



# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA PÊCHE SPORTIVE EN EAU DOUCE

## **OFFICIAL F.I.P.S.e.d. RULES** **OF INTERNATIONAL "FOR NATIONS" COMPETITIONS**

### **"NATIONS, CLUBS, LADIES, YOUTH (U14, U18, U23) AND VETERANS"**

#### **ORGANIZATION**

- 1- Official international competitions shall only be organised by national Federations that are members of C.I.P.S.. The organising Federation shall be officially responsible for the competition under consideration.
- 2- Only the members of a national Federation affiliated with C.I.P.S. who have fully paid their annual membership fees, or members of sport clubs that belong to the same Federation shall be allowed to participate. They shall be designated by their Federations; the anglers who belong to the teams of clubs or national Federations must hold the same nationality as their Federations.

There shall be only one (1) foreign competitor in each national Federation team, on condition that the following requirements are met:

- The application shall be forwarded by the Nation the angler wishes to represent;
- The application shall be complemented by a letter of the Sports Ministry of the concerned Country;
- The competitor shall have resided in said Country for at least 5 years.

For the teams belonging to CLUBS, the presence of one foreign angler only shall be authorised, on condition that said foreigner has the appropriate licence of its CLUB and that he/she is not under the effect of any disciplinary sanction imposed by his/her Country of origin.

Competitors shall always be able to prove their nationality by means of national IDs or passports.

All supporting documents shall be produced at the 1<sup>st</sup> team managers' meeting.

Any angler who has already participated in a World Championship or in any international competition representing a Nation, shall not be allowed to compete for any other Nation.

Only teams that are members of national Federations shall be allowed to take part in World and Zone (Europe, etc.) Championships.

World Championships for Nations and Zone (e.g. European) Championships cannot be organized the same year by the same Federation, nor shall their organization be entrusted to neighbouring countries or to Nations that are geographically close to each other.

In order to apply to organize a championship, the Nation under consideration must have participated at least once, over the previous three years, in the championship that they wish to organize.

A preliminary programme shall imperatively be sent to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretariat before the **31<sup>st</sup> October** of the preceding year.

With the exception of the World Fishing Games, F.I.P.S.e.d. is officially tasked with providing the printed material, certificates and rankings for the awarding of prizes for all championships; therefore, the organizing Nation shall pay for all board and lodging expenses (room, meals and closing gala dinner) of the person performing such tasks. Said person's stay may begin on the eve of the first day of practice and end on the day after the closing dinner; F.I.P.S.e.d. shall pay for the relevant travelling expenses.

For all F.I.P.S.e.d. championships, the organizing Nation shall cover all board and lodging expenses (room, meals and closing gala dinner) for two members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee, and for the person in charge of the rankings; their stay may begin on the eve of the first day of practice and end on the day after the closing dinner.

No championship organization shall be entrusted to a Nation if that Nation does not undertake to put live fish back into the water after they have been counted and weighed (it is forbidden to kill fish).

The Nation organizing a World or Zone Championship shall be responsible for procuring the trophies, which will be paid for by F.I.P.S.e.d.; the organizing Nation shall envisage 3 trophies for the team competitions and 3 trophies for the individual competitions. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall refund a maximum amount of € 300 for 6 trophies. Such trophies shall feature a plate, carrying a "F.I.P.S.e.d." engraving or F.I.P.S.e.d.'s logo as well as the place and date of the championship. An invoice will be required in order to prove trophy-related expenses. If the aforesaid provisions (concerning the plate/logo) are not complied with, F.I.P.S.e.d. shall not reimburse any money. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall provide the medals.

Programmes and invitations for all championships shall only be sent to Nations that are members of F.I.P.S.e.d. (no invitations shall be sent to clubs or individuals).

The age limits to belong to the "YOUTH" (U14, U18 and U23) and "VETERANS" categories are as follows:

- U14: being under 14 and over 10 years of age on 31 December of the year preceding the championship;
- U18: being under 18 years of age on 31 December of the year preceding the championship;
- U23: being under 23 years of age on 31 December of the year preceding the championship.

It shall be possible to move up to the preceding category (one or more U14s may take part in the U18 category, and one or more U18s may take part in the U23 category).

- VETERANS: being over 60 years of age on 31 December of the year preceding the championship.

- 3-** Each C.I.P.S. member Nation shall be allowed to present one team only, composed of 5 anglers and 1 reserve who shall be nominated before the first draw.

Teams composed of 4 anglers and 1 reserve – who shall be nominated before the first draw – shall take part in VETERANS and YOUTH (U14, U18 and U23) World Championship.

No competitor shall be allowed to participate as an individual.

In the event of any injury during a competition, the regular participant may be replaced by the reserve member designated in official documents, however, it shall not be possible to replace the fishing tackle. Angler substitutions shall be authorised by a Jury member.

- 4-** Competitions shall be organized at watercourses, such as rivers, canals, or at suitable stretches of water, such as lakes etc.; to the extent possible, the whole fishing area shall feature the same depth, which shall be of at least 1.5 metres; the minimum width allowed for a venue is 40 metres.

Any possible fish-restocking program must be submitted to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Technical Commission for approval. In any case, fish-restocking shall take place at least 2 months before any championship. A video or photographs documenting the restocking operations shall be shot/taken by the organizers and sent to the F.I.P.S.e.d. Technical Commission.

- 5-** The selected venue shall be as straight as possible; it shall offer equal fishing conditions for all competitors. Furthermore, the venue shall allow anglers to stand in a continuous line, thus being free - to the extent possible - from any obstacle such as power lines, bridges etc.. The venue shall not expose the competitors or the spectators to any kind of danger.

One or more members of the Technical Commission shall inspect the venue that may be selected for a championship, and said inspection shall take place at the same time of the year as to that proposed for the organization of the competition under consideration. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall pay for the travelling expenses (including flight and train tickets or car) of the Technical Commission's member(s), while the organizers shall cover all transfer costs from the airport or train station, and will pay for accommodation and meals. A report of the inspection shall be submitted to the Executive Committee of F.I.P.S.e.d. for evaluation and approval. The final decision on the approval or rejection of a venue by F.I.P.S.e.d. shall be communicated to the candidate Nation.

With regard to accommodation, participating Nations shall have two options:

- 1- Opting for the official accommodation proposed by the organizing Nation (optional). In that event, the organizing Nation shall clearly indicate the terms and conditions for the stay, including:
  - The half-board price per night per person for, depending on the number of persons sharing each room, regardless of the duration of the stay (full board cannot be mandatory); the participating Nation shall specify the dates of their anglers' stays (the term "official stay" used by many Nations, starting on Thursday, has never appeared in any regulations, and therefore should not be used);
  - The price of the closing gala dinner.

The accommodation terms proposed to the Nations shall first be approved by the Technical Commission.

2- Selecting their hotels by themselves.

If this is the case, participating Nations shall be required to communicate their accommodation-related choices to the organizing Nation upon registration (in the official registration form).

In both cases (participation through or without the help of the organizers), the registration fee shall include the fishing permits for the whole duration of the championship (for both training and competition days), insurance, and sundry expenses such as gifts, cups, trophies, etc.. Depending on the type of championship, the registration fees shall be as follows:

- € 1,200 (including 9 closing gala dinners and 6 fishing permits) for participation in the NATIONS, LADIES, CLUBS Championships;
- € 1,100 (including 8 closing gala dinners and 5 fishing permits) for participation in the VETERANS Championship;
- € 1,100 (including 8 closing gala dinners and 5 fishing permits) for participation of a single team in the "YOUTH" Championship, € 350 of which shall be deducted and paid by F.I.P.S.e.d., thus reducing the registration fee to € 750;
- € 1,800 (including 16 closing gala dinners and 10 fishing permits) for participation of two teams in the "YOUTH" Championship, € 700 of which shall be deducted and paid by F.I.P.S.e.d., thus reducing the registration fee to € 1,100;
- € 2,500 (including 24 closing gala dinners and 15 fishing permits) for participation of three teams in the "YOUTH" Championship, € 1,050 of which shall be deducted and paid by F.I.P.S.e.d., thus reducing the registration fee to € 1,450.

For the closing gala dinner, be it a dinner with table service or a buffet dinner, participating Nations shall be assigned a number of seats corresponding to the number of gala dinner seats they reserved.

If no details about the accommodation are provided by the deadline set by the organizers, the participating Nations shall imperatively have to book their accommodations themselves and shall still pay the relevant registration fee to the organizers.

Any Nation that undertakes to take part in a championship by filling in the relevant registration form but does not show up, shall, in any case, pay the relevant fee to the organizing Nation. Nations failing to comply with this provision shall be forbidden from taking part in and organizing future championships.

All Nations shall communicate their arrival dates to the organizing Nation at least one week before the first training day. Any absent Nation (not showing up at the venue) not taking part in the last day of training shall be considered as a WITHDRAWING Nation and shall not be allowed to participate in the championship (see penalties under article 31 § c).

Together with the event programme, the organizing Nations shall provide a list of hotels, lodgings, rooms and campsites located within a 20-km range from the venue.

The organizers shall see to it that all registration forms are duly filled in and carry the mobile phone numbers of one delegate and one team manager. Addresses and emergency telephone numbers (police, fire-fighters, hospitals, etc.) shall be provided in the program leaflets.

The championships shall take place according to the following time schedule:

- VETERANS and DISABLED World Championship: shall be organized simultaneously, by the same organizer, on the first week-end of June.
  - EUROPEAN Championship: on the fourth week-end of June.
  - FEEDER Championship: on the second week-end of July.
  - CLUBS World Championship: on the fourth week-end of July.
  - YOUTH (U14, U18, U23) World Championship: on the second week-end of August.
  - LADIES World Championship: on the fourth weekend of August.
  - NATIONS World Championship: on the second weekend of September.
- 6-** During the competitions, all competitors shall have a 10 (min) to 20 metres (max) long angling position (peg). The width of the pegs shall be defined together with the Technical Commission.

The angling positions shall be well defined so to be far from the spectators; to this end, it is possible to erect a fence or set up ropes at an appropriate distance from the shore (we recommend a distance of at least 10 metres); furthermore, a corridor for authorised people (organizers, reserves, team managers, press, and Jury) shall be created between the anglers and the spectators.

This official corridor shall under no circumstances be occupied by fishing tackle.

Team managers - 2 per Nation - may enter their teams' competitor pegs; team managers shall wear green back-numbers marked with a C, clearly indicating their status. Only one team manager shall be authorised inside a peg. Reserve competitors shall wear a red back-number marked with an R letter.

The organization shall customize each angler's peg by means of a board indicating the name and the nationality of the competitor, as well as the number of fish caught, with hourly updating. Such boards are provided by F.I.P.S.e.d.'s person in charge of the rankings.

### **TEAM MANAGERS' MEETING**

- 7-** It would be advisable that general stewards attend the team managers' meetings.

In the event that a team manager or a Nation's delegate is absent, the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. or a delegated representative shall draw lots.

1<sup>st</sup> meeting - On Friday at 3:00 p.m., or on the eve of the first leg

Exception: VETERANS and YOUTH on Thursday at 03:00 p.m. or on the eve of the first leg.

During this first meeting, an international Jury shall be appointed, pursuant to article 28 of the present Official Rules. Then, the following operations shall be carried out:

- Roll call of Nations.
- Nations shall draw lots in alphabetical order to define the call-up order of the draw for the first leg; the call-up order shall be reversed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg (e.g.: the Nation which drew lot first the first day, will then draw last for the second leg, etc.).
- Various information about the progress of the championship.
- Drawing lots exclusively attributing sectors (A,B,C, etc.) to each angler of each team.

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting - Saturday morning or morning of the first leg

Exception: VETERANS **and YOUTH** on Friday morning or morning of the first leg.

- Draw lots to attribute anglers their competition slots in the various sectors.

3<sup>rd</sup> meeting - Saturday afternoon or afternoon after the first leg

Exception: VETERANS **and YOUTH** on Friday afternoon or afternoon after the first leg.

- Notification of the results to the participating Nations.
- Remarks on the performance of the leg.
- Drawing lots exclusively attributing sectors (A,B,C, etc.) to each angler of each team.

4<sup>th</sup> meeting - Sunday morning or morning of the second leg

Exception: VETERANS **and YOUTH** on Saturday morning or morning of the second leg.

- Draw lots to attribute anglers their competition slots in the various sectors.

NB: Managers' meetings are informative meetings, where guidelines are provided for the competitions. Under no circumstance shall changes to the Rules be made during the managers' meetings. The Rules shall only be changed at F.I.P.S.e.d. Executive Committee's annual meetings, based on the remarks that shall be sent in writing by national Federations to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretary General.

## **DRAWING LOTS**

- 8-** Lots for each leg shall be drawn out at least 180 minutes before the beginning of the competition, under the scrutiny of the organizers, in the presence of the team managers or delegates of each team, and F.I.P.S.e.d. representatives.

For the two legs, the 5 anglers (4 for Veterans and Youth) shall be attributed their sectors by drawing lots, on the day before the start of each leg.

The positions for the first leg shall be attributed according to a lot drawing scheme designed by F.I.P.S.e.d.. Said scheme is such as to allow positioning the anglers belonging to a team in each fifth of a sector (in each fourth for Veterans and Youth).

For the second leg, lots shall be drawn by each team manager (or a designated representative) to assign the angling positions, only considering tail-enders and pre-tail enders.

- 9-** In streams, rivers and watercourses, angling position number 1 shall always be located downstream; in water bodies (lakes, ponds, etc.) position number 1 shall always be located to the left looking at the water body, and marking will run from the left to the right.
- 10-** Team managers shall be given a back number for each one of their competitors.

Back numbers for the different sectors shall have different colours (except green or red); alternatively, they may be of a neutral colour with different coloured lettering for each sector.

Wearing the back numbers is mandatory.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 11- a)** Each competitor shall have 120 minutes to get ready. As soon as the anglers arrive at the venue, they shall wear their back numbers and deposit all their equipment at the

allotted peg, without entering the peg (these rules also apply to those who help the anglers transport their equipment). Anglers shall not be allowed to prepare their equipment until the official starting signal is given, indicating that the competitors are allowed to enter their pegs. Competitors may not receive any help while getting ready (during the preparation stage). Any material may be handed over to the anglers before the baiting signal, but only by each individual steward. After the signal, it shall be forbidden to hand over any kind of material (baits, ground baits and equipment) to the competitors, except for pieces of broken rods, which may be replaced through the individual stewards. Individual stewards may also help anglers to unfasten any possibly stuck rod part.

Before the starting signal is given, the anglers or any third person shall be allowed to prepare their baits and ground baits outside the ring.

After the signal is given that the angler are allowed to enter their pegs, they shall be handed over the baits and ground baits prepared during the preparation stage. It shall be possible to continue preparing the baits and ground baits; it may be done by a third person outside the ring, or by the anglers inside their pegs. Such operations shall be allowed until the signal is given for the start of the checks on baits and ground baits. When the aforesaid signal is given, the baits and ground baits shall be located in the angler's peg and no additional change or inclusion shall be allowed until the checks are performed. The ground baits shall be presented ready for use; sealed bags shall not be authorized. After the checks, the anglers shall not be allowed to receive any additional baits and/or ground baits.

Small containers with additives for the dipping of hooking baits shall be allowed.

- b) Anglers are not allowed to form their heavy ground baits balls and ground bait before the baits and the ground baits checks are carried out. Lacking any such check, competitors shall not be authorized to angle.
- c) Should any angler use a short fish net (shorter 3.50 metres), he/she shall get a yellow card, even if the net is used on both days. Should the same athlete be found with a shorter net during another championship, he/she shall be disqualified.
- d) Fish net and rod length controls shall be carried out after the checks of baits and ground baits, and before the heavy ground baiting; one angler per sector shall be drawn by lot.
- e) Competitors may reach the venue by their personal means of transportation.

**-12-** There shall be one steward assigned to each competitor and a general steward for each sector. Such individual and general stewards shall have thorough knowledge of the rules of the competition.

The general steward (if possible, supported by a member of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee) shall verify the following:

- a) The quantity of ground bait shall be measured when ready to use (wet and sieved) including earth, gravel, corn maize, wheat, hempseed, etc. and other additives that are not toxic for the fauna and the water environment. Ground bait is limited as follows: 17 litres for Youth U14 and U18 Championships. 20 litres for Clubs, Nations, Europe (or other Zones), Ladies, Veterans and Youth U23. The use of pellets, boiles or any other kind of agglomerated ground baits is not allowed for hooking and ground baiting. F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee may modify said quantities, upon the proposal of the Technical Commission;
- b) The overall quantity of baits (including all baits shall be measured without being pressed) for all championships is limited to 2.5 litres, 1 litre of which of aquatic

larvae (jokers, bloodworms, etc.), including 0.50 litres maximum of bloodworms. F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee may modify said quantities, upon the proposal of the Technical Commission;

- c) Each angler shall present for the checks the quantities of baits and ground baits envisaged in the program. In the event of non-compliance, the competitor shall be reprimanded - (under article 31a). The list of reprimanded competitors shall be presented at the managers' meeting. Should the violation be committed again during the second leg or during the following championship, the competitor shall be disqualified due to "recidivism" (article 31b).



The bloodworms that are solely meant for hooking shall be presented in a "F.I.P.S.e.d. official size" box. **In 2015, for the last year,** F.I.P.S.e.d. shall give one box to each angler and one to each reserve for all championships. Baiting bloodworms shall be kept in proper "official size" boxes. Any other bait bound for ground baiting or hooking shall be presented in "official size" boxes; any other form of presentation of baits at the checks shall be seized and sanctioned (one point penalty in the sector ranking).

The ground baits shall be presented at the checks in graduated buckets, and the baits in "official size" boxes. Competitors shall imperatively be equipped with their own buckets and boxes of the allowed size. Competitors who do not carry "official size" boxes shall get one penalty point in the sector ranking (for instance, a competitor who does not have boxes at the end of the leg and ranks 5<sup>th</sup>, shall be given 6 points instead of 5. The competitor who ranks 6<sup>th</sup> shall, in any case, be given 6 points).

Sieving of ground baits (through a sieve, hamper, landing nets' tip and others) and mixing (with electric mixer) are forbidden once the checks have been carried out.

During the time interval between the start of the checks on baits and ground baits (third signal) and the heavy ground baiting (fourth signal), the use of sprayers is only allowed to stick and preserve the baits.

After the checks and until the so-called heavy ground baiting, **it shall be forbidden to re-moist ground baits and earths with water or any other liquid** (such as additives) by any means (hands, sprayer, sponge, vessel, etc.). After heavy ground baiting, only the use of sprayers shall be allowed to wet the ground bait and the earth.

Aquatic larvae (jokers and bloodworms) may be presented in no more than two boxes (e.g.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of bloodworms in a  $\frac{1}{4}$  box and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of jokers in a  $\frac{3}{4}$  box). The boxes shall be presented closed, without using anything to keep them closed (e.g. adhesive tape may not be used to keep the lid closed).

**Any angler caught in the act (flagrante delicto), after the controls, of having more baits or ground baits than the quantities allowed for the competition, shall be given a red card = the bottom rank in the ranking + 1, for all the competition days he participated in. Should the violation be ascertained during the first day of a championship, the angler shall be excluded for the remainder of the competition. F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee reserves the right - depending on the violation - to prevent the angler from participating in future F.I.P.S.e.d. championships for a given period of time;**

d) Collect any surplus/left of baits and ground baits after the control.

The individual steward must:

- a) Control the keep-net;
- b) Control the angling behaviour of the competitor he/she is responsible for;
- c) Verify and take note of every fish caught;
- d) At the end of the competition, the individual steward shall keep an eye on the fish caught by the angler and forbid access to the angling position to any unauthorised person until the arrival of the weighing team. Together with the angler, the individual steward shall sign the weighing sheet carrying the weight of the fish.

- 13-** The competitors shall abide by the rules on legal fish size limit in force for the competition (national rules). Any caught fish that is smaller than the minimum legal size or is mutilated shall be seized by the weighing team, and the angler concerned shall be given a yellow card.

Such sizes shall be made public during the 1<sup>st</sup> team managers' meeting (and it is the team manager's responsibility to ensure the competitors are informed). Fish shall be kept alive in micromesh keep-nets. The keep-net mesh cannot exceed 10 mm on 10 mm. The keep-net shall have either a minimum diameter of 40 cm for the round ones or a minimum diagonal of 50 cm for the rectangular ones and a minimum length of 3.50 metres; it shall be positioned underwater for at least 1.50 metres during the entire competition. It shall be prohibited to use any other means to keep the catch. Competitors shall carry their own keep-nets, unless they are supplied some by the organizing Federation.

- 14-** The composition of ground baits and baits shall be of natural origin. It is forbidden to use metal products. Artificial baits of whatever material (polystyrene, rubber, sponge, etc.) such as fake maggots, silkworms, moths, bloodworms, earthworms, etc. are prohibited.

No surplus/left ground baits and baits shall be thrown into the water after training period and after the competition.

- 15-** The competition shall take place by sectors or sub-sectors, in two legs of 3 hours each for Youth U14 and U18 Championships.

Competition shall take place by sectors or sub-sectors, in two legs of 4 hours each, for Clubs, Nations, Ladies, Veterans, Youth U23, and Europe (or Zones).

For championships with less than 20 participating Nations, sectors shall not feature any separation, or shall have the smallest possible number of separations. Separated sectors shall imperatively be separated by at least 3 pegs.

In the event of a forced interruption (e.g. a thunderstorm, demonstration, natural disaster, etc.), the Jury may validate the leg, provided that it lasted at least 2 hours for Clubs, Nations, Ladies, Veterans, U23 and Europe (or Zones) and at least 1 hour for Youth U14 and U18 Championships.

The Jury can decide to reduce the duration of the leg if the competition schedule does not allow continuing angling for the 3 or 4 scheduled angling hours.

- 16-** Each competitor is expected to fully abide by the competition rules.

- 17-** The fishing-line shall imperatively be equipped with a float; only single hooks are allowed. Overshooting of the float is forbidden (the weight of the sinker of the line must not exceed the capacity of the float used). Fishing with the weight on the bottom and/or with feeder is strictly forbidden; it is also forbidden to mount the weight on snoods or branch lines, as well as to fish with spoons, artificial flies, baits made by using living or dead fish (or fishes' parts), other animal species such as frogs or fish roe.

The main mass of the sinker shall for no reason lie at the bottom. However, 10% of the total weight of the sinker may lie at the bottom. When angling in a strong current (regardless of the speed), the sinker shall be presented so as not to break the natural progression of the line. For "throwing and dragging" angling, the line shall continue its progression without interruptions, if released.

Should a member of the Jury notice or be led to record the obvious infringement of the first two paragraphs of article 17 and article 35, during a leg, he/she may call for checks on the angler's line or ask to verify the length of the rod of the angler under consideration, without waiting for the end of the leg. Should this happen, the competitor shall not modify the composition of his/her line (position of the float, variation of the weight of the sinker, rupture of the end of the sinker, destruction of the line, etc.). Should the angler under

consideration refuse to undergo the aforementioned checks or should he/she modify his/her line, he/she shall be brought before the Jury.

Baits used on the hook shall not be mixed on the point, they shall be put onto the hook; bread and paste (mixture of substances or baits such as the pellet, boiles, balls of ground bait or pasted baits, etc.) are forbidden.

The catching of a fish is valid even if it is accidentally hooked outside its mouth.

Any fish caught but not hanging from the angler's line shall not be deemed valid and shall be put back into the water.

Deliberate foul hooking of fish is prohibited.

Using echo sounders is prohibited, including during training.

During the competition, anglers shall not be allowed to use any auricular or walkie-talkie.

**-18-** Competitors may keep and assemble as many rods as they wish, but they are only allowed to fish with one rod at any time.

**-19-** The use of nets is allowed only for the competitors.

**-20-** Competitors are not allowed to receive any external help; only the team manager is authorized to access the angling peg of the competitors of his/her team, and this only to give verbal advice. A team manager shall not be allowed into the peg of an angler who is not part of his/her team.

**-21-** The use of platforms with a maximum size of 1 x 1 metre is allowed; the competitors may stand on them. They shall be installed in a straight line, clear of the water or, if necessary, partially inside the water (this decision will be taken by the organizers, with the approval of the Technical Commission). Additional platforms may be set up in line with the main platform, but only for placing the equipment.

Should it be necessary to trace a line in order to line up all competitors along the venue (string, line traced on the ground, etc.), so to avoid that some of the competitors are closer to the water than others; this shall be done before the start of the training session.

**-22-** Competitors may use the space allotted to them however way they wish.

Inside the peg allotted to them, the anglers shall move discretely and noiselessly.

It shall be forbidden to angle and throw bait or ground bait in the pegs upstream or downstream (left and right). The fish exiting the peg and sighted in the peg of adjacent competitors shall be considered valid; however, if a line with a fish is hooked by a neighbour's line, the fish must be put back into the water without delay; should a competitor refuse to do so and should he/she put the fish under consideration into his/her net, without previous authorization, during the final weighing phase the person in charge of weighing shall weigh the biggest fish separately and take note of the weight of the fish concerned on the competitor's card. The Jury shall then decide whether to deduct the weight of the fish concerned from the total weight. The competitor shall be given a yellow warning card (see list of warnings), if the catch is not deemed valid.

Photographers and cameramen shall be entitled to access the peg if they are authorised by the adjacent competitors and stewards. Photographers and cameramen shall remain at the border of the peg, while the organizers shall anyway mark a line be 2 metres behind the fishermen line.

**-23-** Anglers shall wait for the first signal before entering their peg; after the signal, competitors may start preparing their equipment, measuring the water depth, trying their lines, preparing their ground bait, and putting their keep-nets into the water. They shall be

allowed 120 minutes to perform said preparatory operations; anglers are not allowed to get out of their pegs during preparation.

The second signal shall indicate that 5 minutes are left before the start of baits and ground baits checks. Such checks shall always start from N° 1 of each sector, 1 hour before heavy baiting (third signal).

After the fourth signal, competitors shall be allowed to start heavy baiting (10 minutes are allowed for this operation). Balls for heavy baiting shall only be formed after entering the angling peg, and only after the checks on the quantities of baits and ground baits are carried out by the checking commissioner. Balls for heavy baiting shall exclusively and imperatively be hand-made.

Only manual baiting or baiting using a catapult manipulated with both hands or baiting with a "cup" applied to a "roubaisienne" are allowed. Ground bait shall be prepared and thrown into the water without any container (socks, feeder socks, anti-pollution containers, etc.). It is important not to exceed the maximum rod length allowed to use "cups" and probe the depth. When ground bait is thrown using a "cup", only one rod shall be permitted above the water surface (the contemporary use of a second rod for this type of baiting is prohibited). A "cup", permanently fixed on the tip of the fishing rod or rod-holder is allowed, in compliance with previous §.

When using a cup, the rod shall not go beyond the backside boundary of the peg. The rod shall be allowed to overreach the peg's backside boundary only with the consent of the Jury that shall report on that at the first managers' meeting.

When visiting and inspecting possible competition venues, the Technical Commission shall make sure that the pegs have sufficient space to uncouple their rods at any one time.

The fifth signal shall mark the beginning of the competition, during which anglers shall only use light bait (by light bait, we intend the manipulation using one hand only, without leaning against anything - thigh, bucket, etc.). Only if light baiting is performed **with a catapult, by** using sticky maggots, the latter can be handled with one hand only, but they may subsequently be handled with both hands to prepare the ball. Balls for light baiting shall not be formed before the beginning of the competition (fifth signal).

The sixth signal shall warn the competitors that only 5 minutes are left before the end of the competition.

The seventh signal shall mark the end of the competition; after this signal, only the caught fish that is already out of the water shall be included in the fish count.

The acoustic signals for the different phases of the championships shall be short; in all cases, the beginning of the signal is taken into consideration.

- 24-** During the competition, individual stewards shall stand behind the anglers, on their right or left side, in such a way that they do not bother the anglers but can still control the fish caught by the competitors. Keep-nets shall be positioned so that the stewards can see them; the fish shall be put in the keep-nets and kept alive until the weighing team arrives.

## **WEIGHING OPERATIONS**

- 25-** The weighing operations shall be performed by 5 member teams.

One person shall be responsible for weighing.

Another person shall write down the weights in the official record.

The three other people shall be in charge of all other handling operations.

One scale shall be available in each sector. The containers used to weight the fish shall feature holes, so to allow water drainage.

Weights shall be recorded in grams.

When very small fish such as fry are caught, which do not register on the scales (scales scoring 0 grams), the fishermen shall be ranked based on the number of fishes caught, and then ranked after those fishermen who were ranked based on to the weight of the fish they have caught.

- 26- Until the arrival of the weighing team, competitors shall leave their keep-nets with the fish in the water. The fish shall be handled with care by a member of the weighing team; they shall be weighed, not counted; after the weighing, the fish shall be put back into the keep-net of the angler who caught them, and the keep-net shall be put back into the water without delay. Only after the fish of all anglers of the sector is weighted, shall the person in charge of weighing order to put the fish back into the water. This shall allow double checking weight in the event of any complaint. The fish shall be put back into the water with the utmost care.
- 27- Each competitor shall witness the aforesaid weighing operations in order to control and sign the weighing sheet carrying the weight of the fish he/she has caught. After the end of the weighing operations in a sector, after the fish is put back into the water and the weighing sheet has been signed, no weight-related complaints shall be accepted.

## **THE JURY**

- 28- An international Jury shall be appointed to examine any complaints lodged and to apply penalties, as per the rules; the Jury shall be established at the first team managers' meeting.

The Jury shall consist of the following members:

- F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President, or a substitute delegated by the President;
- F.I.P.S.e.d.'s General Secretary;
- The members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee;
- A delegate representing the organizing Nation, unless he/she holds the same nationality as the above-mentioned members, except for the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President (or his substitute) who shall be the President of the Jury ex officio.

**The Jury members shall be at least 5. If this number is not reached, some delegates from different Nations shall be chosen by drawing lot with the aim to reach at least 5 members. These delegates cannot have the same nationality as the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s representatives and the organizing Nation.**

**These delegates shall be enrolled on the team registration form; managers cannot be appointed as delegates.**

In the event of any infringement by a competitor or by a team holding the same nationality as a member of the Jury, such Jury member shall not vote (except if he/she is the President of the Jury).

The members of the Jury shall wear a "Jury" badge, and shall be at the competition venue to receive any complaint. A place where one or more members of the Jury shall always be available shall be indicated.

- 29- Any complaints, except for those concerning the rankings, shall be submitted to the Jury within 1 hour after the end of the leg. Complaints shall be lodged verbally, but they shall

immediately be confirmed in writing. Should they deem it necessary, the Jury may watch any video or look at any picture produced by the delegate of the team filing the complaint.

Complaints concerning the ranking shall be lodged within 30 minutes after publishing of the official results. The publishing time shall be recorded in the official result list.

A € 100 deposit - for which the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s general Secretary or his delegate shall issue a receipt - shall complement any written complaint submitted to the Jury. Should the complaint not be judged grounded by the Jury, the deposit shall be transferred to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s bank account.

All infringements and warnings shall be reported to the Jury, with the Jury being the only authority enabled to disqualify anglers. Any competitor who is imposed a penalty shall be informed immediately.

The Jury members and all general stewards shall make sure the Rules are abided by. Hence, they shall have a thorough knowledge of such Rules.

- 30-** The Rules, which are drawn up in the 2 official languages, shall be made available to the Jury and the team managers by the organizers of the championship.

The international Jury will make its decisions on a simple majority basis; in the event of a tie vote, the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. or his/her delegate shall have the casting vote. All members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee shall wear a personal badge; they shall be entitled to circulate in the officials' corridor. Said badges shall only be valid for the Executive Committee's term of office (4 years).

## **LIST OF PENALTIES**

- 31-** The penalties shall be as follows:

- a) Warning (yellow card) for the infringement of articles 11, 12c, 13, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 26.
- b) Disqualification (red card) for the infringement of articles 12a, **12c (last §)**, 14, 17, 18, 35, 38, 39.2 and 40 and after a second warning for the infringement of articles 11, 12c, 13, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 26.
- c) Disqualification of the Nation for the infringement of articles 5, 37a, 37b-1 and 37b-3.
- d) When an angler is disqualified, a number of points equal to the number of participating Nations + 1 will be assigned to him/her. If an angler is disqualified, the anglers below him/her in the ranking shall keep their original ranking (for example: if angler X who ranked 8<sup>th</sup> is disqualified, the following anglers shall keep their rankings and shall mark 9 points, 10 points, and so on).
- e) Any warning given to a Nation shall be recorded in that Nation's file and shall remain in the files for a period of 3 years. Any new infringement over these 3 years shall be considered as a "relapse" and the Jury shall make its decision considering such relapse and the list of penalties.
- f) Any warning given to a competitor shall be recorded in the competitor's file for a period of 3 years. Any new infringement shall be considered as a "relapse", and the Jury shall make its decision considering such new infringement and the list of penalties.
- g) F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee shall be entitled, both during a competition and subsequently, to impose penalties on fishermen, managers or reserves if

they infringe any rule or misbehave, even if said infringements are not provided for in the official Rules.

- 32- The members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee may access the competition venue and take note of any infringement of the Rules.

## **RANKINGS**

### **-33- 1- RANKING BY SECTOR IN THE LEGS**

- a) Ranking by sector or sub-sector shall be drawn up based on the weight (1 point per gram).

The competitor who recorded the highest weight shall be given 1 penalty, while 2 penalties shall be attributed to the second one, and so on.

- b) In the event of a tied score (same weight) in the same sector or sub-sector, the anglers concerned shall obtain a number of penalties equalling the average placing they should have had (example n° 1: two competitors placed equal 5<sup>th</sup> shall obtain  $(5+6):2 = 5.5$  penalties each; example n° 2: three competitors tying in the 8<sup>th</sup> placing, totalise  $(8+9+10):3 = 9$  penalties each).

- c) Anglers who have not caught any fish will receive a number of points equal to the average value of non-attributed places in their sector or sub-sector (example n° 1: 24 anglers, 12 of whom rank at the first 12 places with penalties ranging between 1 and 12, the following anglers will mark  $(13+24):2 = 18.5$  penalties each; example n° 2: 29 anglers, 5 of whom have caught fish and scored 1 to 5 points – the 24 anglers who have not caught any fish mark  $(6+29):2 = 17.5$  penalties; example n° 3: 29 anglers, 26 of whom have caught fish, whereas the 3 competitors who have not caught any fish will score  $(27+29):2 = 28$  penalties. If there is only 1 angler who has not caught any fish or **one or more missing anglers** in a sector or sub-sector, he/she shall obtain a number of penalties equalling the last position in the sector (example: 29 competitors, 28 of whom have caught fish, whereas one has not, the latter will get 29 penalties).

### **2- RANKING BY TEAM**

Up to 25 Nations, the ranking shall be drawn up by sector (as always). If there are 26 participating Nations or more, each sector shall consist of two sub-sectors. In the event of an odd number of anglers (example: 2 sub-sectors with a total of 27 participating Nations: the angler located in number 14 shall be considered in both sub-sectors: he/she will be attributed the place he/she obtained in the sub-sector with the lowest number (1 to 14) for his/her ranking, while the score obtained in the other sector (14 to 27) shall be considered for the ranking of the anglers in that sub-sector. If he/she ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 14 to 27 sub-sector, the other competitors shall rank 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>).

#### **A- 1<sup>st</sup> LEG**

- a) Sum of the penalties obtained in each sector or sub-sector by the anglers of a team.

The team scoring the lowest number of penalties shall rank 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.

- b) In the event of a tied score, the rank shall be made on the teams concerned based on the heaviest weight recorded by the anglers of the same team.

- c) In the event of further tied score, the team with the heaviest individual weight shall be higher in the ranking.

- d) If a tie still exists, the teams shall be ranked based on the lowest number of penalties obtained by one of the anglers composing the team.

#### B- SECOND LEG

The ranking is established in the same way as for the first leg.

#### C- GENERAL RANKING

- a) The sum of the penalties obtained in the two legs; the team obtaining the lowest number of penalties will rank 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on penalties, the teams concerned will be ranked by the highest total aggregate team weight obtained by the competitors in the two legs.
- c) In the event of a tie on weight in the two legs, the heaviest weight obtained by a team in one of the two legs shall be taken into account.
- d) If a tie still exists, the teams shall be ranked based on the lowest number of penalties obtained by a team in one of the two legs.

### 3- INDIVIDUAL RANKING

#### A- 1<sup>st</sup> LEG

- a) The anglers shall be ranked based on the penalties obtained in the relevant sector or sub-sector. The anglers who got 1 penalty shall rank 1<sup>st</sup>; they shall be followed by those who got 2 penalties, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on penalties, the competitors shall be ranked by the heaviest weight obtained.
- c) In the event of a tie on weight, the ranking shall be established based on the highest number of fishes caught.**
- d) If a tie still exists, the competitors shall be ranked based on the highest number of drawn peg.**

#### B- 2<sup>nd</sup> LEG

The ranking is established in the same way as for the first leg.

#### C- GENERAL RANKING

- a) The sum of the penalties obtained in the two legs; the anglers obtaining the lowest number of penalties will rank 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on penalties between two or more anglers, the anglers concerned will be ranked by the highest total aggregate weight obtained in the two legs.
- c) In the event of a tie on total weight, the ranking shall be established based on the highest weight obtained on one of the two legs.
- d) If a tie still exists, the anglers shall be ranked based on the highest sum of numbers of the drawn pegs in the two legs.
- e) The anglers participating in one leg only, shall be put at the bottom of the individual ranking, following an order based on their placing.

### 4- NATION RANKING



A world or zone ranking per Nations, considering the last 5 years (as F.I.F.A.'s rankings), shall be drawn up for all championships; such ranking list shall be updated every year and published on F.I.P.S.e.d.'s website.

The Nations included in such ranking that, for any reason, do not participate in a championship, shall be given a number of penalties equal to the number of participating Nations for that specific year + 1.

- 34-** The ranking will be established by a person mandated by F.I.P.S.e.d. or, lacking this person, by the organizers, in the presence of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President or in the presence of his representative and, possibly, also in the presence of the members of the Jury.

### **ROD LENGTH**

- 35-** The length of the rods is limited to:

- 10.00 metres for the "U14" category.
- 11.50 metres for the "U18" category.
- 11.50 metres for the "LADIES" category.
- 11.50 metres for the "VETERANS" category.
- 13.00 metres for the "U23", "NATIONS" and "CLUBS" categories.

Despite said limits, fishing with a reel is allowed.

### **CIVIL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

- 36-** The organizers **SHALL** take out a "CIVIL LIABILITY" insurance to cover the whole event (from the beginning of the training to the end of the final dinner); a certificate issued by the insurance company, certifying that the whole event is covered by a "CIVIL LIABILITY" policy shall be handed over to the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. two months prior to the competition.

### **TRAINING**

- 37-** a) Official training shall take place at the official venue.
- b) The official venue shall be organized as follows:
- 1) fifteen days of total closure. During these 15 days, training at the venue shall be forbidden for all Nations in the entire area chosen for the championship, as well as 500 metres upstream and downstream of said area (including the opposite banks for lakes, rowing venues, canals, streams and rivers). The organizers shall mark the borders of the training area by using boards. Apart from the closing period, the venue shall be made available for regular visits and fishing [local closing periods and special fishing conditions (fishing permit) shall be abided by]. Should the venue be always closed to fishing, it shall be made available on at least 2 weekends (the dates shall be specified in the programme);
  - 2) for the NATIONS, ZONES (EUROPE), CLUBS and LADIES Championships there will be 5 days official training (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday morning and Friday morning);  
for the YOUTH and VETERANS Championships, there will be 4-day official training (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning and Thursday morning);

- 3) the last day of training shall be compulsory for all Nations and all the above championships (whole teams with all their anglers). Both heavy baiting and light baiting shall be fully complied with, just as during a regular training;
- 4) two days of competition (Saturday and Sunday), except for the YOUTH and VETERANS, whose two days of competition shall take place on Friday and Saturday.
- c) In order to enable all Nations to train at the official venue during the 5 training days ("NATIONS", ZONES (EUROPE), CLUBS and LADIES), or the 4 training days (YOUTH and VETERANS), the organizers shall assign, starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> day, to each Nation a portion of the venue called training "BOX" by drawing lots carried out between 07:30 and 10:00 a.m. (the lot drawing time and place shall be included in the event program). Each "BOX" shall consist of 6 pegs for NATIONS, ZONES (EUROPE), CLUBS and LADIES Championships, and 5 pegs for the YOUTH and VETERANS Championships. Lot drawing for the "BOXES" shall be guided (system for drawing lots to be designed by F.I.P.S.e.d. and made available to the organizing Nation).

All participating Nations shall be provided with a document carrying the technical specifications and information concerning the venue.

The same amount of baits and ground baits as the maximum amount allowed for a competition day shall be allowed.

On each training day, the organisers shall indicate the authorised angling hours by means of special acoustic signals.

In particular, for the first 3 training days [NATIONS, ZONES (EUROPE), CLUBS and LADIES], or the first 2 training days (YOUTH and VETERANS), the organisers shall authorise these angling hours of training:

- From 10:00 a.m. to 06:00 p.m. angling shall be allowed without any interruption. Only one heavy baiting per day shall be allowed (10 minutes maximum).
- Before 10:00 a.m. and after 06:00 p.m. angling shall be forbidden.
- The teams shall abide by the aforesaid angling schedule (no baiting shall be authorised before the official signal).

On the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> [NATIONS, ZONES (EUROPE) CLUBS and LADIES], 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> (YOUTH and VETERANS) training days, the heavy baiting signal shall be given at 10:00 a.m. and all angling activities (4 hours maximum) shall stop at 02:00 p.m. without fail. No training shall be authorised after 02:00 p.m. The venue shall imperatively be free from people by 03:00 p.m..

### **ELECTRIC POWER LINES AND PLANTS**

**-38-** It is strictly forbidden to place competitors at a distance of less than 25 metres, on both sides, from any electrical plant (electrical lines, transformers, trellises, etc.).

### **RULES IN THE EVENT OF A THUNDERSTORM**

**-39- 1-** WHEN A THUNDERSTORM BREAKS OUT BEFORE OR DURING PREPARATION

No angler shall be allowed to access his/her peg or prepare his/her material; a signal shall indicate the postponement of the access into the angling peg or the end of the preparation phase.

If the weather conditions and the competition schedule allow, the leg may be regularly performed.

If the weather conditions do not improve or the competition schedule does not allow, the leg shall simply be cancelled. The cancelled leg shall not be considered when making the rankings, which shall be established based on the results of the held leg. The cancelled leg shall not be held at a later stage.

## 2- IF A THUNDERSTORM BREAKS OUT DURING THE LEG

The leg shall immediately be stopped (a 1<sup>st</sup> signal will be emitted by the organizers) and all competitors shall take shelter outside the pegs. If the weather conditions allow, the leg shall then continue and a 2<sup>nd</sup> signal shall inform the anglers that they may return to their pegs; a 3<sup>rd</sup> signal, 5 minutes later, shall authorize the competitors to resume angling (heavy ground bating is forbidden).

Maximum 2 breaks shall be authorised in one leg, and their overall duration shall not exceed one (1) hour; otherwise, the leg shall be stopped for good.

The Jury may shorten the duration of a leg if the competition schedule does not allow angling for 3 or 4 hours.

A leg shall be validated if it lasted at least 2 hours for Clubs, Nations, Women, Veterans, U23, and European (or Zone) Championships, and at least 1 hour for U14 and U18 Championships. The break(s) time shall not be considered when calculating the duration of a leg.

Should the weather conditions not allow to duly carrying out a competition, the Jury may decide to cancel one leg. Said leg shall not be postponed and the ranking shall be drawn up based on the leg that was actually carried out. The cancelled leg shall not be held again.

## **ANTI-DOPING CONTROLS**

**-40-** F.I.P.S.e.d. adopts the World Anti-doping Code applied by C.I.P.S..

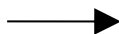
During a championship, the anglers selected to undergo anti-doping controls shall imperatively go to the designated place at the indicated time, following F.I.P.S.e.d.'s or the Jury's guidelines. Any angler selected to undergo anti-doping checks who does not report for the controls shall be disqualified from the competition and shall be given a penalty **corresponding to the bottom rank in the ranking + 1, for all the competition days he participated in.**

Organizing Nations shall cover all anti-doping controls costs. **All contacts with the NADO (National Anti-Doping Organization) of each Nation shall be exclusively kept by the organizers of the championship under consideration.**

## **ADVERTISING ON BACK NUMBERS**

**-41-** Advertising shall not be obligatory.

The size of the advertisement characters on the back numbers shall not exceed a height of 6 cm; this form of advertising shall only be authorized on the lower part of the back number, both on the front and on the back sides.

**F.I.P.S.e.d. AND C.I.P.S. FEES**

-42- A € 150 fee shall be paid by each participating Nation; said fee shall remain available to F.I.P.S.e.d. (this fee shall not be due by participants in YOUTH Championships).

A € 500 fee shall be paid by the organizing Nation to C.I.P.S.'s disposal (to be paid to C.I.P.S.'s bank account). For YOUTH Championships, divided in three categories (U14, U18 and U23), the C.I.P.S. fee shall amount to € 500.

**OPENING CEREMONY AND PRIZE AWARDING CEREMONY**

-43- The opening ceremony and the presentation of the teams shall take place 2 days before the first leg, at 06:00 p.m.. Said ceremony shall not last longer than 2 hours, and shall not end later than 08:00 p.m..

The top 3 teams and the top 3 individual competitors shall officially receive a GOLD, a SILVER and a BRONZE medal respectively. In conformity with international standards, during the prize awarding procedures, the national anthem of the winner (team or competitor) shall be played, and the national flags of the top three athletes/teams shall be raised. The medals shall be paid for by F.I.P.S.e.d. and shall be handed over by F.I.P.S.e.d.'s designated representative.

CLUBS World Championships shall only envisage a team ranking; therefore, no medals or prizes shall be awarded to single individuals.

Any other reward shall be equally awarded to all participating Nations. All participating Nations shall provide their flags and the recordings of their national anthems.

During the ceremony for the announcement of the official results, the winning Nation may be represented on the podium by up to 9 persons, who shall be handed out the medals while playing their national anthem.

**RULES VERSIONS**

-44- In the event of any dispute arising from or in connection with the interpretation of these Rules, only the French version shall be considered as the original and reference text.

**OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING NATIONS**

-45- The organizing Nation of a World or Zone (Europe, etc.) Championship shall:

- a) Have the F.I.P.S.e.d. trophies engraved (plate or logo);
- b) Send out official programs and information about the championship in the 2 official languages (English and French).

The President of F.I.P.S.e.d.  
Ugo Claudio MATTEOLI

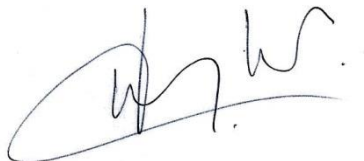
The General Secretary of F.I.P.S.e.d.  
Barbara DURANTE

*Alfo Paolo Mattarò*

*Batac Duma*

The President of the F.I.P.S.e.d. Technical Commission

Roland MARCQ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Marcq', with a large, sweeping underline.