

# CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE 1 General Provisions

101.1 **Name.** The name of the Not-For-Profit Corporation is East Coast Gold Weightlifting Team, herein after referred to as the Team or ECG.

Whenever a reference is made to any portion of this Constitution and By-Laws, the reference applies to all amendments and additions now or hereafter made.

101.2 **Definitions.** For the purpose of this Constitution and By-Laws, certain abbreviations, words, phrases are defined.

**Athlete** or weightlifter shall mean any athlete who meets the eligibility standards established by USA Weightlifting.

**Weightlifting Competition** shall mean a contest, meet, tournament or other event in which weightlifters compete.

**BOD** shall mean the ECG Board of Directors.

**Board of Directors** shall mean the officers and members of ECG who direct the conduct of the general business of ECG.

**Drug Testing** shall mean approved or conducted testing by national and/or international sports bodies for unauthorized use of substances, by athletes, that are listed, or may become listed, by the USOC, USAW, IOC, IWF.

**Federation** shall mean USA Weightlifting and National Federation and USAW.

**IOC** shall mean the International Olympic Committee.

**IWF** shall mean the International Weightlifting Federation.

**Member** shall mean any athlete, coach, honorary member, individual member, associate member, who has met the requirements of memberships of ECG.

**Satellite Center** shall mean a location where members gather to practice for weightlifting competitions or to coach new prospects.

**USOC** shall mean the United States Olympic Committee.

**USAW** shall mean USA Weightlifting.

**United States Olympic Committee** is the ultimate ruling body of all Olympic and Pan American sports in the United States.

**USA Weightlifting** is the National Governing Body for Weightlifting in the United States.

**Weightlifting** in the text shall mean the sport consisting of the two (2) weightlifting events called the Snatch and the Clean & Jerk and the total of those two combined. It shall also mean the program of competition as defined by the International Weightlifting Federation.

Such other definitions as will be found necessary will be contained in their appropriate sections.

101.3 **Purposes and Objectives.** The purposes and objectives of the ECG Weightlifting Team are to develop and prepare medal winning ECG weightlifters for the Nationals and to promote, improve and develop all aspects of weightlifting in the Middle Atlantic region and surrounding regions.

101.4 **Powers and Jurisdiction.** The President shall be autonomous in the administration of the sport of weightlifting and, to that end:

- 1) Supervise events directly relating to USAW sanctioned competitions.
- 2) Represent ECG as a member in good standing with the USAW.
- 3) Organize, finance and control the representation of all ECG weightlifting teams in national competitions.
- 4) Facilitate, through orderly and effective administrative procedures, the resolution of conflicts or disputes, which involve any of its members and any properly registered weightlifter, coach, trainer, manager, and administrator.
- 5) Make contracts and/or letters of agreement.
- 6) Acquire, hold and dispose of real and ECG-owned property as may be necessary for its corporate purposes.
- 7) Borrow money to carry out its purposes, subject to the laws of the United States or any State.
- 8) Accept gifts, legacies and devices in furtherance of its purposes.
- 9) Provide assistance to any satellite center in furtherance of the purposes of USAW and ECG.
- 10) Approve and revoke membership in the ECG Weightlifting Team.
- 11) Establish and maintain offices for the conduct of the affairs of the ECG Weightlifting Team.
- 12) Publish a newsletter consistent with its purposes.
- 13) Do any and all acts and things necessary to carry out the purposes of the ECG Weightlifting Team.
- 14) Amend its Constitution and By-Laws and Procedures in a manner not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the USAW, Constitution and By-Laws of the USOC, the Constitution and By-Laws of the IWF, and the laws of the United States or any State.
- 15) Within the Powers and Jurisdiction of the ECG Weightlifting Team as so stated, the ECG Weightlifting Team shall remain nonpolitical, and as an organization shall not promote the candidacy of any person seeking public office.
- 16) The ECG Weightlifting Team will provide an equal opportunity to athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in athletic competition without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin and with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing to any athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official before declaring such individual ineligible to participate.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **Members**

102.1 **Classes.** The membership of the ECG Weightlifting Team shall consist of the following:

- 1) **Supporting Members.** Eligible for Supporting Member status shall be those individuals or corporations who are members of ECG Weightlifting Team on an annual basis by payment of a donation to help further the purposes of the Team.
- 2) **Honorary Members.** Eligible for honorary membership shall be those individuals deserving and worthy of honorary membership, and whom the Board selects.
- 3) **Individual Members.** Any person who pays registration dues to the Federation in any specific membership category or categories, such as, athlete, administrator, coach or official.
- 4) **Associate Members.** A membership level given by the President for a specific purpose, or purposes, for a specified period of time, without any other benefits. An Associate Membership has no fee attached, and such membership is terminated at the end of the time period placed upon it.

102.2 **Eligibility for Membership.** Eligibility for each of the classes of membership on the ECG Weightlifting Team shall be as set forth herein and as specified by the Board from time to time. The Team will not have eligibility criteria relating to athlete status, which are more restrictive than those of the IWF.

102.3 **Application.** Any person or organization desiring to become a member of the Team shall make application to the President. Such application shall be a form prescribed by the Board.

102.4 **Dues.** Each member shall pay dues to the Team periodically, an amount, if any, determined by the Board.