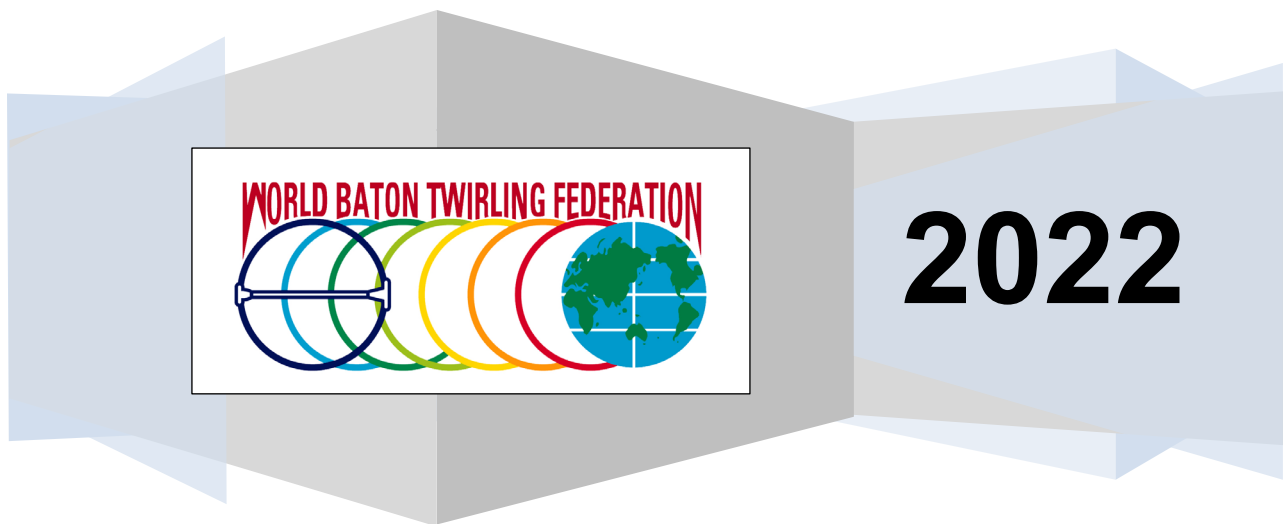


WORLD BATON TWIRLING FEDERATION

WBTF CODE OF ETHICS

SECTION 20



2022

WBTF CODE OF ETHICS PREAMBLE

The World Baton Twirling Federation (WBTF), its affiliated Federations, the Continental Commissions, the members of the baton twirling authorities, the organising committees of official WBTF events and participants at WBTF events are to show respect and esteem towards the national and international sports authorities and the government of their countries.

All WBTF Member Federations, including all their members, the athletes and their entourage, the officials (judges, coaches, medical staff and others), the WBTF Authorities and WBTF partners, as well as all persons accredited at WBTF events, must comply with the principles set out below and are bound by the WBTF Code of Ethics and the IOC Code of Ethics.

1. RESPECT AND HUMAN DIGNITY

- a) The respect of human rights and dignity is a fundamental requirement during all activities of the sport of baton twirling on a national and international level.
- b) Discrimination of any kind shall not be permitted, including race, color, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, physical attributes and athletic ability or other status.
- c) All doping at any level is absolutely prohibited. All points contained in the Anti Doping Code of the WBTF and the Olympic Movement, as well as those of the Code for preventing competition manipulation edited by the IOC are to be scrupulously observed.
- d) All forms of non-accidental violence which include sexual harassment, sexual abuse, physical abuse, psychological abuse and neglect will not be tolerated and will be disclosed.
- e) The WBTF and its designated agents such as a trainer or committees ensure safe and appropriate conditions and provide athletes with good medical care for their physical and moral well-being. Special attention is given to children's contest programs, education and training and ensuring their overall health and safety.

2. INTEGRITY

- a) WBTF members or their representatives are not permitted, directly or indirectly, to demand, accept or propose any kind of remuneration, commission, advantages, any obscure/unofficial favours, while involved in the organisation and conduct of official events or activities of the WBTF. This does not apply to formally contracted paid arrangements.
- b) Only symbolic gifts (of little value), corresponding to the maximum value of USD 500 approved by the Executive Committee of the WBTF, may be offered to or accepted by WBTF representatives (officials) as gestures of appreciation. Any gift in direct or indirect relation with or during competition is strictly forbidden.
- c) The hospitality offered to WBTF members or their representatives may not exceed the normal standard of the host country.
- d) During the conduct of their activities, WBTF members are expected to display correct conduct and deportment, to strictly follow the WBTF Code of Conduct and to declare any conflict of interest between the organisation of which he/she is a member and all other organisations with which the WBTF has relationships. Any close family relative* to a competitive athlete may not judge that athlete or his/her unit (pair, team, group, etc.) at any WBTF sanctioned event. If a conflict should or could appear, the president of the WBTF is to be informed, so appropriate action can be taken.

** Definition of "close family relative as per EC decision:*

*People who are or were married to, or live in a registered partnership or co-habit with a gymnast
People who are related to a gymnast by birth or marriage in direct or in collateral line, including the following persons: grandparent, parent, uncle, aunt, brother, sister, child, grandchild, nephew and cousin.*

- e) The WBTF representatives are to handle their responsibilities with diligence and care. They shall abstain from any false declarations and shall behave in a dignified and respectful manner. They demonstrate fairness in all sport activities and decisions which might affect the reputation of the WBTF.
- f) Members of the WBTF authorities may not be linked to enterprises or persons whose activities are incompatible with the principles or the rules of the WBTF and its Codes.
- g) The WBTF members, officials, judges and participants of WBTF events are not permitted to demonstrate undue pressure or influence the vote or the direction of decisions made in the WBTF, and especially must avoid any cooperation sought by influencing the work and evaluation of the judges.

3. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- a) WBTF financial resources may only be used to support baton twirling aims and objectives as approved by decisions at the appropriate level of the WBTF. The income and expenses of the WBTF authorities and their designates must be documented according to sound accounting practices and be fully transparent.
- b) The WBTF members recognise the important contribution and involvement of television, sponsors, partners and other supporters of baton twirling activities required for the development of the sport of baton twirling. All supporters and partners have to abide by the rules of the WBTF and the current Code. They cannot interfere or obstruct the organisation of events, which are exclusively the responsibility and competence of the WBTF.
- c) The organisers of official WBTF events and WBTF members must adhere to the respective guidelines, the statutes, the rules and regulations of the WBTF and the national federation, and the decisions taken by the sports authorities at the various levels of the organisation. They have to refuse all approaches made by any third party and to abstain from approaching any third party, to obtain financial gain or political influence which does not conform to the rules and agreements with the WBTF.

4. RELATIONS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- a) The WBTF maintains harmonious relationship with business and sport organizations, event organisers and government authorities, by conforming to principles of universality and political neutrality. All organising groups must ensure that their country respects the statutes, the rules of the WBTF and the current Code. The WBTF and the organisers are to respect the agreement to conduct the activity in all its forms and to take decisions with the respective and appropriate sport institution.
- b) The members of the WBTF authorities are free to participate in public life of the country of which they are part. They should not conduct themselves publicly, nor proclaim an ideology which is contrary to the rules of the WBTF and the current Code.
- c) The members of the WBTF are responsible to safeguard the environment for all events which they organise by respecting all rules and norms.
- d) The members of the WBTF authorities are to be respectful of confidential information in which they share. Passing on any information should not give them any personal profit or advantage, and should not be used to harm the reputation of a person or an organisation.

5. ENFORCEMENT

- a) Any infringement of the Code of Ethics shall be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee subject to the provisions of the Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding and Protecting Participants in Baton twirling and is liable to sanctions provided for by the Statutes.
- b) WBTF officials or federations are to inform the WBTF President of any breach or reasonable suspicion of an infringement of the WBTF and/or the IOC Code of Ethics.
- c) The Chair of the Disciplinary Committee shall open the proceedings with the Disciplinary Committee.

Proposed and approved by the WBTF Board of Directors.(Date January 2022) .