International Pole and Aerial Sports Federation (IPSF) Policy on Continental Championship Hosting and Qualification

Version 1.0
Effective date: 30-AUG-2026
Approved by the IPSF Executive Committee on: 30-AUG-2026

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a fair, transparent, and consistent framework governing athlete eligibility for IPSF Continental Championships. This policy supports the development of high-quality continental championships while providing Member Federations and athletes with a clear and objective pathway to international competition.

2. Definitions

- Member Federation means an organization recognized by the International Pole Sports Federation (IPSF) as the official national governing body for Pole and/or Aerial Sports within a country.
- National Championship means an IPSF-sanctioned National Championship conducted in accordance with the IPSF Rules & Regulations.
- Executive Committee means the governing body of the International Pole Sports Federation (IPSF) authorized under the IPSF Statutes.

3. Championships Covered

This policy applies to all official IPSF Continental Championships, including:

- European Championship
- Pan-American Championship
- Australasian Championship
- African Championship

No more than one (1) official IPSF Continental Championship shall be held per continent in a calendar year as a stand-alone competition. These competitions do not serve as qualification for the World Pole & Aerial Championships (WPAC). The qualification process for the WPAC remains exclusively governed by the IPSF Rules & Regulations via the National Championship qualification pathway.

At Continental Championships, each athlete competes for the official title of IPSF [Continental Name] Champion 20XX (e.g., IPSF European Champion 2027).

4. Host Eligibility

To be eligible for a Continental Championship, a host must:

- Be an IPSF Member Federation in good standing.
- Meet all IPSF membership requirements.
- Comply with all IPSF Rules & Regulations.

- Offer all applicable age, division, and categories.
- Comply with all IPSF policies & regulations (e.g., Anti-Doping).
- Meet the qualification criteria outlined in this policy.

5. Hosting Rights & Host Selection

The right to host an IPSF Continental Championship is granted by the IPSF Executive Committee.

- Application Process: Member Federations in good standing may submit a formal application/bid to host a Continental Championship in accordance with the requirements set out in the IPSF Organiser Manual.
- Hosting Eligibility: To be eligible to host a Continental Championship, a Member Federation must fully comply with all IPSF standards (e.g. apparatus norms), Rules & Regulations and Organiser Manual, including the successful and compliant execution of their own National Championship.
- Inaugural / Transitional Allocation: For inaugural editions or under exceptional circumstances, the IPSF Executive Committee retains the authority to directly designate a host federation or location to ensure the successful establishment of the championship.

6. Qualification Principle

Continental Championships are intended to provide meaningful international competition opportunities while maintaining all IPSF standards of competition, build continental prestige, and support athlete development across all IPSF Member Federations within a continent. Qualification shall be based on objective results achieved at an IPSF-sanctioned National Championship.

7. Standard Qualification & Athlete Quotas

Unless otherwise approved by the IPSF Executive Committee, the Top Five (5) athletes from the IPSF-sanctioned National Championship of the preceding calendar year (Year X-1) qualify for selection. Qualified athletes represent their Member Federation—or their country, if no Member Federation exists—at the corresponding Continental Championship. Qualification applies independently within each:

- Discipline
- Division (at minimum: Sports: Elite | Artistic: Professional)
- Age Category
- Gender Category
- Doubles Category
- Group Category
- Para Category

Member Federations may enter eligible athletes up to the maximum athlete quota, provided that selection is offered to qualified athletes in order of their final ranking. If a qualified athlete declines participation, the Member Federation may invite the next highest-ranked eligible athlete from the same National Championship (up to the 8th place).

The IPSF Executive Committee reserves the right to directly approve participation of a qualified athlete if a Member Federation unreasonably denies an eligible athlete's participation.

Where a Member Federation is unable to conduct a National Championship or no Member Federation exists, the IPSF Executive Committee may approve an alternative qualification pathway, such as a national ranking based on open competition results from the previous season.

Quota Adjustments: The IPSF Executive Committee reserves the right to adjust maximum athlete quotas (e.g., Top 3 or Top 5) for specific Continental Championships based on venue capacity and operational logistics.

8. Organisational Synergies & Co-Hosting

To ensure financial sustainability, optimize championship logistics, and reduce travel costs for the organizing federation, judges, and athletes, a Continental Championship may be co-hosted alongside an IPSF-sanctioned National Championship, provided that the independent

identity, branding, and results of the Continental Championship are strictly maintained.

9. Exceptional Circumstances

Where extraordinary circumstances exist—including cancellation of a National Championship, force majeure, political or travel restrictions, newly admitted Member Federations, or other exceptional situations—the Executive Committee may approve reasonable exceptions. All exceptions shall be documented, applied consistently, shall not create precedent, and shall be proportionate, reasonable, and consistent with the objectives of this policy.

10. Publication

Qualification requirements, athlete quotas, registration timelines, and any championship specific provisions shall be published before athlete registration opens via the official IPSF website and/or on a dedicated Continental Championship page on the host country's official website

11. Authority

The IPSF Executive Committee retains full authority to:

- Establish athlete quotas and registration criteria.
- Determine qualification timelines.
- Approve exceptional qualification requests.
- Interpret and update this policy.

12. Governing Documents

In the event of inconsistency between this policy and the IPSF Statutes, Rules & Regulations, or mandatory applicable law, the IPSF Constitution and applicable law shall prevail. In the event of any ambiguity or dispute regarding the interpretation of this policy, the decision of the IPSF Executive Committee shall be final and binding.

13. Intellectual Property and Amendments

This policy is the intellectual property of the IPSF. The Executive Committee may amend this policy in accordance with the IPSF Statutes and governance procedures. This policy takes effect upon approval and remains in force until amended or repealed.

14. Document Control

Version	Approval date and Approved by	Effective date	Latest review date	Summary of changes
1	30-AUG-2026 by Executive Commission	30-AUG-2026	30-AUG-2026	Initial Adoption

This policy is enacted by the Executive Committee pursuant to its authority under Article 30(13) (Powers of the Executive Committee) of the IPSF Constitution. This document must only be used for competitions endorsed by the International Pole and Aerial Sports Federation (IPSF). It is a criminal offence to reproduce or utilise this document without the express permission of the IPSF. Please note that this is a working document and therefore subject to change. Any and all changes will be communicated before they are implemented.