

Member's suspension

2.1 Lifting the suspension of Kuwait Handball Association

On 11 September 2015, the IHF Council decided to suspend Kuwait Handball Association with immediate effect until the next Congress according to Article 14.3.25 of the IHF Statutes. Subsequently, the XXXV Ordinary IHF Congress held in Sochi, Russia on 7 November 2015 confirmed the suspension of Kuwait Handball Association by a two-third majority of votes cast in compliance with Article 8.4.7 of the IHF Statutes, taking into consideration that the suspension included all handball activities on national and international level as well as all people involved in handball activities in Kuwait (players, coaches, referees, officials, and clubs), and the KHA was not entitled to maintain any sporting contact with IHF Member Federations.

In order to protect the handball sport in Kuwait, the IHF Council decided on 20 July 2015 to appoint the Kuwait Handball Association Interim Committee to manage and coordinate the day-to-day handball sport in Kuwait at national and international level in accordance with the IHF Statutes and Regulations.

On 29 November 2018, the Kuwait Handball Association Interim Committee informed the IHF that the KHA Interim Committee has taken over the headquarters of KHA as well as the banking account on the same date.

Based on the aforementioned, and according to Article 14.3.6 of the IHF Statutes, allowing the IHF Council to decide urgent matters between Congresses, the IHF Council agreed on 3 December 2018 to provisionally lift the suspension of Kuwait Handball Association with immediate effect until the next Congress.

The extraordinary General Assembly of Kuwait Handball Association endorsed the KHA Statutes approved by the IHF legal body. Afterwards, the electoral General Assembly elected a new KHA Board of Directors.

The Congress shall decide on definitely lifting the suspension of Kuwait Handball Association.

2.2 Suspension of IHF CD Chairwoman Mrs Raquel Pedercini

On 5 October 2018, the IHF Ethics Commission issued a decision related to the behaviour of the Chairwoman of the IHF Commission for Development (CD), Mrs Raquel Pedercini, during and after the IHF Council meeting held in Zagreb, Croatia on 14 January 2018. As the IHF Ethics Commission considered her behaviour a violation of the IHF Ethics Code, particularly Article 5, the IHF Ethics Commission decided to suspend her right to participate in three continuous official meetings of the IHF Council in accordance with Article 9 of the IHF Ethics Code. Mrs Pedercini was notified of the IHF Ethics Commission decision by email of 9 October 2018.

Due to the fact that the IHF Ethics Commission decided to also notify the IHF Council of its decision, the issue was presented to the IHF Council in its meeting in Doha, Qatar on 18 October 2018. The IHF Council took note of the decision of the IHF Ethics Commission and unanimously decided to ask Mrs Pedercini to resign from her position as Chairwoman of the IHF Commission for Development. Mrs Pedercini was notified of the IHF Council decision by letter of 16 November 2018.

On 24 January 2019, the Canadian Team Handball Federation (CTHF) sent an official letter to the IHF, in which Mr David Lee, CTHF Acting President, informed that CTHF President Mrs Raquel Pedercini has been removed in her capacity in any relationships between the CTHF and IHF. He also informed that the CTHF Board of Directors have duly assigned Mr David Lee as Acting President, and along with Mr François LeBeau, COO, and Mr Leonel Attias, Director of High Performance, to oversee and manage the relationship between the CTHF and IHF.

The entire matter was presented to the IHF Council in its meeting in Herning, Denmark on 28 January 2019. The IHF Council members considered the continuity of Mrs Pedercini's behaviour despite the different communications and the decisions of the IHF Ethics Commission dated 5 October 2018 and of the IHF Council dated 18 October 2018. Due to the serious and repeated violation of her obligations as member, the IHF Council unanimously decided to suspend Mrs Raquel Pedercini as Chairwoman of the IHF Commission for Development and as IHF member with immediate effect until the next Congress in accordance with Article 14.3.25 of the IHF Statutes. Consequently, she shall lose her membership rights, and other members may not maintain sporting contact with her according to Article 8.4.6 of the IHF Statutes.

On 13 February 2019, the Canadian Team Handball Federation informed that the CTHF Board of Directors evaluated Mrs Raquel Pedercini's performance over the years and concluded that she did not fulfil her obligations to serve in the best interest of CTHF. CTHF also informed that Mrs Pedercini had been invited by the CTHF Vice-President to resign or she would face a resolution to be removed from the Board of Directors at the next Board of Directors meeting. Consequently, in a meeting held on 12 February 2019, the CTHF Board of Directors unanimously decided to remove Mrs Pedercini as CTHF President.

As per Article 8.4.7 of the IHF Statutes, the suspension of Mrs Raquel Pedercini as Chairwoman of the IHF Commission for Development and as IHF member shall be confirmed by the Congress.