[Insert Name of sport organization] (the 'Organization')
DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY

Definitions

1. Terms in this Policy that carry specific meaning will be capitalized; their definitions are provided in Appendix A of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*

Purpose

2. The Organization supports the principles of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and is committed to the techniques of negotiation, facilitation, and mediation as effective ways to resolve disputes. ADR also avoids the uncertainty, costs, and other negative effects associated with lengthy appeals or complaints, or with litigation.

3. The Organization encourages Participants to communicate openly, and to collaborate and use problem-solving and negotiation techniques to resolve their differences. The Organization believes that negotiated settlements are most often preferable to arbitrated outcomes. Negotiated settlements to disputes with and among Participants are strongly encouraged.

Application of this Policy

4. This Policy applies to Participants.

5. Opportunities for ADR may be pursued at any point in a dispute when all parties to the dispute agree that such a course of action would be mutually beneficial.

Facilitation and Mediation

6. If the Parties to a dispute agree to ADR, a mediator or facilitator, acceptable to the Parties, shall be appointed to mediate or facilitate the dispute.

7. The mediator or facilitator shall decide the format under which the dispute shall be mediated or facilitated and may, if they consider it appropriate, specify a deadline before which the parties must reach a negotiated decision.

8. Should a negotiated settlement be reached, the settlement shall be reported to the Organization for approval. Any actions that are to take place as a result of the decision shall be enacted on the timelines specified by the negotiated decision, pending approval.

9. Should a negotiated settlement not be reached by any deadline set by the mediator or facilitator, or if the parties to the dispute do not agree to ADR, the dispute shall be considered under the appropriate section of the *Discipline and Complaints Policy* or *Appeal Policy,* as applicable.

Final and Binding

10. Any negotiated settlement will be binding on the parties. Negotiated settlements may not be appealed.

Policy History	
Approved	
Next Review Date	