

# German Dodgeball Association e.V.

## Articles of Association

(adopted at the founding meeting on 20 July 2025)

### § 1 Name, Registered Office, Financial Year

1. The association bears the name “German Dodgeball Association” and, after registration in the register of associations, the suffix “e.V.”. Hereinafter, it is also referred to as GDBA.
2. The association has its registered office in Munich and extends its activities throughout Germany.
3. The financial year is the calendar year.

### § 2 Purpose

1. The purpose of the association is the maintenance and promotion of sport, in particular dodgeball, within the meaning of Section 52 (2) No. 21 of the German Fiscal Code (AO). The GDBA is the specialist association of all German dodgeball state associations and clubs and aims at the uniform promotion and development of all dodgeball activities in Germany. “Dodgeball” includes the game of dodgeball and all its variants and modifications.
2. The association pursues exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the section “Tax-privileged purposes” of the German Fiscal Code. The association acts selflessly; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
3. Association funds may only be used for the purposes set out in these Articles of Association. Members shall not receive any benefits from association funds.
4. No person may be favored by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.
5. In the event of dissolution or termination of the association or if tax-privileged purposes cease to apply, the assets of the association shall fall to a legal entity under public law or another tax-privileged corporation, which shall use them directly and exclusively for charitable purposes.

### **§ 3 Association Activities**

1. The realization of the association's purpose is achieved through the practice of the sport of dodgeball.
2. The association is politically and denominationally neutral.
3. The realization of the statutory purposes shall take place with due consideration of environmental and nature conservation concerns, insofar as this is possible without impairing efficient sports operations.
4. The statutory purpose is realized in particular through the following activities:
  - a) the organization of competitions and championships,
  - b) the organization and supervision of national teams,
  - c) the support and promotion of newly founded dodgeball clubs and state associations,
  - d) the education and further training of coaches, referees, and officials,
  - e) the promotion of youth sports,
  - f) as well as the representation of the sport domestically and abroad.

### **§ 4 Remuneration for Association Activities**

1. Association and executive offices are generally performed on a voluntary basis unless these Articles of Association or other association regulations provide otherwise.
2. If required, association offices may be exercised for remuneration within the scope of budgetary possibilities on the basis of an employment contract or in return for payment of an appropriate — including lump-sum — expense allowance.
3. The decision on remunerated association activities pursuant to paragraph 2 shall be made by the General Assembly. The same applies to the contractual content and termination of contracts.
4. The Executive Board is authorized to commission activities for the association against payment of appropriate remuneration or expense allowances. The association's budgetary situation shall be decisive.
5. For the execution of management tasks and the operation of the administrative office, the Executive Board is authorized, within the scope of budgetary possibilities, to employ full-time staff.
6. In all other respects, members and employees of the association are entitled to reimbursement of expenses pursuant to Section 670 of the German Civil Code (BGB) for expenses incurred through activities for the association.
7. Claims for reimbursement of expenses may only be asserted within a period of four weeks after they arise. Reimbursements shall only be granted if expenses are substantiated by receipts and statements that must be verifiable.
8. The General Assembly may decide to limit the expense allowance pursuant to paragraph 2 and the reimbursement of expenses pursuant to paragraph 6 to lump sums and flat rates within the scope of tax law.

9. Further details are regulated by the association's Financial Regulations, which are issued and amended by the Executive Board.

## **§ 5 Types of Membership and Acquisition of Membership**

1. The members of the association are divided into ordinary members, extraordinary members, and honorary members.
  - a) Ordinary members are legal entities.
  - b) Extraordinary members are legal entities as well as natural persons.
  - c) Honorary members are legal entities as well as natural persons.
2. Members of the association may be all state associations, clubs, and persons who promote the sport of dodgeball and whose statutes do not conflict with those of the GDBA.
3. Admission of ordinary and extraordinary members is decided by the Executive Board. Admission may be refused without stating reasons. Applications for membership must be submitted to the Executive Board. The application must state the type of membership sought and include all required documentation. Applications by minors require the signature of their legal representative(s).
4. Persons who have rendered outstanding services to the association may be appointed honorary members. Any member may propose honorary membership. Appointment requires a simple majority resolution of the General Assembly. Honorary members have all rights and obligations of ordinary members.
5. There is no legal entitlement to membership.
6. Membership entails recognition of the statutes and resolutions of the GDBA and of all resolutions adopted by the competent statutory bodies.

## **§ 6 Termination of Membership**

1. Membership ends through resignation, exclusion, dissolution (in the case of legal entities), or death (in the case of natural persons). Upon termination of membership, any offices held by the member within the association shall automatically end.
2. Resignation must be declared in writing to the Executive Board and is only permissible at the end of the financial year with one month's notice.
3. Membership fees already paid shall not be refunded.
4. A member may be excluded if it intentionally or through gross negligence acts contrary to the interests of the association. Grounds include in particular:
  - a) failure to meet contribution obligations despite reminder,
  - b) serious violation of the association's purpose,
  - c) repeated serious violations of the statutes, regulations, or resolutions,
  - d) dishonorable conduct within or outside the association,
  - e) loss of eligibility to hold public office (Section 45 German Criminal Code – StGB).

5. The Executive Board decides on exclusion by simple majority. Prior to the decision, the member shall be given the opportunity to submit a written statement within 14 days.
6. The exclusion becomes effective immediately upon receipt of the written decision. An objection has no suspensive effect and must be submitted in writing within one month. The next General Assembly decides conclusively. Judicial review is only possible after the General Assembly's decision.
7. Disciplinary measures (reprimand, regulatory fine up to EUR 500, temporary bans from participation, bans from premises) may be imposed by the Executive Board.
8. Upon termination of membership, all claims arising from the membership relationship lapse. Outstanding obligations, in particular unpaid contributions, remain unaffected.

## **§ 7 Rights and Obligations of Members**

1. Each member shall pay membership contributions on time.
2. Each member is obligated to comply with these Articles of Association and all association regulations.
3. Each member shall observe the association's purpose, promote its interests, refrain from anything that damages its reputation or objectives, and support association life to the best of their ability.
4. Each member is entitled to participate in the General Assembly. Voting rights are governed by § 11.
5. Members shall be informed by the Executive Board at each General Assembly about the activities and financial situation of the association. If at least one fifth of the ordinary members so request, the Executive Board shall also provide such information within four weeks outside a General Assembly.
6. Dodgeball events organized by ordinary members beyond their internal club framework must be reported to and approved by the GDBA. Participation in non-approved events may be prohibited.
7. Each ordinary member is responsible for the actions or omissions of its officials and players in connection with dodgeball operations.

## **§ 8 Membership Contributions**

1. Each member is obligated to pay membership contributions.
2. The amount and due date of contributions are regulated by the Contribution Regulations adopted by the General Assembly. Contributions become due without reminder. Contributions may not be so high as to exclude the general public from membership. In cases of financial hardship through no fault of their own,

contributions may be deferred or waived in whole or in part. The Executive Board decides on such requests.

3. If the association has a justified financial need, an additional levy may be imposed not exceeding five times the annual contribution. Graduated levies are permissible.
4. Members must notify the association immediately of any changes to bank details or address.
5. Members not participating in the direct debit procedure shall bear additional administrative costs through a processing fee set by the General Assembly.
6. Honorary members are exempt from contributions.

## **§ 9 Bodies of the Association**

The bodies of the association are:

- a) the Executive Board
- b) the General Assembly

## **§ 10 Executive Board**

1. The Executive Board manages the affairs of the association and is responsible for all matters not assigned to the General Assembly.
2. The Executive Board consists of:
  - Chairperson
  - Deputy Chairperson
  - Treasurer
  - Secretary
  - Equal Opportunities Officer
3. The association is represented in and out of court by the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson individually, and otherwise by two other board members jointly.
4. Board members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years. Only members of the association may be board members. Re-election and premature removal are permissible. Board members remain in office until successors are elected.
5. Accumulation of offices is only permitted as a temporary solution.
6. The Executive Board has a quorum if at least three members are present. Resolutions are adopted by simple majority; in the event of a tie, the Chairperson's vote prevails.
7. The Executive Board may amend the Articles of Association only to the extent required by authorities or courts or to maintain charitable or registration status.

## **§ 11 General Assembly**

1. The ordinary General Assembly shall be held once in each calendar year. An extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened if the Executive Board so resolves or if one fifth of the ordinary members so request in writing, stating the purpose and reasons.
2. The General Assembly shall be convened at least four weeks in advance in text form (letter or email), stating the agenda. Service shall be deemed effected if the invitation is sent to the last address or email address communicated. The General Assembly shall constitute a quorum regardless of the number of members present.
3. Motions to amend or supplement the agenda must be submitted to the Executive Board in writing or by email no later than seven days before the meeting.
4. All members are entitled to attend the General Assembly. Voting rights in the General Assembly are allocated as follows:
  - each member of the Executive Board of the GDBA: one vote
  - each ordinary member: up to three votes
  - honorary members: one vote

The exact number of votes per ordinary member is determined by the voting rights regulation adopted by the General Assembly.

5. The transfer of voting rights to another member by written proxy is permitted.
6. Extraordinary members are not entitled to vote but may participate in the General Assembly in an advisory capacity. For resolutions that exclusively affect their membership rights within the meaning of these Articles of Association (e.g. admission requirements, membership contributions for extraordinary members, rights and obligations of these members), extraordinary members shall each have one vote.
7. The General Assembly shall adopt resolutions and conduct elections by a simple majority of the valid votes cast. Abstentions shall be counted as invalid votes. Resolutions amending the Articles of Association require a three-quarters majority of the valid votes cast. An amendment of the association's purpose requires the approval of nine tenths of the valid votes cast.
8. The General Assembly shall be chaired by the Chairperson; in the event of their impediment by the Deputy Chairperson; if both are impeded, by another member of the Executive Board. If no member of the Executive Board is present, the meeting shall appoint its chairperson.
9. The Executive Board may decide that the General Assembly is held virtually without the physical presence of members at a meeting location (online General Assembly). Members may participate by electronic communication and exercise their membership rights in this manner. In the case of an online General Assembly, the chairperson shall ensure, by means of appropriate access restrictions, that only

- members of the association may participate and that participating members can be identified (e.g. by using their real name as username).
10. The method of voting shall be determined by the chairperson of the meeting. A secret ballot is required if one third of the voting members present so request.
  11. The General Assembly is responsible in particular for the following matters:
    - a) election, removal, and discharge of the Executive Board,
    - b) election and removal of the two auditors and receipt of the audit report,
    - c) resolutions on amendments to the Articles of Association, dissolution of the association, and association regulations,
    - d) resolutions on membership contributions,
    - e) resolutions on the formation of reserves,
    - f) resolutions on the appointment or revocation of honorary membership,
    - g) further matters arising from these Articles of Association, statutory law, or included on the agenda.
  12. Minutes of the General Assembly shall be taken. The minutes shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting and the Secretary.

## **§ 12 Audit of Accounts**

1. Two auditors shall be elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years. Re-election is permitted. The auditors may not belong to any body—other than the General Assembly—whose activities are subject to audit.
2. The auditors shall examine the association's cash funds and accounts, including books and receipts, at least once per financial year, both factually and arithmetically. The Executive Board is obliged to submit the required documents and provide the necessary information. The result shall be reported annually to the General Assembly.
3. If an auditor leaves office during their term, the audit shall be carried out by the remaining auditor until the end of the electoral period.
4. Special audits are permitted.
5. The type and scope of audits and the initiation of special audits are governed by the Financial Regulations.

## **§ 13 Liability**

1. Volunteers and members of governing bodies or office holders whose remuneration does not exceed the maximum amounts provided for in Section 3 No. 26 and Section 3 No. 26a of the German Income Tax Act (EStG) per year shall be liable for damages caused in the performance of their voluntary activities only in cases of intent and gross negligence.

2. The association shall not be liable to its members for damages caused by slight negligence which members suffer in the course of sporting activities, participation in association events, or through the use of the association's facilities or equipment, insofar as such damages are not covered by the association's insurance.

## **§ 14 Data Protection**

1. For the fulfillment of the statutory tasks and obligations of the association and for the execution of the membership relationship, the following personal data of members are digitally stored in compliance with the applicable legal provisions, in particular the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG, new version): surname, first name, address, gender, telephone number, email address, date of birth, bank details, and sports affiliation.
2. Processing of this personal data is carried out for the fulfillment of the membership relationship pursuant to Art. 6 (1) lit. b GDPR. Any further data processing, in particular the publication of photographs or personal data on the internet or social media, requires separate consent pursuant to Art. 6 (1) lit. a GDPR.
3. Members of governing bodies, employees, and all other persons acting for the association are prohibited from processing, disclosing, making accessible to third parties, or otherwise using personal data without authorization for purposes other than those required for the respective task. This obligation continues after termination of membership.
4. For the exercise of statutory membership rights, the Executive Board may grant members access to the membership directory upon request and submission of a written declaration that addresses will not be used for other purposes, provided a legitimate interest is demonstrated.
5. In connection with its sporting activities and other statutory events, the association publishes personal data and photographs of its members in its association journal and on its website and transmits data and photographs to print, broadcast, and electronic media for publication. Members have the right to object in individual cases pursuant to Art. 21 GDPR on grounds relating to their particular situation. In the event of an objection, the association shall balance the interests involved.
6. Any other processing of personal data beyond the fulfillment of statutory tasks and purposes is only permitted—apart from explicit consent—if required by law or if necessary for the performance of a contract or to safeguard legitimate interests of the association or third parties, provided that the interests of the data subjects do not prevail. The sale of data is not permitted.
7. Each member has the right, within the framework of applicable law, in particular the GDPR and the BDSG, to access their personal data, information about recipients and processing purposes, as well as the right to rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, objection, and data portability.

8. Upon termination of membership, personal data shall be deleted as soon as knowledge thereof is no longer required. Data subject to statutory or statutory-based retention obligations shall be blocked and deleted after expiry of the retention period.
9. Personal and association data are protected against unauthorized access by appropriate technical and organizational measures.

### **§ 15 Dissolution of the Association**

1. The dissolution of the association may only be resolved by a General Assembly convened specifically for this purpose with a notice period of four weeks.
2. Quorum: Four fifths of the voting members must be present. If this quorum is not reached, a second meeting shall be convened within four weeks, which shall constitute a quorum regardless of the number of members present (this must be indicated in the invitation).
3. A three-quarters majority of the valid votes cast is required to resolve dissolution.
4. At the dissolution meeting, the members shall appoint the liquidators who shall wind up the association's affairs.
5. Any remaining assets after dissolution or termination of the association or upon cessation of tax-privileged purposes shall fall to the German Disabled Sports Association, which shall use them directly and exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of these Articles of Association.

### **§ 16 Entry into Force**

These Articles of Association were adopted at the founding meeting on 20 July 2025. They enter into force upon registration in the register of associations.

Munich, 20 July 2025

1	Philipp Halmanns, 29.04.1993 Krajncstraße 12a, 6060 Hall in Tirol, Österreich	P. Halmanns
2	Patrick Kuznitiuss, 08.07.1990 Rathausallee 146, 47445 Moers, Deutschland	P. Kuznitiuss
3	Axel Baumer, 19.02.1991 Distlhofweg 13, 81369 München, Deutschland	A. Baumer
4	Kora Henken-Mellies, 13.11.1999 Bürgerspitalgasse 5/29, 1060 Wien, Österreich	K. Henken-Mellies
5	Luis Epple, 13.07.2000 Dreiheiligenstraße 10, 6020 Innsbruck, Österreich	Luis Epple
6	Steffen Schubach, 01.09.1992 Zehntfeldstraße 250, 81825 München, Deutschland	Steffen Schubach
7	Matthias Wendt, 24.01.1999 Lauinger Str. 63, 80997 München. Deutschland	M. Wendt
8	Sarah Wolf, 25.10.2000 Sandstraße 2, 46562 Voerde, Deutschland	S. Wolf
9	Luis Angel Banda Dias, 23.06.1995 Rosenheimer Straße 214, 81669 München, Deutschland	Luis Dias

Names and signatures of all founding members