepted by the WBTF Board of Directors.

Admission to membership, and renewal of membership by payment of the annual membership fee, constitutes a contract between the WBTF and the Member. The terms of that contract include the term that in return for membership in WBTF, Members agree to abide by the WBTF's Constitution, rules and regulations, and to abide by decisions of the WBTF's General Meeting and Executive, and to comply with the World Anti-Doping Code, the WBTF Anti-Doping Code, including requiring all athletes and support personnel within their jurisdiction to recognize and be bound by the World Anti-Doping Code and the WBTF Anti-Doping Code.

All members must be notified in writing of any new admission and of any change in membership. It is a condition of membership of the WBTF that the policies, rules, statutes and programs of the member comply with World Anti-Doping Code (WADC).

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

1.0 **FULL MEMBERSHIP** (Voting Member at Annual General Meetings)

- 1.1 New Full Members are required to begin as a Provisional Member.
- 1.1 Must abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the WBTF.
- 1.2 In order to be approved for FULL MEMBERSHIP in the WBTF the organization must have statutes, a board of directors, and democratic procedures.
- 1.3 Must provide the WBTF with their Constitutions, Statutes and By-Laws in English.
- 1.4 Full Members **may participate in all meetings**, and **shall have a vote**.
- 1.5 Must pay yearly membership dues determined by the WBTF Board of Directors.
- 1.6 May have an Elite National Baton Twirling Team who competes at the World Baton Twirling Championships.

2.0 **ASSOCIATE MEMBER:**

- 2.1 The classification of Associate Member is for countries who practice the discipline of baton twirling as a commission inside another Federation in their country. Examples of another Federation would be a country's DanceSport Federation or Gymnastics Federation, or a Multi-sport Federation.
- 2.2 New Associate Members are required to begin as a Provisional Member, however, on becoming an Associate Member, they have the same rights of membership and pay the same fees as Country "Full" members.
- 2.3 Must control baton twirling in their Country.
- 2.4 Must abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the WBTF.
- 2.5 Must provide the WBTF with their parent Federation's Constitutions, Statutes and By-Laws in English.
- 2.6 Associate Members **may participate in all meetings**, and **shall have a vote**.
- 2.7 Must pay yearly membership dues determined by the WBTF Board of Directors.
- 2.8 May have an Elite National Baton Twirling Team who competes at the World Baton Twirling Championships.
- 2.9 Associate Memberships will be reviewed annually and could be revoked if:
 - 1) a good working relationship with the parent body no longer exists
 - 2) a baton twirling federation recognized by the country's sport ministry or National Olympic committee applies for membership.

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

3.0 **PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP** (Non- voting Member at Annual General Meetings)

3.1 New and developing countries are eligible for the World Baton Twirling Federation's Provisional membership, upon a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Open to Countries who are in the preliminary Stages of Development of:

- a. National Team Members
- b. Coaches, Trainers of Baton Twirling
- c. Officials, Judges of Baton Twirling
- d. Status to be determined by the WBTF Board of Directors.

3.2 Must abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the WBTF.

3.3 Must be making efforts towards full membership on an on-going basis.

3.4 Must provide the WBTF with their Constitutions, Statutes and By-Laws in English as soon as they are completed and registered.

3.5 Must pay yearly membership dues determined by the WBTF.

3.6 Eligible countries, approved by the Board of Directors **shall have no vote**.

3.7 Eligible countries **may not participate in any meeting discussions**, however, **shall have the opportunity to ask questions** and have the questions answered at the appropriate time during meetings.

3.8 Provisional members **will not be eligible to have a judge on the judges' panel**, however, **may be represented at the judges' meetings**. Their judge **may practice judge** during the World Baton Twirling Championships and International Cup.

3.9 Following **one** year of Provisional Membership, it would be at the member country's discretion whether or not their athletes would give a demonstration or be able to compete in the International Cup Competition.

3.9.1 If the Provisional Member Country chooses to compete, then all athletes would be eligible to compete.

3.9.2 If the Provisional Member Country chooses to compete, then it also becomes eligible to have a judge on the judges' panel.

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

- 3.9.3 A Provisional Member Country cannot choose to compete and demonstrate at the same time.
- 3.9.4 Once a Provisional Member Country has decided to compete, the athletes cannot revert back to demonstrating.
- 3.9.5 A Provisional member country may petition for a waiver to compete in the International Cup immediately upon acceptance.
- 3.10 On an annual basis, the Board will review all Provisional Memberships and will determine whether to continue or terminate the membership by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors without due cause.
- 3.11 Athletes/Participants must have passports or meets eligibility criteria for the National athletes who compete periodically in baton twirling.
- 3.12 Must have a designated National Baton Twirling Headquarters in their Country.

4.0 CONTINENTAL ALLIED BATON TWIRLING FEDERATION MEMBER

- 4.1 Allied Continental Federation Members are Continental associations, federations or baton twirling organizations that do not qualify as a Provisional, Associate, or Full country member of the WBTF.
- 4.2 Allied Continental Federation Members of the WBTF shall not have their own Federation's existence affected by WBTF in legal, financial, and organizational terms unless they so desire, other than how it may be affected by the obligations required in this membership category.
- 4.3 The following rights, roles and responsibilities/obligations are granted to Allied Continental Baton Twirling Federation Members:
 - 4.3.1 Allied Continental Federation Members will be invited to designated meetings of the WBTF, and shall have the right to nominate up to five (5) representatives of their federation to collaborate and strategize with WBTF Officials on future competitions endeavours.
 - 4.3.2 During the term of Allied Continental Federation Membership in WBTF, the federation shall have the right to nominate one (1) representative to attend designated WBTF Meetings and shall have voting status only on those matters affecting the events they participate in. They shall have the opportunity to ask questions and have the questions answered at the appropriate time during meetings but shall have no vote.

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

- 4.3.3 Allied Continental Federation Members may attend WBTF Coaches and Judges Workshops to certify clinicians for training judges in the WBTF coaching & judging system. Allied Continental Federation Members who obtain certified clinician status will be required to hold WBTF membership in his/her country.
- 4.3.4 Allied Continental Federation Members may participate in WBTF Continental Clinics and Conventions.
- 4.3.5 Allied Continental Federation Member athletes, coaches and judges may not participate in WBTF Competitions without becoming a WBTF member in their own country.
- 4.4 Allied Continental Federation membership will be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors and can be revoked by simple majority vote.
- 4.5 The goal of providing Allied Continental Federation Membership is to work towards a unification of baton twirling worldwide.

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

5.0 INTERNATIONAL ALLIED BATON TWIRLING FEDERATION MEMBER

- 5.1 Allied International Federation Members are international associations, federations or baton twirling organizations that do not qualify as a Provisional, Associate, or Full country member of the WBTF.
- 5.2 Allied International Federation Members of the WBTF shall not have their own Federation's existence affected by WBTF in legal, financial, and organizational terms unless they so desire, other than how it may be affected by the obligations required in this membership category.
- 5.3 The following rights, roles and responsibilities/obligations are granted to Allied International Baton Twirling Federation Members:
- 5.3.1 Allied International Federation Members will be invited to designated meetings of the WBTF, and shall have the right to nominate five (5) representatives of their federation to collaborate and strategize with WBTF Officials on future endeavours.
 - 5.3.2 During the term of Allied International Federation Membership in WBTF, the federation shall have the right to nominate one (1) representative to attend designated WBTF Meetings and shall have the opportunity to ask questions and have the questions answered at the appropriate time during meetings but shall have no vote.
 - 5.3.3 Allied International Federation Members may attend WBTF Coaches and Judges Workshops to certify clinicians for training judges in the WBTF coaching & judging system. Allied International Federation Members who obtain certified clinician status will be required to hold WBTF membership in his/her country.
 - 5.3.4 Allied International Federation Members may participate in WBTF International Clinics and Conventions.
 - 5.3.5 Allied International Federation Member athletes, coaches and judges may not participate in WBTF Competitions without becoming a WBTF member in their own country.
- 5.4 Allied International Federation membership will be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors and can be revoked by simple majority vote.
- 5.5 The goal of providing Allied International Federation Membership is to work towards a unification of baton twirling worldwide.

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	
MAILING ADDRESS	
COUNTRY	
CONTACT PERSON	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER
EMAIL ADDRESS	

The above named organization wishes to make application for membership.
Please check (✓) one:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Provisional Membership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Membership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full Membership

If applying for FULL membership, please answer the following questions:

1.	Is your organization the only baton twirling organization in your country?	YES	NO
2.	Founding year of your organization?		
3.	Is your organization recognized by your National Government Sports Association/Federation?	YES	NO

Please attach the following documentation to the application form:

1. Names and titles of Board of Directors and/or Executive Officers.
2. Form of organization and democratic procedures.

I hereby acknowledge that all documents, required for membership are attached to this application form.

Name of person making application

Date

Mail to: **Sandi Wiemers, President**
2429 7th Street;
Clay Center, Kansas 67432 USA

Or E-mail to: sandiwiemers@wbtf.org

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

2019 WBTF MEMBERSHIP FEE			
FULL MEMBERSHIP		ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	
2019		2019	
WBTF MEMBER FEE	\$1,525.00	WBTF MEMBER FEE	\$1,525.00
IBTF MEMBER FEE	\$150.00	IBTF MEMBER FEE	\$150.00
INSURANCE FEE	\$275.00	INSURANCE FEE	\$275.00
TOTAL	\$1,950.00	TOTAL	\$1,950.00

PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP		PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP	
1st Year Provisional Member		2nd Year Provisional Member	
2019		2019	
WBTF MEMBER FEE	\$175.00	WBTF MEMBER FEE	\$275.00
IBTF MEMBER FEE	\$50.00	IBTF MEMBER FEE	\$50.00
INSURANCE FEE	\$75.00	INSURANCE FEE	\$75.00
TOTAL	\$300.00	TOTAL	\$400.00

PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP		PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP	
3rd Year Provisional Member		4th Year Provisional Member	
2019		2019	
WBTF MEMBER FEE	\$375.00	WBTF MEMBER FEE	\$500.00
IBTF MEMBER FEE	\$75.00	IBTF MEMBER FEE	\$100.00
INSURANCE FEE	\$75.00	INSURANCE FEE	\$75.00
TOTAL	\$525.00	TOTAL	\$675.00

Funds listed are in U.S. Dollars

European Commission Members pay an additional continental assessment fee of USD \$315.00 to cover expenses for 2018 European Champ, Medallions and 2019 European Championships.

**WBTF NATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
EXTRA MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT**

An Extra Membership Assessment Fee will be assessed to any National Affairs Commission to cover the necessary expenses for competitions, conventions or clinics.

The amount of the assessment will be determined by the projected expenses and divided by the number of member countries participating in the event.

DEADLINE DATE FOR MEMBERSHIP FEE (Full, Associate, Provisional and Allied Member Fees plus National Affairs Commission Assessment Fees)

Upon receipt of the Annual Membership Fee Invoice from the WBTF Treasurer, all member countries shall be required to submit payment for annual Membership Fee plus the National Affairs Commission Assessment Fee, **by April 30th of each calendar year**. Monies should be wired to the WBTF Bank **or** submitted through the WBTF PayPal account or via Credit Card payment to avoid delays. Treasurer to mail invoices no later than mid-March.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

- ❑ Member country must contact the Treasurer and President of the WBTF by March 31st of the year the World Baton Twirling Championship is scheduled to take place, to make alternate arrangements for membership fee payment.
- ❑ If membership fee payment cannot be made by April 30th of the competition year, the member country will be charged late penalty fees based upon the following scale:

LATE PENALTY FEE

- ❑ Following the April 30th deadline, the member country will be charged an additional 10% on top of the regular membership fee due if paid in 30 days
- ❑ Following 30 days, the member country will be charged an additional 25% on top of the regular membership fee due if paid in 60 days.
- ❑ Following 60 days, the member country will be charged a 50% late fee on top of the regular membership fee owing.
- ❑ Full membership fee, plus the applicable late penalty fee **must be wired** to the Treasurer of the WBTF or via the WBTF PayPal account, **by July 1st** of the competition year **in order for the athletes to be eligible to compete** at the World Baton Twirling Championships or International Cup.

Effective: August 2010

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

SUSPENSION (DISENFRANCHISEMENT) OF MEMBER COUNTRY FOR OUTSTANDING FEES

- ❑ Following two (2) years of not paying membership fees and/or outstanding late penalty fees, a member country will be suspended from the World Baton Twirling Federation.
- ❑ At this point in time, the member country will be denied **all privileges** extended to them by the World Baton Twirling Federation.

REINSTATEMENT OF A SUSPENDED (DISENFRANCHISED) MEMBER COUNTRY

- ❑ At the end of the suspended year, the member country may apply for reinstatement.
- ❑ Membership status: If member country was a full member, they may only apply for full membership status.
- ❑ The suspended member country, **must** pay all membership fees and late penalty fees, owing from the past, before the suspended member country may be considered for reinstatement or denied further membership in the WBTF.

REASONS FOR EXPULSION OF A FULL MEMBER COUNTRY

A. FINANCIAL

1. Failure to make payments in full per WBTF policy will result in the suspended country being expelled from the World Baton Twirling Federation.
2. Continual disregard in following the Policies & Procedures set forth by the WBTF for:
 1. Adhering to the deadline date for paying membership fee
 2. Adhering to the deadline date for paying entry registration fees for the World Championships and/or International Cup
 3. Lack of communication in notifying WBTF Officials and Host Country Officials if plans for attendance change after the entry registration has been processed
 4. Imposing extra expenses on the host country to cover financial pre-arrangements that were made by host country on behalf the member country who then fails to appear.
 5. Lack of payment or false payment for services to hotels, transportation companies, etc. while attending a WBTF event.

Membership Criteria and Information (continued)

B. LACK OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. Not supplying the WBTF with proper documentations regarding the member country's official status in their country. (i.e. Form of governance, proper statutes, etc.) when requested by the WBTF.
2. Failure to follow the rules of governance set forth in WBTF membership requirements.

Abuse of any one or more of the above items are grounds for loss of membership.

Effective Date: August 2010

DISPUTES:

All WBTF Members agree to binding arbitration under the Rules of the Ordinary Arbitration Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), Lausanne, Switzerland, as the exclusive jurisdiction and method of resolution of all claims or disputes, that is:

Damage and money claims as well as other claims, which could otherwise be the subject of a lawsuit in a civil court against the WBTF or any Office Holder, WBTF Official, or agent acting on behalf the WBTF

The appeal must be made in writing to the Court of Arbitration for Sport at the claimant's cost within fourteen (14) days of the notification of the decision in question by the WBTF to the person concerned or the Member Organization.

Decisions of the CAS shall be final and binding.

Admission to membership requires that all WBTF Members shall have a well-defined dispute resolution mechanism in their statutes or regulations consistent with their country's national laws. The dispute resolution clause may additionally include referral to arbitration tribunals or to CAS.

INVITATIONS TO POTENTIAL MEMBER COUNTRIES

(Approved 2008 Summer Meeting)

Invitations may be sent to potential member countries to compete in the International Cup Competition.

All Board members who have a potential contact person should notify the WBTF President with the address, e-mail and phone number of the potential contact person.

The President will issue the official invitation.

Potential member countries may participate and compete at the INTERNATIONAL CUP ONLY.

Should this potential member country wish to compete in the International Cup, which takes place every 2 years, the potential member country will be considered to compete, however, following the 2 year period, they must submit an application for the WBTF Provisional Membership status.