



**IWWF RULES OF ELIGIBILITY
FOR WORLD AND CONFEDERATION TITLED EVENTS**

Changes to the original document are shown in red

In all cases shown below the word “he” or “his” shall be deemed to represent “he/she” or “him/her”.

1. Nationality of Athletes for World and Confederation Titled Events

1.1. Principles

- a) Only athletes eligible and entered by their National Federation may compete in World and Confederation Titled Events.
- b) Being qualified for a country requires the athlete to be in possession of a passport of that country or to prove residency for more than 5 **consecutive** years.
- c) **Athletes may not represent more than one country at any one time.**

1.2. Eligibility to compete in World Titled Events

A National Federation shall not enter in a World or Confederation titled event any athlete who:

- a) Has not participated in his National Championships during the 12 months preceding the World or Confederation titled event, unless excused from doing so by that Federation.
- b) Is suspended by that National Federation.
- c) Has competed in a competition not sanctioned by a National Federation, a Confederation or the IWWF, unless specific permission has been received from their National Federation.
- d) Each Federation shall adopt procedures providing due process for any competitor denied entry because of the application of these Rules of Eligibility.

2. Changing Countries

2.1. Athletes who have represented their countries internationally

An athlete who has competed in a World or Confederation titled event (**either as a Team Member or Individually Qualified Athlete**) representing one National Federation may not represent another National Federation unless:

- a) He is designated as resident in the country of that Federation and has shown proof of that residency to the new Federation.
- b) He is a member of his new Federation
- c) He gives notice by letter sent by email to the President and Secretary General of the IWWF, the President and Secretary General of **his** Confederation, the President of the National Federation whom he has represented and his proposed new Federation. All of these individuals shall, within 30 days, acknowledge receipt of such notice to the athlete and copy those officials named above.

2.1.1. Responses required

- a) **The new National Federation must confirm that the athlete is resident in that country and has shown proof of that residency (see “a” above) and confirm they accept the athlete into their Federation.**
- b) **Such proof must be presented to the IWWF Secretary General within the 30 day timeframe.**
- c) **The National Federation already represented must respond within 30 days advising if they approve the change of Nationality or not.**

2.1.2. Outcomes

Should the **National Federation already represented give its approval** for the change, a period of ineligibility of 12 months will be applied.

- The period of ineligibility will commence from the date of the athlete's written request to change.
- The athlete will not be allowed to compete in World or Confederation Titled events during this 12 month period.
- **The athlete may, however, compete in International Competitions under the IWWF flag during the period of ineligibility.**

Should the **National Federation already represented object**, its President or other designated official must, within 30 days from the date of the athlete's written request to change, notify by email the President and Secretary General of the IWWF, the President and Secretary General of their Confederation, the President of the new National Federation and the competitor, all of whom shall acknowledge receipt.

In such circumstances, the athlete will be ineligible to compete for the new Federation for a period of 24 months from the date of the athlete's original letter (See 2.1 c"above).

- The period of ineligibility will commence from the date of the athlete's written request to change.
- The athlete will not be allowed to compete in World or Confederation Titled events during this 24 month period. **The athlete may, however, compete in International Competitions under the IWWF flag during the period of ineligibility.**

2.2. Athletes who have not represented their countries internationally

In cases where an athlete moves to another country and has not represented his former country (either as a Team Member or as an Individually Qualified Athlete) at World or Confederation Titled Events, he/she may immediately, after receiving citizenship (official nationality), represent his new country. The athlete must notify the IWWF President and Secretary General of this change of nationality so that the athlete data is updated accordingly in the IWWF Athlete Database.

2.3. Dual Nationality

Where an athlete has dual nationality he may choose which country he wishes to represent and must be a member of that Federation. But, having represented that country, he cannot also, except as provided for in paragraph 2.1 above, represent the other country in question.

3. IWWF Athlete Database

The IWWF maintains a database of all competitive athletes throughout the world. Once an athlete has requested to change his country of representation and the period of ineligibility is known, the national flag of the athlete will be changed to the flag of the IWWF. This flag will be used in all competitions and rankings lists during the period of ineligibility. As soon as the athlete is eligible to represent his new country, the IWWF flag will be removed and the flag of the new country substituted.

4. Consequences of changing national representation

Athletes are reminded that, if they have received financial support from their original Federation or Government, there could be financial repercussions if they have signed a contract that stipulates that the financial support, or a part thereof, must be refunded before they change federations.