



# AMENDED BYLAWS OF THE EUROPEAN ROPE SKIPPING ORGANIZATION ERSO

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Written by  
**ERSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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## ARTICLE 1: DEFINITION OF THE SPORT

Rope Skipping is defined as physical activity in one or several rope(s). Rope Skipping is a sport on its own and not part of any other specific sport. The ERSO will work for this development in the future!

## ARTICLE 2: OFFICE AND MEMBERS

The Head Office and Secretariat of the organization will be located where the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the ERSO may require.

**Section 1: Philosophy.** The ERSO will try to unite all "National Rope Skipping Organizations" (NRSOs) of all European countries. In each country, the NRSO will try to unite all rope skipping clubs. Each NRSO should be a member of the ERSO.

ERSO promotes all ERSO-members to become FISAC-members.

**Section 2: Membership-fees.** European national Rope Skipping organisations / Rope Skipping clubs / citizens can become an ERSO member. The annual fee due in each case is:

National Rope Skipping Organization	€ 350,-
Rope Skipping Club	€ 75,-
Individual Citizen	€ 50,-

to be paid to the ERSO bank account before March 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Payment after this date will result in a significant increase of the membership fee due.

**Section 3: New organizations.** When a new national Rope Skipping organization joins the ERSO, there is a possibility for discount for the first year. The ERSO Board of Directors has to approve the first year membership fee.

**Section 4: Membership Duration** starts with acceptance of the membership application by the ERSO Board of Directors and payment of the membership fee for the first year. The membership continues on a yearly basis until cancelled via official notification in writing to the ERSO Secretary-General.

**Section 5: Membership Cancellation** must be made in writing and received by the Secretary-General at least 3 months before the end of the calendar year. Any cancellation notice received later in the year will result in the membership terminating at the end of the following calendar year.

**Section 6: New Membership after Membership Cancellation:** Should a previous member wish to re-join ERSO within two years of cancelling their membership, the membership fees for the years without membership are due together with an additional yearly fee, and the fee for the new membership year must be paid to become an ERSO member again.

## ARTICLE 3: GENERAL ASSEMBLY (= G.A.)

**Section 1: Member-country.** Each member-country is entitled to delegate two (2) representatives in the G.A. and consequently has two (2) votes. These representatives are normally from the NRSO. Should two NRSOs be ERSO members from one country, each NRSO will delegate one (1) representative. Should there be no NRSO as ERSO member from a country, member club representatives or individual members can be delegated.

**Section 2: Annual meeting.** The annual meeting of the G.A. will normally be held during an ERSO event. Should this not be possible, a virtual meeting via tele-conference may be held.

**Section 3: Exception.** When from a certain country a NRSO is already a member and an additional organisation, club or individual wants to become directly an ERSO member, then a request has to be sent to the Steering Committee (= S.C.) with explanation about the specific situation. The S.C. will endeavour to make a decision in the best interest of all Rope Skipping in that country.

**Section 4: Founding member.** The founding members of ERSO can – as long as they want – be additional non-voting members of the G.A.. Founding members are: Kajsa Murmark (S), Kirsti Riis Madsen (DK), Geert Hoste (B), Roger Smithies (UK), Eric De Boever (B) and Torben Valnert (DK).

**Section 5: Honorary member.** The Board of Directors can confer upon a person honorary membership to the G.A. for his dedication and support to the sport of Rope Skipping. Honorary members cannot vote.

**Section 6: Agenda.** An agenda of the meeting and an election-ballot will be sent one (1) month before the meeting. Any member of the G.A. can send in a suggestion or question to the secretariat six (6) weeks before the meeting.

## ARTICLE 4: BOARD OF DIRECTORS (= B.O.D.)

**Section 1: General Powers.** The affairs of the ERSO are managed by the Board of Directors. The board is elected by the General Assembly. Should there be more than one Director from any one country on the Board, this country only has one vote when democratic Board decisions are made.

**Section 2: Number and qualifications.** The number of Directors cannot be less than five (5) and not more than nine (9). There cannot be more than two (2) Directors selected from any one country. A Director can be elected for a three (3)-year term. There is no maximum for consecutive three (3)-year terms.

**Section 3: Nominee.** A nominee for Director must possess the following qualifications:

- a) Must be an ERSO member for that year and have been for the previous two (2) years or nominated by an ERSO member organisation or club that is a member that year and has been for the previous two (2) years.
- b) Must have attended two (2) European events within the last three (3) years.
- c) Must be present at the G.A..

**Section 4: Places.** Within the guidelines of the ERSO-Bylaws three (3) of the nine (9) places will be made available on a rotational basis for nomination to the B.O.D. at the annual G.A.-meeting.

The three (3) vacant positions will be elected by the G.A. by way of vote during the annual G.A.-meeting.

**Section 5: Candidate.** All prospective candidates must fill in an application-form six (6) weeks prior to the annual G.A.-meeting and submit this to the Secretary-General. The three (3) resigning Board Directors can each re-apply as a candidate.

**Section 6: Co-optive candidate.** The B.O.D. and/or G.A. can nominate a person as candidate for the B.O.D. who they believe will bring a particular expertise to the sport of Rope Skipping, but does not have to meet the criteria stated in section 3.

**Section 7: Election of Directors.** Each Country has two (2) votes for each of the three (3) vacant Director positions. When a country-representative cannot be present at the G.A. meeting, this person can send his/her votes to the Secretary-General, at least 1 week prior to the G.A. meeting. The three nominees with the most votes will be elected as Directors for a term of three years. In case of a tie (ex aequo), only the country-representatives present at the meeting can vote again. The candidate with the most votes wins.

**Section 8: Annual B.O.D. Meeting.** The annual B.O.D. meeting will be held preferably during an ERSO event. Each date for additional B.O.D. meetings will be communicated to the B.O.D. at least two (2) months before the first potential date. Tele-meetings can also be held.

**Section 9: Special Meetings.** Special meetings can be called by any majority of the B.O.D.. All Directors must be informed in a reasonable time to organise transportation to be present!

**Section 10: Quorum.** To constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the B.O.D., a majority of the voting Board must be present. However directors can vote by proxy. Each Director can represent one Director-by-proxy.

**Section 11: Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring on the B.O.D., and any Directorship to be filled because of an increase in the number of Directors may be filled by affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Directors. A Director elected to fill a vacancy is elected for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office.

## **ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS**

**Section 1: Officers.** The officers of the ERSO are President, Vice-President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, and any officer elected in accordance with the provisions of this article.

The B.O.D. may elect or appoint any officer, it finds desirable. Such officers will have the authority to perform duties described from time to time by the B.O.D.. No more than two (2) offices may be held by the same person.

**Section 2: Election and term of office.** The officers are elected every two (2) years by the B.O.D. and announced at the annual meeting. New offices may be created and filled at any meeting of the B.O.D.. Officers hold their Offices until their successors have been duly elected and found qualified.

**Section 3: Removal.** Any officer elected or appointed by the B.O.D. can be removed by a majority of votes, if the B.O.D. with the approval of the G.A. judges that the best interests of the ERSO will be served thereby.

**Section 4: Vacancies.** A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or for other reasons can be appointed by the B.O.D. for the rest of the term to any remaining Director.

**Section 5: President.** The President is the principal executive officer of the organization, and subject to control of the B.O.D. The President generally supervises and controls all businesses and affairs of the organization. The president's signature on any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or other business which the B.O.D. has authorised to be executed is valid when co-signed by the Secretary-General or any other officer empowered by the B.O.D.

**Section 6: Vice-President.** In absence of the President or in case of inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President has to carry out the duties of the President. In such cases the Vice President will act in accordance with the set of rules that applies to the President.

**Section 7: Secretary-General.** The Secretary-General keeps the minutes at meetings of the B.O.D. and the G.A. and sees that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws. In general, the Secretary-General performs all duties incident to the office of Secretary and other duties assigned by the President or the B.O.D..

**Section 8: Treasurer.** The Treasurer is responsible for and handles all financial affairs of the ERSO. In general, the Treasurer performs all of the duties incident of the office of Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE 6: COMMITTEES**

**Section 1: Steering Committee.** The Steering Committee handles the daily affairs of the ERSO. The Steering Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary-General and the Treasurer.

**Section 2: Committees.** The B.O.D. can appoint sub-committees for different purposes. Each committee will be submitted to the rules and duties appointed by the B.O.D..

**Section 3: Quorum.** To constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Steering Committee, no less than three (3) members should be present.

**Section 4: Meeting.** The Steering Committee may hold a meeting when necessary. Every meeting will be an open meeting, which will be open for all Board members. Any place in Europe can be designated by the Steering Committee. Tele-meetings can also be held.

## **ARTICLE 7: CONTRACTS, DEPOSITS AND FUNDS**

**Section 1: Ropes and handles.** The B.O.D. can decide what types of ropes qualify for bearing the official logo of the ERSO.

**Section 2: ERSO Events.** The B.O.D. will choose from all the proposals the location and who can organize the next European event.

**Section 3: Activities.** Anybody who plans any activity involving the name of the ERSO must apply for permission from the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will consider each application and will make proper agreements, contracts and whatever more steps necessary.

**Section 4: Fees.** The fees are proposed on a yearly base by the Board to the General Assembly.

## **ARTICLE 8: CERTIFICATION**

**Section 1: Membership.** Each member organisation or club of ERSO will be asked to give the ERSO-Secretary a list of its members.

**Section 2: Judges.** A list of all ERSO certified Judges will be made available to all members.

**Section 3: European Events.** Each active event participant (e.g. competitor, judge, coach, camp participant, etc. ) has to be one of the following:

- a) a member of a national Rope Skipping organisation that is an ERSO member,
- b) or a member of a Rope Skipping club that is an ERSO member,
- c) or an individual member of ERSO.

All competitions on European level will be organised according to the ERSO-rules for teams as well for Masters.

## **ARTICLE 9: THE ORGANIZATION**

The ERSO is open for anyone or any organization able to meet the requirements described in these Bylaws. Members of an organization do not have to be a member of certain other organizations. The organization will work against all attempts to monopolize the organization structure or the future of Rope Skipping in Europe.



## ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new bylaws may be adopted by a majority of the B.O.D.

DATE: September 30th, 2014

Richard Stannard	Germany	President Board Member
Mia Mønster	Denmark	Vice-President Board Member
Pieter Himpe	Belgium	Secretary-General Board Member
Chris Dale	United Kingdom	Treasurer Board Member
Kajsa Murmak	Sweden	Board Member
Judit Kovács	Hungary	Board Member
Rachael Dale	United Kingdom	Board Member
Silke Fürnschuß	Austria	Board Member
Benjamin Schmitz	Germany	Board Member

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*Only the official hand-autographed versions of official papers have the legal identity in case of disagreement. All the official papers can be requested at the ERSO head office.*