# The Constitution

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## Olimpiadi della Gioventù Italiana

Revised 2018 V1.1

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#### 1. <u>Name & address of the organisation</u>

The organisation shall be known as Olimpiadi della Gioventù Italiana, hereafter referred to as "OGI".

The correspondence address is: OGI, 136 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1R 5EN.

#### 2. Principle objectives of OGI

The objectives of the OGI games are to provide an athletic sporting arena every two years for the youngsters of the Italian community, regardless of their race, faith, or ability, and to encourage the participation of as many Italian associations, schools, and clubs both within the UK and abroad, as possible.

#### 3. <u>Membership of OGI</u>

Any Italian club, school or association, hereafter referred to as a "Team" can join OGI providing that they:

- i. Meet the eligibility criteria as stated in the OGI Rule Book;
- ii. Agree to abide by the rules and regulations contained in this constitution, the OGI Rule Book and the individual event rules;
- iii. Compete in the Games;
- iv. Pay any monies owed to OGI by the due date.

#### 4. Structure of OGI

OGI will be made up of:

- i. The General Assembly;
- ii. An elected committee, hereafter referred to as "OGIC";
- iii. An appointed non-executive committee, hereafter referred to as the "NEC".
- iv. An appointed Reserve Fund Management Committee, hereafter referred to as the RFMC.

#### 5. The General Assembly

Any team which joins OGI will automatically become a part of The General Assembly.

A meeting of The General Assembly must be called at least once every two years, and each team must send at least one representative to this meeting. Each representative will have one vote subject to a maximum number of two votes per team.



Postal or voting by proxy is not allowed.

Any team which leaves or is expelled from OGI will forfeit their place on The General Assembly.

#### 6. Powers of The General Assembly

- A. Approval of The General assembly must be given, by means of a <u>simple majority</u> of the votes of those present at the relevant meeting and entitled to vote, before the OGIC can:
  - i. Make any changes or amendments to the constitution;
  - ii. Publish the accounts;
  - iii. Change the eligibility criteria for athletes.
- B. Furthermore, The General Assembly has the power to:
  - i. Expel a team;
  - ii. Elect a new OGIC (see section 12);
  - iii. Dissolve the OGIC, mid-term, if it is acting unconstitutionally.

A majority of at least  $\underline{75\%}$  of the votes of those present at the relevant meeting and entitled to vote, is required for the exercise of these powers.

#### 7. Objectives of the OGIC

- i. Organise the OGI 3-day event every two years;
- ii. Ensure that the OGI games rules and regulations are kept updated;
- iii. Ensure that the ethos and spirit of the games is upheld;
- iv. Promote the OGI games within the Italian Community in the UK and abroad;
- v. Take steps to ensure that the OGI games continue for future years.

#### 8. **Powers of the OGIC**

- i. Organise fund raising events or seek charitable donations;
- ii. Publicise and promote the OGI games;
- iii. Consult with outside bodies and or other volunteers to gain information, and knowledge as deemed necessary to meet the aims of the OGI;
- iv. Appoint members onto the Non-Executive Committee (NEC);
- v. Create and appoint sub committees;
- vi. Appoint the Honorary President and Patrons;
- vii. Use OGI funds held in the current account, where appropriate, if in its opinion this will further the aims or objectives of OGI;
- viii. Take any lawful action necessary to achieve the objectives of OGI;



- ix. Expel any OGIC member who is found to be acting illegally or is convicted of a criminal activity, whether related to OGI or not;
- x. Attend functions as representatives of OGI;
- xi. Amend the OGI Rule Book (excluding eligibility criteria), events and age groups subject to consultation with the participating teams;
- xii. Select the venue for the staging of the games;
- xiii. Increase or alter the fees/subs to teams;
- xiv. Appoint or co-opt non-elected OGIC members;
- xv. Amend the timetable, postpone, cancel, or change the running order of events in order to ensure the smooth running of the games;
- xvi. Police the Teams and competitors to ensure they comply with the rules and impose penalties and punishments on teams, competitors or both who are found to be infringing these rules.

#### Furthermore, it will be the responsibility of the OGIC to ensure that the ethos and spirit of the games is maintained, and it will use whatever power it has at its availability or enacts to ensure that these ideals are upheld.

#### 9. Duties of the OGIC

The OGIC will be duty bound to ensure the following:

- i. That it performs its duties in accordance with English law;
- ii. That all OGIC members conduct themselves in an appropriate manner, always, so as not to bring OGI into disrepute;
- iii. That all teams will be consulted prior to any changes being made to the OGI Rule Book and Event Rules (other than those introduced by the national or international governing body of any event), that their opinion be taken into account and that all such changes (other than those introduced by the national or international governing body of any event), are made in good time so as to allow the teams to implement them;
- iv. That all necessary steps are taken to ensure the health and safety of all competitors, spectators, and officials during the staging of the games or any other event which the OGI organise;
- v. That proper communication is maintained with all teams.

#### 10. <u>Membership of the OGIC</u>

- i. Membership shall be open to anyone who has an interest in assisting the OGIC's aims and is willing to adhere to the Constitution and Rule Book;
- ii. Any member of the OGIC may resign his/her membership at any time to the Secretary with written confirmation to that effect;



iii. Any member of the OGIC may put forward a motion to terminate the membership of a member of the OGIC. In that event, a meeting of the OGIC will be called, and providing that a quorum of the members are present, the parties will have the opportunity to put their cases forward, which will be followed by a vote by the OGIC, and in order for such a motion to be carried forward, it would require a minimum of 75% of the votes of all OGIC members present at the relevant meeting.

#### 11. Eligibility to stand for office on the OGIC

Any individual above the age of 18 may stand for election onto the OGIC, providing that he/she meets the following criteria:

- i. Is prepared to serve on the OGIC for a minimum of two years;
- ii. Agrees to abide by the attendance rule;
- iii. Must not be a team manager or actively involved with a competing team;
- iv. Must always act impartially;
- v. Is not involved in any activity which is considered illegal in either the UK, the EU or in any country which is recognised by either the UK or EU authorities;
- vi. Is a member of an organisation considered to be racist, terrorist, illegal or proscribed by either the UK or EU authorities or any country recognised by either the UK or EU authorities;
- vii. Is convicted of any criminal offence in the UK, the EU or in any country which is recognised by either the UK or EU authorities;
- viii. Have not been convicted of any criminal offences, either in the UK, the EU
- ix. Agree to undergo regular DBS checks.

A candidate will not be allowed to stand for election if they are found to be unsuitable, following a DBS check and if already elected, then the election will be declared null, and void and <u>THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO RESIGN THEIR</u> <u>POST.</u>

#### 12. Election of OGIC members

The election of the OGIC will take place at the Biennial General Meeting (BGM). Anyone wishing to stand for election must submit their application no later than 31 days before the published date of the BGM.

A candidate must attend the BGM to be voted onto the OGIC (unless there are extenuating circumstances) and must be seconded by a member of the General Assembly.



If more than 25 candidates are standing, then a vote of the team representatives present at the meeting will take place, and the positions will be allocated according to the number of votes each candidate receives.

In the event of 25 or less candidates standing, then the positions will be filled de facto, subject to a candidate receiving at least one vote from the team representatives present at the meeting.

#### 13. Term of office of OGIC members

The term of office of all OGIC members will be no longer than 25 months from the date of election after which all OGIC members must resign.

An OGIC member can stand for re-election at the next BGM and there is no limit to the number of terms that an individual can serve.

#### 14. Co-option of OGIC members

The OGIC may co-opt additional members at any time, providing that they meet the same eligibility criteria as an elected member and providing that it does not increase the size of OGIC above 25 persons.

Before a co-opted member can take their place on OGIC, they must be nominated, seconded, and then receive a majority vote in favour from the elected OGIC members.

The total number of co-opted members on OGIC cannot exceed 75% of the total elected membership.

A co-opted member can only serve one term on OGIC after which they must stand for election at the BGM or resign their position.

#### 15. Attendance of OGIC meetings

Attendance of OGIC meetings is compulsory for all elected and co-opted members. If a member is unable to attend, then that member should communicate this to the Secretary at their earliest convenience but in all cases no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting.

If in any one year an OGIC member fails to attend at least 50% of the meetings, they will be deemed to have forfeited their place and the OGIC can, if they so choose:



- i. Elect to remove them from OGIC and co-opt another candidate in their place;
- ii. Elect to appoint them onto the NEC (providing that they meet the eligibility criteria) and co-opt another candidate in their place.

#### 16. Management of the OGIC

The OGIC will consist of the President, five executive officers and a maximum of nineteen other elected or co-opted members.

Each OGIC member, whether elected or co-opted will have a vote, as will each NEC member when they attend an OGIC meeting.

Before any vote can take place there must be a quorum of at least 60% of the OGIC members present.

Except where stated, otherwise in this constitution, any vote of the OGIC will be carried by a simple majority of the OGIC members present at the meeting.

A meeting of the OGIC must occur at least once every three months. The date, time and place of this meeting should be set at the end of the previous OGIC meeting but may be decided or amended later. In this case, a notice stating the time, date and place should be sent to all OGIC members, either via post, email, or text, no later than 7 days before the next meeting.

#### 17. Organisation of OGIC Meetings GCM/BGM/EGM

#### A. General Committee Meetings (hereafter referred to as GCM)

It will be the President's responsibility to call and chair a GCM. In the event of the President not being able to attend then the Vice President will assume this responsibility.

The President/Vice President must ensure that all proceedings are conducted in an orderly fashion, in accordance with the constitution and that all OGIC members can speak if they so desire.

A vote can be taken at any time during the proceedings, providing that there is a quorum of OGIC members present, or it may be deferred to another meeting if the OGIC or President feels that more time is required to consider the issues in question. All voting will be by a simple show of hands. In the event of a tied vote, the President/Vice President will have the casting vote.



Any NEC member who attends a GCM will be allowed to vote but they will not form part of the voting quorum.

Minutes of the meeting must be taken by the Secretary or Vice Secretary and a copy of the minutes should be sent to all OGIC and NEC members as soon as is practicable but no later than 28 days following a GCM.

The minutes of the previous meeting should be read out by the Secretary or Vice Secretary at the start of a GCM and any errors or omissions noted. Once all errors or omissions have been corrected, the minutes should be approved by OGIC, and a copy kept on file for a minimum of six years.

#### **B.** Biennial General Meeting (hereafter referred to as BGM)

A BGM will be called following the completion of an OGI games. The BGM will take place in the autumn and the date of the BGM will be decided at the first OGIC meeting after these games but should be no more than 25 months from the preceding BGM.

Notice should be sent at least 30 days before the date of the BGM to all member and proposed member teams providing the following information:

- i. Date, time and location of meeting;
- ii. Any proposed changes to the Constitution and eligibility criteria;
- iii. Proposed candidates for election onto OGIC.

The BGM will be chaired by the outgoing President or Vice President. In the event of neither being able to attend then the Honorary President will chair the meeting, although he/she may appoint a representative to act on his/her behalf.

The following must be submitted to the Assembly:

- i. President's report;
- ii. Treasurer's report;
- iii. Proposed changes to the Constitution or eligibility criteria;
- iv. Resignation of outgoing OGIC members.

A vote will also be taken for the following:

- i. Publishing of the accounts;
- ii. Any proposed changes or amendments to the Constitution;
- iii. Any proposed changes to the eligibility criteria;
- iv. Introduction or expulsion of a team;
- v. Any other issues or proposals which may require a vote of the General Assembly;
- vi. Election of new OGIC.



### C. Extraordinary General Meeting of the General Assembly (hereafter referred to as EGM)

In the event of there being a proposal by the OGIC to make any changes or amendments to either the Constitution or the eligibility criteria during an OGIC's term of office, then it will be necessary to call an EGM of the General Assembly for a vote or ballot to be taken.

Notice should be sent at least 14 days before the date of the EGM to all member teams providing the following information:

- i. Date, time and place of meeting;
- ii. The proposed changes or amendments to the Constitution or eligibility criteria.

An EGM may also be called by the OGIC if they are unable to elect or nominate a President or, in the event of any outside factors arising which could influence the running or staging of the games.

A majority of the member teams acting collectively, may also call an EGM in order to vote on a proposal to dissolve the OGIC.

#### 18. Office of President

At the first OGIC meeting following the election of a new OGIC, a vote must be taken for the appointment of the President.

The outgoing President can chair this meeting providing that he/she is not standing for re-election. In this instance the meeting should either be chaired by the Honorary President or their appointed representative.

If this is not possible then the Honorary President can nominate another person to chair the meeting on their behalf. This person does not need to be a current member of OGIC but should have a knowledge and understanding of proceedings.

The chairperson must ensure that correct procedures are adhered to in the election of the new President. They will have no right to vote during proceedings other than in the event of there being a tied vote in which case they will have the casting vote.

#### 19. Nomination of candidate for President

For a candidate to be eligible to serve as President they must meet the following criteria:



- i. Be a minimum of 21 years of age;
- ii. Be an elected member of OGIC;
- iii. Have submitted their candidature at least 14 days prior to the first OGIC meeting;
- iv. Have been seconded by another elected member of the OGIC;
- v. Not have served as President for two consecutive previous terms\*;
- vi. There is a minimum gap of at least one term, where a candidate has already served as President for two consecutive terms\*;
- vii. Attend the first OGIC meeting;
- viii. Be the current serving Honorary President\*;
- ix. Be co-opted by OGIC to act as a caretaker President for one term<sup>†</sup>.

#### 20. Voting procedure for the election of the President

Once all the nominations have been received, the nominated or elected chairperson will make a list of the candidates and distribute this amongst the elected OGIC members.

At the meeting, each candidate will have the opportunity to address the OGIC following which the chairperson will call for a vote. This vote will be conducted in secret by ballot, with the ballot papers distributed amongst the elected OGIC members present. Any elected member of the OGIC who is unable to attend, may cast his vote in proxy, by sending it to the chairperson prior to the meeting.

In the event of only two candidates standing for election then the chairperson will count the votes and the candidate with the most votes will be appointed President.

In the event of there being more than two candidates then the voting will proceed as follows:

- i. All votes will be counted and if any one candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, then they will be appointed as President;
- ii. In the event of no candidate receiving the required 50% of votes, then the candidate with the least number of votes will be eliminated;
- iii. A new vote will be called and procedures (i) or (ii) will apply until such time as the appointment of the President can be made;
- iv. In the event of two candidates receiving the same number of votes then the chairperson will have the casting vote.

\*In the event of there being no candidate prepared to stand for election as President and the previous President, has already served two consecutive terms, a member of OGIC can nominate the previous President as a candidate and, providing that the nomination is seconded and the incumbent President is prepared to stand, a vote taken on the appointment. If carried, the newly elected President will be able to



serve as President for another term and/or continue to serve in office, if necessary, until such time, that eligible candidate/candidates is/are nominated and seconded.

\*In the event of the previous President no longer being an elected member of OGIC or, not willing to serve another term as President, OGIC can nominate the Honorary President to serve for a maximum of one term or, until such time that an alternative candidate can be elected.

<sup>†</sup>In the event of the Honorary President not being willing or able to undertake the role of President, OGIC can co-opt a suitable person to act as caretaker President for a maximum period of one term. The same rules will apply to them, as any co-opted member (see section 14, page vii).

An EGM will have to be called within 90 days of the first meeting after the BGM, if OGIC cannot elect, co-opt, or appoint a President for the term of their office. The GA can then either co-opt or appoint a current member of OGIC to act President for one term.

#### 21. <u>Appointment of the remaining Executive Officers</u>

Once elected the President will, at his/her earliest convenience but not later than 60 days after his/her election and with the approval of the OGIC, make the following appointments from the elected OGIC members:

- i. Vice President;
- ii. Treasurer;
- iii. Vice Treasurer;
- iv. Secretary;
- v. Vice Secretary.

#### 22. <u>The Non-Executive Committee (hereafter referred to as NEC)</u>

The NEC will consist of veteran members of the OGIC whose knowledge and experience is an asset to the OGI and who still express a desire to be a part of OGIC but who can no longer meet the attendance criteria for GCM's.

The OGIC will appoint the members of the NEC.

The total number of members serving on the NEC at any time cannot exceed 12 people.

The NEC will have no powers to amend or change the Constitution or the OGI Rule Book but can suggest amendments and changes to OGIC and the General Assembly.



There will be no NEC meetings, but they will be able to attend and participate at any BGM/EGM, OGIC or Team Managers meetings.

Furthermore, they will have the same authority and powers as serving OGIC members, during the three days of the OGI games

#### 23. <u>Eligibility to serve on the NEC</u>

An OGIC member can volunteer to serve on the NEC providing that he/she:

- i. Has served a minimum of two terms as an elected member of OGIC;
- ii. Can no longer meet the attendance criteria for being a member of OGIC;
- iii. Is available to serve over the three days of the games;
- iv. Can help with fund raising or other activities;
- v. Continues to act impartially and in the best interest of OGI and will not involve themselves in any activity which is considered illegal, or which could bring either the OGIC or the games into disrepute.

#### 24. <u>Membership of the NEC</u>

Once appointed onto the NEC by OGIC, a member will:

- i. No longer be required to attend regular GCM's;
- ii. No longer form part of the OGIC voting quorum;
- iii. Still receive the agenda and minutes to the GCM, BGM, EGM and team mangers meeting;
- iv. Still be allowed to submit topics for discussion at a GCM, BGM, EGM and team managers meeting;
- v. Still be allowed to suggest amendments and changes to the Constitution and the OGI Rule Book;
- vi. Still be allowed to submit their opinion when not in attendance at a GCM, BGM, EGM and team managers meeting;
- vii. Still be allowed to attend a GCM, BGM, EGM and team managers meeting;
- viii. Still be allowed to vote when attending a GCM, BGM and EGM;
- ix. Still be an OGIC official for the OGI games and be issued with an OGIC tracksuit;
- x. Be allowed to move back onto OGIC, providing that there is a space to do so or when one becomes available, should their circumstances change.

#### 25. <u>Termination of membership of the NEC</u>

The OGIC may terminate an individual's membership of the NEC if he/she fails:

i. To serve at the OGI games;



- ii. To help with fund raising or other activities;
- iii. To act impartially or in the best interest of OGI.

The OGIC will terminate an individual's membership of the NEC if he/she:

- i. Brings OGIC or the games into disrepute;
- ii. Participates in any activity which is considered illegal in either the UK, the EU or in any country which is recognised by either the UK or EU authorities;
- iii. Is a member of an organisation considered to be racist, terrorist, illegal or proscribed by either the UK or EU authorities or any country recognised by either the UK or EU authorities;
- iv. Is convicted of any criminal offence in the UK, the EU or in any country which is recognised by either the UK or EU authorities;
- v. Is considered unsuitable following a DBS check.

#### 26. OGI Reserve Fund Management Committee (hereafter referred to as RFMC)

The RFMC will consist of a minimum of **three** and a maximum of **five** members drawn from the NEC.

#### 27. Duty of the RFMC

The RFMC will use all reasonable effort to ensure:

- i. The proper financial control of the OGI Reserve Fund (hereafter referred to as the RF);
- ii. That funds in the RF are used only for the purpose of promoting, advertising, and staging of the OGI games and all reasonable, and legal day-day activities which this may involve;
- iii. Maintain due diligence on how funds in the RF are managed, invested, or allocated and ensure that all activities which it supports are legal and in accordance with English Law.
- iv. That a proper set of accounts are kept, and are readily available for inspection to any person or organisations, who have just cause to request their viewing;
- v. That a proper set of accounts are presented to the General Assembly at the BGM for their approval.



#### 28. Meeting of the RFMC

A chairperson of the RFMC will be elected by its members. If any member of the RFMC has also been elected as Honorary President of OGIC, then they will become the de facto chairperson and the members will elect a vice chairperson, to act in their absence.

The RFMC may meet, from time to time or as it sees fit, either in person or online via Zoom (or equivalent platform).

A meeting of the RFMC will be held for the following reasons:

- i. It receives a request from OGIC for additional funding;
- ii. Decides to change investment strategies;
- iii. Discuss the misuse or misappropriation of funds;
- iv. Approve the accounts for presentation to the GA;

#### 29. <u>Voting procedure of RFMC</u>

A vote must be called of the members of the RFMC, before any funds can be allocated, apportioned or investment strategies changed.

With the exception of the approval of accounts, a simple majority in favour, is all that is required to pass a proposal, with the chairperson having the casting vote.

The accounts can only be approved with a unanimous vote.

The following criteria must be met before any vote can be held:

- i. Members are given at least 48 hours' notice of a meeting excluding Saturday and Sunday;
- ii. At least three of the members are present before a vote is taken.

#### 30. Communication of RFMC voting decisions

The RFMC will communicate the result of any vote taken and explain its decision, either electronically or in writing, to OGIC within 48 hours of the vote being taken unless, the vote was held on a Friday, in which case the result and the explanation, will be communicated on the first Monday, after the vote.

#### 31. <u>Finances</u>

Both the OGIC & RFMC will use all reasonable effort and care to ensure that:



- i. Proper financial controls are in place;
- ii. Funds are used only for the purpose of promoting, advertising, and staging of the OGI games;
- iii. Funds or any property belonging to the OGI is not distributed or transferred to any member of the OGIC, NEC or General Assembly;
- iv. A proper set of accounts are kept, and are kept readily available for inspection to any person or organisations who have just cause to request their viewing;
- v. Funds are not misappropriated or used for any illegal activities;
- vi. A proper set of accounts are presented to the General Assembly at the BGM for their approval.

#### 32. Dissolution

The OGIC may be dissolved by the General Assembly following a calling of an EGM and a vote being taken.

If the OGIC is dissolved, at the same meeting the General Assembly may elect a new OGIC. If no agreement is reached, at this meeting, on the election of a new OGIC then the General Assembly can assume control of OGI or request that the NEC take control, for a maximum period of 60 days.

Within the 60 days, the General Assembly or the NEC must give at least 14 days' notice and call another EGM and at this meeting elect a new OGIC. If no agreement is reached on the election of a new OGIC then OGI, the NEC and the RFMC, will be dissolved and all debts paid in full and any monies remaining, including all monies held in the OGI Reserve Fund distributed to either the Great Ormond Street Hospital, a children's charity, or equally distributed between children's charities or Italian organisations, as chosen by the General Assembly.

#### 33. <u>Sunset Clause</u>

The RFMC will be dissolved with immediate effect and, full control of all OGI Reserve Funds and investments will pass immediately to the OGIC, if any one of the following conditions occur:

- i. There are insufficient members serving on the NEC to form the RFMC;
- ii. Insufficient members of the NEC are prepared to serve on the RFMC to achieve the minimum voting number required of three;
- iii. The total number of members serving on the RFMC falls below the minimum required (Three) during its term of office and there are insufficient



replacement/s available to return the RFMC to the required minimum within 28 days (excl. Sat & Sun) of the event occurring;

- iv. The total value of the Reserve Fund, be it in cash held on deposit, investments or both combined, falls below five thousand pounds (£5,000.00);
- v. The RFMC is found to have abused its powers or not acted in accordance with the conditions as defined in the constitution;
- vi. The RFMC is found to have acted illegally or in such a way, as to bring OGI, OGIC or the NEC, be it individually or collectively, into disrepute;
- vii. At least four years after its date of formation, the GA votes to dissolve the RFMC at a BGM or EGM.

Furthermore, this sunset clause allows for the immediate amendment of the OGI constitution, so that all references to the RFMC, be it main or sub sections, can be removed and the constitution altered accordingly, without the need for a vote to be held at either a BGM or EGM by the GA.

Additionally, when this occurs, the Sunset Clause will also expire and any reference to it will be removed and the constitution altered accordingly, without the need for a vote to be held at either a BGM or EGM by the GA.

#### 34. Approval of Constitution

This	constitution	was read	and a	pproved	by the	GA	at the BGN	M/EGM*	held on:
					(*Please delete which not applicable)				

Date:
Location: St-Potor's Italian Club
Signature:
Print name & position: MARCO BARDETTI PRESIDENT
Witnessed by: Mio Splight. Print name: LIVIO SPAGNOLI
Print name: LIVID SPACWOLI

#### This constitution replaces all previous versions.

Revised 2024 V1.2 © XVII