

THE OLD VERSION (2014) OF THE CHARTER OF THE BOXING FEDERATION OF UZBEKISTAN: AN ORGANIZATIONAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

Tillaboyev Shoxid Gapparjonovich

Secretary General of the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan

ABSTRACT. This article presents an organizational-legal analysis of the Charter of the Uzbekistan Boxing Federation (former edition), approved in 2014. The document was examined chapter by chapter using a content-analysis method, systematically outlining the Federation's aims and objectives, membership procedures, governing bodies (Conference, Executive Committee, Chairman, General Secretary, Coaches' Council), property and financial foundations, and the powers of the Control and Audit Commission. The analysis shows that the Charter aligns with the norms of the International Boxing Association (AIBA/IBA) and the International Olympic Committee, while being grounded in national legislation on non-governmental non-profit organizations. The article may serve as a methodological basis for further research into the evolution of governing documents of national sports federations.

Keywords: boxing federation; charter; sport governance; organizational-legal analysis; Executive Committee; public association.

INTRODUCTION

The charter documents of national sports federations constitute the primary legal source defining their organizational structure, governance mechanisms, and relationships with international sports organizations. Over the past decade, research on international sports governance has expanded significantly. Geeraert [2] developed the *National Sports Governance Observer*, an instrument for assessing the quality of governance in national sports federations, and identified significant shortcomings in transparency and accountability in many federations. Chappelet and Mrkonjic [3] proposed the BIBGIS (*Basic Indicators for Better Governance in International Sport*) system, which enables the assessment of the level of “good governance” in international sports organizations, identifying transparency, democratic processes, and internal control as key criteria. Geeraert, Alm, and Groll

[4] conducted a comparative analysis of the governance documents of 35 international federations affiliated with the Olympic Movement and demonstrated that most of them did not fully incorporate modern governance principles, such as term limits for office holders, regulation of conflicts of interest, and gender representation. Chappelet [5], in turn, substantiated the need for institutional reform in international sports organizations and emphasized the necessity of periodically updating their governance documents.

These studies demonstrate that the quality and transparency of federation charters have a direct impact on their institutional stability. The Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan (BFU) operates as the only non-governmental non-profit organization with special authority to govern and develop Olympic boxing in Uzbekistan. The 2014 version of the Federation's Charter, which was used prior to the current revised version, had served as the legal foundation for the Federation's activities for an extended period. The document was initially registered in 1992 and subsequently re-registered in 1997.

However, despite the international literature discussed above, specific academic analyses of the charter documents of national sports federations in Uzbekistan remain insufficiently developed. Therefore, the purpose of this article is to systematically analyze the structure and content of the old version of the Charter and to determine its compliance with the standards of international boxing organizations (AIBA and subsequently IBA) as well as with national legislation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research object was the *Charter of the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan* (old version, Tashkent, 2014). The document consists of 18 chapters and was signed by M.K. Babayev, the First Deputy Chairman of the Federation.

The study employed document content analysis, a widely used qualitative research method. Each chapter was examined separately, and its content was analyzed according to the following categories: (1) general provisions and official status; (2) goals, objectives, and functions; (3) membership procedures; (4) governing bodies and their powers; (5) property and financial foundations; (6) control mechanisms; and (7) procedures for reorganization and liquidation.

During the analysis, the text of the document was assessed within a comparative framework against the general principles established by the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan *On Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations* and the Law *On Public Associations in the Republic of Uzbekistan*, as well as the Olympic Charter and the Charter of the IBA (formerly AIBA).

The stages of the document's registration are presented in **Figure 1**.

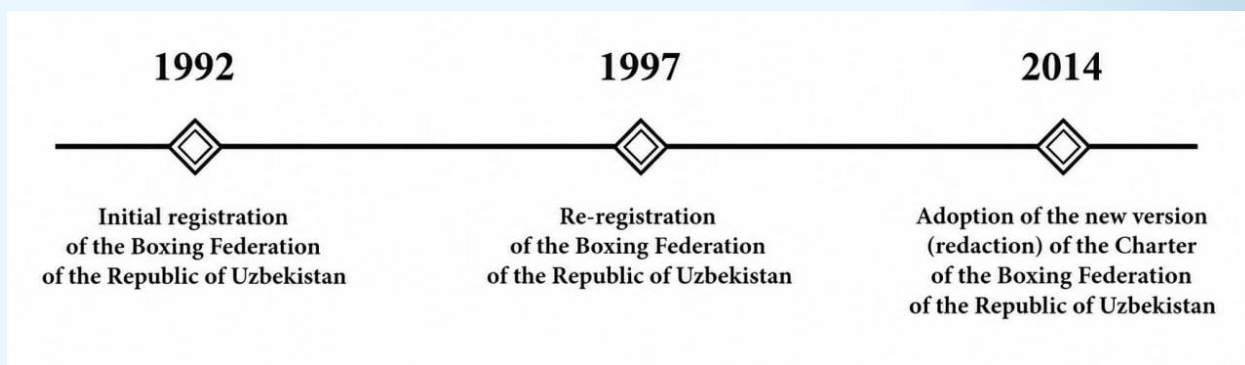


Figure 1. Registration History of the Charter of the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan
(Source: analysis of the text of the document).

RESULTS. The Statute consists of 18 chapters covering: general provisions; the main goals and objectives of the Federation; its principal functions; conditions for admission to and termination of membership, as well as the rights and obligations of members; territorial divisions; the rights of the Federation; the obligations of the Federation; the structure and governing bodies (the Conference); voting procedures and the procedure for decisions to enter into force; the Executive Committee; the President of the Federation; the Secretary General; the Coaches' Council; sources of property and financial resources; the Audit and Control Commission; reorganization and dissolution; procedures for amending the Statute; and final provisions.

1) Goals and objectives. Chapter II of the Statute sets out six main goals (2.1) and seven objectives (2.2), among which particular importance is attached to the development of Olympic boxing, the patriotic education of young people, compliance with the technical rules of AIBA/JBS/APB, and ensuring the safety of boxers.

2) Membership system. According to Chapter IV, membership in the Federation is voluntary and unlimited. Individuals over the age of 18 and teams may become members. Four grounds for termination of membership are specified: death, change of citizenship, violation of the rules of the Olympic Charter, and a decision of a Federation body. The rights and obligations of members are also clearly regulated, with ten rights and six obligations specified in Sections 4.5–4.8.

3) Governing bodies. The supreme governing body of the Federation is the Conference. The Reporting and Election Conference is convened once every four years, while an ordinary Conference is convened at least once every two years (8.1). Between Conferences, overall management is carried out by the Executive Committee, consisting of no more than 15 members (10.1). The President has broad powers, including acting on behalf of the Federation without a power of attorney, issuing orders and directives, and providing the first signature on financial documents (11.1–11.16). The Secretary General is responsible for preparing annual reports and formalizing minutes (12.1–12.4). A separate Coaches' Council is responsible for forming the national team and resolving disputes (13.1–13.2). The relationships of subordination and control among the governing bodies are summarized in Figure 2.

4) Property, finance, and control. Chapter XIV identifies nine sources of the Federation's property and financial resources, including sponsorship, membership fees, state grants, and income from entrepreneurial activities. Financial and economic activities are supervised by the Audit and Control Commission (ACC), consisting of at least three members elected by the Conference. The Commission conducts an audit at least once every two years (15.1–16.4).

5) Reorganization and dissolution. According to Chapter XVI, the reorganization of the Federation is carried out by a decision of the Conference adopted by at least a two-thirds ($2/3$) majority of the delegates' votes. In the event of dissolution, after the claims of creditors have been satisfied, the remaining property may not be distributed among the Federation's members (16.1–16.3), which is consistent with the general legal norms applicable to non-governmental non-profit organizations.

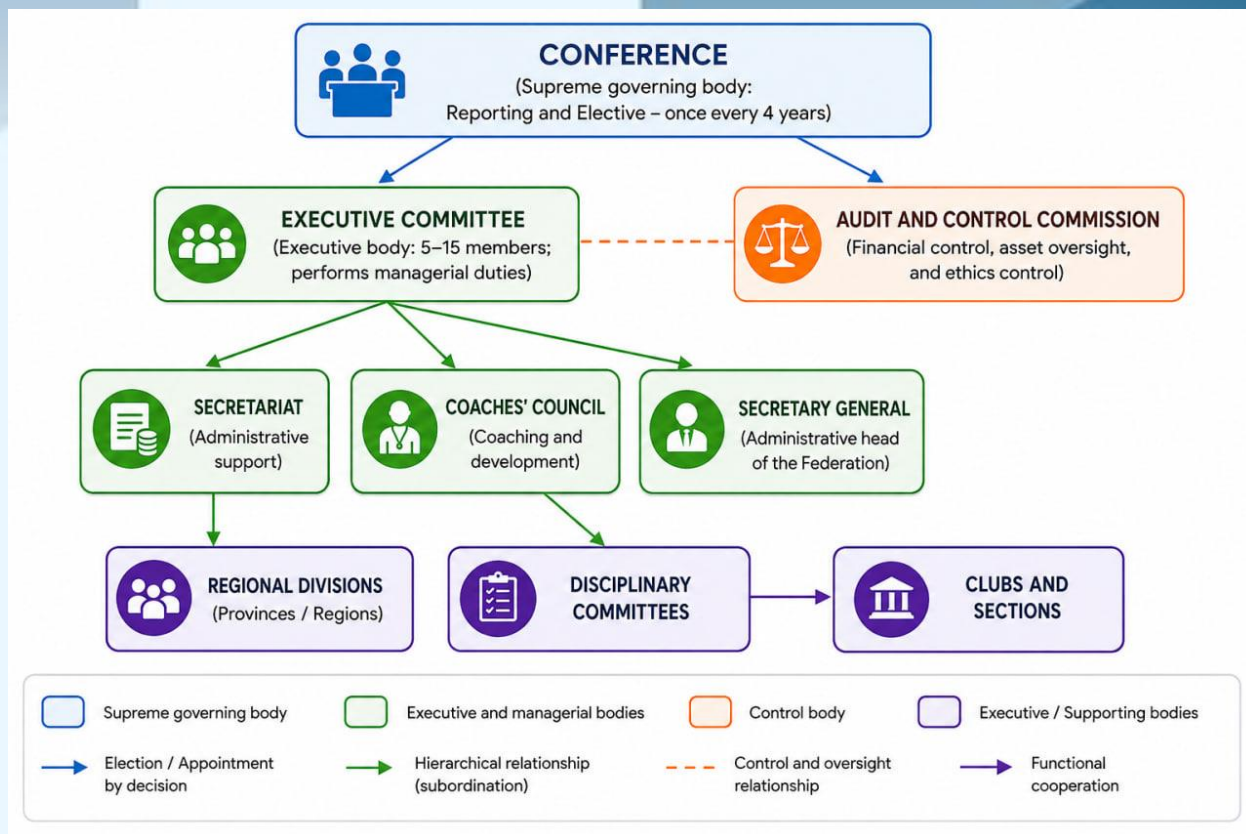


Figure 2. Governance Structure of the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan under the Charter (old version, 2014), prepared by the author based on the text of the document.

DISCUSSION

The analysis demonstrates that, during its period of validity, the 2014 version of the old Charter ensured the Federation’s compliance with the principles of the international boxing movement (AIBA, JBS, APB, and IOC), while also being fully grounded in the national legislation governing non-governmental non-profit organizations. The strengths of the document include the detailed regulation of membership rights and obligations, a multi-level financial control system (Executive Committee – NTK – Conference), and the establishment of a clear legal status for regional branches.

At the same time, from the perspective of modern international sports governance standards, particularly the “good governance” indicators proposed by Chappelet and Mrkonjic [3], several aspects were not addressed as separate provisions in the document. These include term limits for leadership positions, a specific provision regulating conflicts of interest, and clearly defined indicators concerning gender

representation. How these aspects were incorporated into the subsequently adopted new version of the Charter may constitute a separate subject for comparative research.

CONCLUSION

The 2014 old version of the Charter of the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan can be regarded as a comprehensive document that established a solid legal foundation for the Federation's activities. Consisting of 18 chapters, it covered all major aspects of the Federation's operation, ranging from its goals and objectives to procedures for reorganization and liquidation.

The document demonstrates an alignment between national legislation and the regulatory principles of international boxing organizations. The findings may provide a methodological basis for comparative and historical studies of the charter documents of national sports federations, as well as for evaluating the changes introduced between previous and current versions of such documents.

REFERENCES

1. *Charter of the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan* (old version). Tashkent, 2014. 13 p.
2. Geeraert, A. *National Sports Governance Observer: Final Report*. Copenhagen: Play the Game/Danish Institute for Sports Studies, 2018.
3. Chappelet, J.-L., & Mrkonjic, M. *Basic Indicators for Better Governance in International Sport (BIBGIS): An Assessment Tool for International Sport Governing Bodies*. IDHEAP Working Paper, 2013.
4. Geeraert, A., Alm, J., & Groll, M. Good governance in international sport organizations: An analysis of the 35 Olympic sport governing bodies. *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*, 2014, 6(3), 281–306.
5. Chappelet, J.-L. Beyond governance: The need to overhaul international sport. *Sport in Society*, 2016, 19(1), 8–13.
6. *Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations*. Tashkent, 1999.

7. *Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Public Associations in the Republic of Uzbekistan*. Tashkent, 1991.
8. International Olympic Committee. *Olympic Charter*. Lausanne: International Olympic Committee, 2023.