

## Ethics Officer Report (67th FIL Congress 2019 – Ljubljana)

“The FIL Ethics Code represents an important alignment with the future. *The first step has been taken, yet additional steps remain. The FIL Ethics code must be embodied and borne in mind by everyone associated with the sport of luge*” (FIL Magazine 1/2017)

This system of rules has achieved a certain level of recognition and is generally borne in mind by those who are associated with the sport of luge, but sometimes not. Work has yet to be done.

I will not, however, be addressing specific cases; this is because in general, maintaining people’s privacy and the required confidentiality about information and events prevents such cases from being reported.

Nonetheless, I will address some aspects of the Ethics Code that are particularly relevant to our FIL family. This form of reporting with alternating themes will be a regular feature in years to come.

One major item of concern is the **integrity of the federation management**.

The FIL seeks to ensure the principle of fair play and compliance with rules and laws based on the ethical principles that it has developed.

“Compliance with rules and laws” is to be interpreted broadly. It includes all of the regulations created by the FIL (statutes, IRO, bylaws, FIL Ethics Code, etc.) and all mandatory regulations (such as anti-doping regulations and the IOC system of rules).

The laws that must be obeyed include basic democratic principles, the Charter of Fundamental Rights, etc.

According to the **instruction manual** provided in the FIL Ethics Code,

- transparency, neutrality in choice and internationality in personnel decisions must be ensured.
- conflicts of interest must be disclosed and strictly avoided if possible.
- the overlapping of private interests with those of the FIL and/or its national federations must be strictly avoided and may only be accepted after being reviewed by the responsible authority.
- accepting and/or promising financial or immaterial benefits associated with planning, concluding and implementing business transactions for the FIL or its national federations is forbidden.
- specific, fact-based instances of suspected corruption must be reported to the responsible FIL authority.

In this context, I will not be able to address the specific activities that will be subjected to sanctions. Sufficient information is unavailable at this juncture.

In any event, it can be generally assumed that the FIL Ethics Code is particularly applicable to personnel decisions based on voting. In the future, applicants should explicitly affirm the FIL Ethics Code. Whenever there are questions, it is better to clear the air beforehand than to glibly assume the best.

Waltrop, April 19, 2019

Hiedl, Ethics Authority