INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS
FOR THE CHANGE OF
NATIONALITY

Effective 3rd August 2012
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General conditions

Pursuant to article 34 of the FILA Constitution:

a. No one taking part in a competition can represent a country, be included in its National team if he/she does not have the nationality of the country concerned.

b. In case of dual nationality, the participation in international competitions is only possible under one nationality, which will be chosen by the wrestler(s) concerned and retained definitely.

c. The National Federation is competent for the participation of a foreign wrestler residing in the country in the national championship of this country.

d. In case of a change of nationality, for all wrestlers holding a FILA licence, whether cadets, juniors or seniors, the following provisions are applicable:

A wrestler who has obtained a new nationality by naturalization may participate, for his/her new country, in all competitions entered in the FILA calendar (tournaments, championships, cups, games, etc.) only after having obtained his/her new nationality which shall be proved by a new passport and upon agreement by FILA within the period between 1 and 31 December.

He/she shall be only eligible to participate in the above mentioned competition the year following the request for the change of nationality.

For Olympic Games qualifying tournaments and for the Olympic Games, the provisions of the Olympic Charter are applied.

A change of nationality is accepted only once by FILA and the wrestler cannot return to his/her previous nationality.

e. Compulsory procedure for the change of nationality: Refer to Appendix.

Article 1

A wrestler who changes his/her nationality cannot be admitted by the National Federation of his/her new country

a. If the contract binding him/her to his/her previous Federation is not falling due and expiring within the next six months; or
b. If the contract binding him/her to the Federation that has been left has been terminated by one or the other party for a right ground; or

c. The transfer of a wrestler who changed nationality is only possible from 1st December to 31st December of each year provided the procedure described in the appendix has been fully complied with.
Article 2

A National Federation wanting to hire a wrestler must inform in writing his/her Federation of its interest before starting the negotiations with this wrestler. Any direct or indirect contact with the wrestler, orally or in writing, in violation of the above mentioned obligation will lead to disciplinary consequences. The FILA Executive Committee decides on the necessary sanctions based on the FILA Disciplinary Regulations.

Article 3

When a wrestler concludes a contract with his/her new Federation after having changed his/her nationality, his/her former Federation is entitled to an education or promotion allowance as fixed in the appendix of the present regulations.

For every change of nationality, FILA will receive CHF 5'000.- administrative charges from the new Federation of the concerned wrestler.

Article 4

Agreements between wrestlers or other parties with clubs regarding these allowances are prohibited.

Article 5

If, within a period of 30 days at the latest, both National Federations did not manage to agree on the payment of the education or promotion allowance, the dispute must be submitted to FILA which will decide. The decision is not subject to an appeal.

In case of a disagreement, the wrestler who has changed his/her nationality shall wrestle for his/her new country only after the dispute regarding the payment of allowance has been settled.

Article 6

When two National Federations disagreeing with the allowance have addressed the FILA, the dispute is transmitted to a special commission.

Article 7

The special commission as described in article 6 is composed by the President of the Legal Department or his deputy who chairs the commission and two Members nominated in each case by the FILA President. The members of the special commission cannot be a member of a National Federation which is involved in the dispute. The special commission shall meet within one month after having been seized by the parties. The latter may attend the debates and put their arguments forward.
Article 8

Appeal proceedings to the Executive Committee

The decisions made by the special Commission may be appealed before the Executive Committee.

In order to ensure that the appeals are treated quickly, the competence of the final decision is delegated to an ad hoc Commission formed of the Executive Committee members appointed by the FILA President other than the members of the special Commission.

Article 9

Appeals sent to the FILA Secretariat are submitted to a Commission of three members appointed by the FILA President for each specific case. The members are chosen among the Executive Committee members others than those included in the special Commission.

The members appointed cannot belong to the National Federation involved in the dispute to be settled.

The FILA President decides in each case to whom will be entrusted with the presidency of this Commission.

Article 10

The National Federations and the wrestlers directly concerned by the decision contested can lodge an appeal.

The contested decisions can be confirmed, nullified or modified. The modification of a decision even if it is detrimental to the party lodging an appeal is possible.

Article 11

The deadline to lodge an appeal to the Executive Committee is 20 days. The deadline starts from the day the disputed decision is notified to the parties by the FILA Secretariat.

FILA will only take into consideration the appeals received through a National Federation. The appeal file must be validly signed by the party(ies) lodging an appeal against the decision.

An appeal fee of CHF 2’000.- must be paid to the FILA Secretariat, within 20 days. In case the appeal is accepted the appeal fee is reimbursed. If the appeal is rejected, this fee is kept by FILA.

In the event of an obviously abusive appeal, the appeal authority can, in addition, condemn the party at fault to a fine of order.

The appeal authority can take any decision it deems useful concerning the obligation to bear the expenses caused by the appeal audition.
**Article 12**

Special provisions

The validity of the transfer contract for a change of nationality cannot be subordinate to the positive result of a medical control or to the obtaining of a work authorization. In consequence the concerned National Federation must, at the risk of being condemned, pay the whole allowances for education and promotion fixed in the present regulations and carry out any desired studies or other necessary steps before the contract is concluded.

**Article 13**

All cases not considered in the present regulations shall be settled, without possibility of appeal, by the Executive Committee.

**Article 14**

The present Regulations have been adopted by the FILA Congress and are effective 3rd August 2012.
APPENDIX - Compulsory procedure for the change of nationality

A wrestler who wishes to change his/her nationality to wrestle in another country shall request permission in written to FILA.

His/her request shall contain the following documents:
1. A certificate from his/her former Federation granting the departure of the wrestler
2. A certificate from his/her new Federation
3. A copy of the contract with his/her new Federation
4. A copy of his/her new and former passport
5. The payment to FILA of a CHF 5,000.- fee for the change of nationality.
6. For Junior and Senior (but not for Cadet), the payment to the former Federation of the following training compensations, 10% them being paid to FILA:
   - Olympic Gold Medallist or World Champion CHF 300,000.-
   - Olympic or World Silver & Bronze Medallist CHF 200,000.-
   - Continental Gold Medallist CHF 100,000.-
   - Continental Silver or Bronze Medallist and others CHF 50,000.-

In compliance with the regulations in force it is understood that the wrestler who changes his/her nationality shall not compete for his/her new country only after the settlement of all regulatory requirements.

A country may induct a foreign wrestler requesting his/her new nationality at the rate of one (1) wrestler per style and per year.

The request file for the change of nationality shall be transmitted to FILA between 1 and 31 December of each year. No change of nationality will be granted outside this period.

A wrestler who has not received FILA’s agreement for the change of nationality may not compete for his/her new country even if he/she has obtained the new nationality.

Any incomplete file will not be taken into consideration.