

Report of the Ethics Authority

(74th FIL Congress 2026 in Berchtesgaden, Germany)

My main expectation from my report last year was fulfilled at the 73rd FIL Congress in Tampere, Finland: The Congress passed a resolution to incorporate the principles developed in recent years by our former Safe Sport Officer into the Ethics Code as Safe Sport provisions. I would like to thank the Congress for this.

The new provisions allow the FIL Ethics Authority or the FIL Ethics Commission to delegate the Initial Investigation or further investigation proceedings all or in part to a Delegated Third Party. To this end, the FIL entered into a contract with a qualified service provider. I would also like to express my gratitude for this.

During the reporting period following my report of April 18, 2025, at the 73rd FIL Congress, I received several reports of violations of the FIL Ethics Code.

I cannot report on the content of cases, i.e. proceedings based on notifications of violations of the FIL Ethics Code, because as a rule they must not be reported for reasons of personal privacy and the requirement of confidentiality of information and incidents. However, I am allowed to report on the type, number and outcome of cases, and this should be reported.

Prior to the 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Milano/Cortina, complaints were filed alleging that the FIL Ethics Code had been violated in connection with the eligibility of individual neutral athletes. In one case, the complaint was withdrawn; another case was dismissed because no violation was found; and a third case is still to be decided.

As for the other expectations I expressed in my report last year—namely, to raise and reinforce awareness of the importance of integrity—they remain unchanged. The most important elements for maintaining integrity are competence in dealing with ethical issues and, above all, Safe Sport issues; the independence of the persons involved; and the assured confidence of those affected that reports of violations will be handled responsibly. These elements still need to be implemented, from the FIL through the NFs down to the clubs.

Frankfurt am Main, April 10, 2026

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