

Bylaws of the International Fog and Dew Association (IFDA)

Adopted by the board, August 2026

Article I — Name and Purpose

Section 1.1 — Name. The organization shall be known as the International Fog and Dew Association (hereinafter “IFDA” or “the Association”).

Section 1.2 — Purpose. The purpose of the Association is to advance the scientific study of fog and dew and related atmospheric phenomena, and in particular by:

- (a) organizing and sustaining the International Conference on Fog and Dew;
 - (b) fostering communication and collaboration among researchers, practitioners, and students working in relevant fields worldwide;
 - (c) coordinating joint scientific activities with other international bodies, including co-organized sessions at international conferences and collaborative review publications;
 - (d) maintaining channels of ongoing communication among members, including a mailing list and an official website.
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Article II — Membership

Section 2.1 — Membership. The Association has no formal membership register. Any person who participates in an IFDA meeting (Section 3.3), whether in person or remotely, is thereby considered a member of the Association for the purposes of these Bylaws.

Section 2.2 — Rights. Members are entitled to receive Association communications, vote in elections held at IFDA meetings, and stand for election to the Board.

Article III — The Conference Series

Section 3.1 — Frequency. The Association shall hold an International Conference, typically once every three years (the “Conference”).

Section 3.2 — Location. The location of the Conference is selected by the Board following an open call for applications, taking into account geographic diversity, local organizational

capacity, and the interest of candidate host institutions. The decision shall be announced at the previous conference, i.e. typically three years in advance.

Section 3.3 — Business Meeting. Each Conference shall include a plenary business meeting open to all attendees at which the Board reports on the activities of the Association and elections are held pursuant to Article V.

Article IV — The Board

Section 4.1 — Composition. The Board shall consist of approximately twelve (12) members. The precise number may vary slightly from one term to the next, at the discretion of the outgoing Board, to accommodate the balance requirements set out in Section 4.2.

Section 4.2 — Balance. In selecting the Board, active effort shall be made to ensure reasonable balance with respect to:

- (a) gender;
- (b) field of specialisation within fog and dew research;
- (c) country and region of residence, with the goal of broad geographic representation; and
- (d) career stage, so that early-career, mid-career, and senior researchers are all represented.

These criteria shall guide both nominations and the final election process.

Section 4.3 — Term. Board members serve for the interval between successive Conferences, i.e. typically a three-year period.

Section 4.4 — Term Limits. No person shall serve on the Board for more than three terms in total, whether consecutive or non-consecutive.

Section 4.5 — Responsibilities. The Board collectively is responsible for:

- (a) ensuring that the next Conference is planned and organized;
- (b) selecting the location for the Conference following the next one;
- (c) maintaining the Association's mailing list and website, a responsibility typically held by the President;
- (d) representing the Association in external matters;
- (e) organizing joint scientific activities with other bodies; and
- (f) any other matters necessary to fulfil the purposes of the Association.

Section 4.6 — Meetings. The Board shall meet at least once a year. Decisions shall ordinarily be made by simple majority of those participating, with the President casting a deciding vote in the event of a tie.

Section 4.7 — Vacancies. If a Board seat becomes vacant between Conferences, the Board may co-opt a replacement to serve the remainder of the term, giving due regard to the balance criteria of Section 4.2.

Section 4.8 — Member Removal. A board member may be removed from the Board by a two-thirds majority vote of the full Board for misconduct, prolonged inactivity or conflict of interest. The member must be given a two week time span to explain the situation before the vote.

Article V — Officers

Section 5.1 — Elected Officers. From among the elected Board members, the Board shall elect the following officers for the ensuing three-year term:

- (a) **President**, who chairs the Board, represents the Association externally, and bears overall responsibility for the Association's activities between Conferences;
- (b) **Chair of the Scientific Committee**, who leads the planning of the scientific programme of the next Conference and coordinates the scientific review activities of the Association.

Section 5.2 — Optional Officers. The Board may additionally elect:

- (a) a **Vice President**, to support and deputize for the President; and
- (b) a **Vice Chair of the Scientific Committee**, to support and deputize for the Chair of the Scientific Committee.

These positions shall be created only if the Board judges them necessary and suitable candidates are available.

Section 5.3 — Term of Officers. Officers serve for the inter-conference period to which they were elected as Board members. Officer terms are not normally renewed; a person who has served as President or Chair of the Scientific Committee is not expected to hold the same office again, though the Board retains discretion to act otherwise in exceptional circumstances.

Section 5.4 — Election of Officers. Officer elections are conducted by the Board at the first meeting following the election of the new Board at each Conference. Elections are by simple majority of Board members present and voting.

Section 5.5 — Removal. An officer may be removed from their officer role (while remaining a Board member) by a two-thirds majority vote of the full Board.

Article VI — Elections to the Board

Section 6.1 — Timing. Board elections are held at the plenary business meeting of each Conference.

Section 6.2 — Nominations. Nominations for the Board shall be solicited from the membership. The outgoing Board shall prepare a slate of candidates designed to satisfy the balance requirements of Section 4.2, and may supplement open nominations with targeted invitations where necessary to achieve balance.

Section 6.3 — Voting. All registered Conference attendees who are members of the Association are entitled to vote. The specific voting procedure (e.g., approval voting, ranked-choice) shall be determined by the outgoing Board and announced in advance.

Section 6.4 — Transition. The outgoing Board remains responsible for Association affairs until the new Board's officer elections under Section 5.4 are complete.

Article VII — Amendments

Section 7.1 — Proposal. Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by the Board or by a petition signed by at least ten (10) members of the Association.

Section 7.2 — Adoption. Amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting at the plenary business meeting of a Conference, provided that the proposed text has been circulated to the membership at least thirty (30) days in advance.

Section 7.3 — Emergency Amendments. Between Conferences, the Board may adopt interim amendments by a two-thirds majority vote of the full Board, subject to ratification by the membership at the next Conference.

Article VIII — Dissolution

Section 8.1 - Dissolution by vote. The association may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting at the plenary business meeting of a Conference, provided that the proposal has been circulated to the membership at least thirty (30) days in advance.

Section 8.2 - Dissolution after inactivity. If no Conferences are organized for seven consecutive years, the Association is dissolved automatically.

Section 8.3 - Assets. Should the Association be dissolved, any remaining assets shall be transferred to one or more non-profit scientific organizations with compatible aims.