

# RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE UNIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PICKLEBALL FEDERATION (IPF) AND THE WORLD PICKLEBALL FEDERATION (WPF) INTO A SINGLE GLOBAL GOVERNING BODY

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Location: Via Zoom with link to be sent at least 2 days prior to meeting

Preamble:

Recognising the shared goals and complementary missions of the International Pickleball Federation (IPF) and the World Pickleball Federation (WPF) to regulate, develop, and promote pickleball globally, and acknowledging the need for a singular, unified international governing body to enhance the sport's growth, governance, credibility, and Olympic aspirations.

Acknowledging the WPF's existing framework and governance structure, as detailed in its [bylaws](#) in force from April 2023, and the collaborative work undertaken by the Unified Board to lay the foundations for integration.

This Resolution Proposes:

## 1. Formation of a Unified Federation

That the IPF and WPF agree to unify under a single international governing body. This entity will retain the name "World Pickleball Federation (WPF)" during the transition period and until a new Board is appointed and ratifies any change to the name or brand identity.

## 2. Governance and Transitional Arrangements

That the existing Unified Board, composed of representatives from both IPF and WPF, shall continue to operate as the interim governing body until the first Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the unified WPF.

- The Unified Board has already undertaken key integration steps, including the drafting of proposed unified bylaws and agreement to establish the unified WPF in Lausanne, Switzerland. A short presentation will be shared at the Special General Meeting.

- This Unified Transition Board (made up of Marlon Schulman, Dwight Crawford, Karen Mitchell, Steve Kuhn and Mike Jacki), will remain in place through the transition period, ensuring operational stability and knowledge transfer.

- At the AGM, a new Board will be democratically elected by the membership.

- For continuity, the current Presidents of IPF and WPF will remain on the Board for a period of twelve (12) months post-AGM in non-voting advisory roles unless elected to formal positions.

## 3. Membership Continuity

To preserve continuity while adhering to the guiding democratic principle of "One Country One Vote":

All National Federations (aka National Governing Body or NGB) (as recognized by their country government) currently in Good Standing with either IPF or WPF:

- Will be automatically recognized as founding members of the unified WPF; however,
- Must submit confirmation of adherence to the new bylaws once ratified.
- Will be invited to participate in the development and ratification of the WPF's first Strategic Plan.

In such circumstance that more than one country entity exists in any country, without any being recognized by that country as the National Federation or National Governing Body (NGB), then unified WPF will encourage the pickleball organizations to consolidate into a single national entity. To facilitate this process, support and mediation will be provided, where required and requested. Should these entities fail to merge within six months, and the national Government of that country has failed to select a single representative entity, the new Membership Committee will evaluate the organizations independently against unified WPF's membership criteria and select one as the official representative, with the other organization losing its membership status.

#### 4. Ratification and Effective Date

That this resolution be subject to approval:

- By a two-thirds majority vote at Special General Meetings (SGM) of both IPF and WPF (individually), in accordance with their respective bylaws.
- With the effective date of unification to be 14<sup>th</sup> June, following successful ratification.

#### 5. Dissolution of Legacy Structures

That, upon full operational commencement of the unified WPF:

- The legacy legal entities of IPF and pre-merger WPF be dissolved or restructured as advisory or archival entities, as mutually agreed.
- All assets of both entities be transferred to the unified WPF.

Signatories:

Signed on behalf of the IPF:

*A.R. Prabhoo*

Arvind Ramesh Prabhoo

President, International Pickleball Federation

Signed on behalf of the WPF:

*Seymour Rifkind*

Seymour Rifkind

President, World Pickleball Federation