



GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FOOTBALL FOR DOWN SYNDROME (FIFDS)

CHAPTER I – INSTITUTION

Art. 1 – The International Federation of Football for Down Syndrome (FIFDS) is the highest authority responsible for organizing, regulating, and promoting Football, Futsal, Beach Soccer, and 7-a-side Football for athletes with Down Syndrome at the international level.

Art. 2 – FIFDS is founded on the principles of inclusion, respect, equal opportunities, and the promotion of sports development for people with Down Syndrome in all member countries.

CHAPTER II – NATIONAL CONFEDERATIONS

Art. 3 – Only countries with an active national confederation officially recognized by their government and registered with FIFDS may become affiliated members.

Art. 4 – Countries without an active and recognized confederation **may not participate** in official competitions organized by FIFDS.

Sole Paragraph: If it is proven that no national confederation exists in a given country, the **President of the Republic** of that country may formally request FIFDS authorization to appoint a legal representative to participate in competitions, whether for national teams or clubs.

CHAPTER III – PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Art. 5 – All official competitions organized by FIFDS (World Cups, continental tournaments, club world championships, etc.) **shall follow FIFA's technical regulations**, unless modified during technical congresses by vote of the majority of participating teams.



Art. 6 – Only clubs officially **nominated and recognized by their national confederation** may participate in FIFDS international club competitions.

§1 – In the absence of a confederation in a given country, the **President of the Republic** may appoint a team and a legal representative to compete.

§2 – All teams qualified for international events **must renew their registration with FIFDS starting in the second half of 2025**, following the official calendar.

CHAPTER IV – ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

Art. 7 – To participate in any official FIFDS competition, **all athletes must present a karyotype exam**, confirming trisomy of chromosome 21 (Down Syndrome).

Art. 8 – Medical documentation must be validated and archived by the national confederation and then submitted to FIFDS within the established deadlines for each competition.

CHAPTER V – MODALITIES AND TECHNICAL RULES

Art. 9 – FIFDS officially recognizes the following sports modalities:

- Futsal
- Football (11-a-side)
- Beach Soccer
- 7-a-side Football

Art. 10 – **FIFA's official rules** shall be followed in all modalities, and may be **adapted by vote in technical congresses** involving team representatives, always aiming to improve conditions for athletes with Down Syndrome.



CHAPTER VI – FINAL PROVISIONS

Art. 11 – FIFDS reserves the right to amend these regulations by decision of the Executive Council and approval by the General Assembly.

Art. 12 – Omissions in this regulation will be analyzed by FIFDS's Legal Department and resolved by the Executive Committee.

President:

Alberto Costa

Technical Director:

Cleiton Monteiro