



Canada Soccer

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE

1. ACCOUNTABILITY

- a) The accountabilities (roles and responsibilities) of the Board of Directors and the chief executive (i.e., the chief executive officer, executive director, or general secretary) are clearly specified in the By-laws and governance policies of the organization.
- b) The Board is accountable to its Members and other stakeholders for all decisions, actions and the strategy and performance of the organization, including its compliance with the organization's core values, and the selection, oversight, evaluation, removal, and compensation of the chief executive.
- c) The chief executive is accountable to the Board for the organization's operations, including the budget/operating plan and the management of finances, risk, human resources, programs and services, and stakeholder relations.
- d) The Members of the organization (collectively represented at the annual meeting of the Members) are accountable for:
 - approving the audited annual financial statements of the organization
 - approving the appointment of the auditor for the forthcoming year
 - the election of Directors and Officers
 - discussing other MOTIONS that may be put forward by the Members or by the Board.
- e) In making decisions, the Board and the Members comply with existing laws and regulations.

2. EQUITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

- a) The Member voting structure of the organization is inclusive and equitable:
 - the voting structures include all soccer stakeholders such as Member districts, leagues, players, referees, and coaches.
 - votes are allocated according to a formula that ensures an equitable or fair balance between all the stakeholders and prevents a small number of stakeholder or stakeholder entities from controlling voting outcomes.



3. SEPARATION OF POWERS

- a) The Board of Directors is the strategic and oversight body; the chief executive is the executive and operational body; the independent disciplinary committees are the judicial bodies; and the annual meeting of the Members is the legislative body.
- b) Each of the bodies has a specified role and has powers which remain distinctive and separate.

4. REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

- a) The Board has democratic legitimacy because its Directors are elected by the Members and because there is a defined and reasonable limit to their term of office.
- b) The organization ensures that its decision-makers and participants, in their composition, reflect the diversity of the community in which it operates (e.g., race, colour, ethnic origin, disability, gender, age, region, official language/s, indigenous status and immigrant status.)
- c) The Board makes decisions and acts with a view to the best interests of the organization, while ensuring that all its stakeholders are represented in the decision-making processes and that their views are effectively taken into account.
- d) The organization ensures that it has effective and transparent communication processes in its relations with its stakeholders.

5. AFFIRMATION AND PROTECTION OF POSITIVE VALUES

- a) In growing and improving the game of soccer, the organization affirms and promotes the game's unifying, educational, cultural, ethical, and humanitarian values, its respect for all globally recognized human rights, and its assurance of non-discrimination and equality.

Approved by the Board of Directors, 16 September 2023