

Statutes

Name and Location

ARTICLE 1

1. European Women in Mathematics, informally EWM, is an association established in accordance with the laws of Finland.
2. The seat of EWM is in Helsinki, Finland.

Purpose and Nature of Activities

ARTICLE 2

1. The purposes of EWM are:
 - To encourage women to take up and continue their studies in mathematics and to promote mathematics among women.
 - To support women with or desiring careers in research in mathematics or mathematics related fields.
 - To provide a meeting place for these women.
 - To foster international scientific communications among women within and across all fields of mathematics.
 - To promote equal opportunity and equal treatment of all individuals in the mathematical community.
 - To cooperate with groups and organizations with similar goals.
2. To achieve its aims EWM may organize meetings, conferences, courses and seminars, arrange negotiations, operate as a publisher, prepare proposals and motions, make statements, award grants and prizes, and represent its membership.
3. The association may, according to the situation, act directly, co-operate with individuals or bodies having similar aims, and set up subordinate bodies for special tasks.
4. The association is non-profit making.

Membership

ARTICLE 3

1. Members of the association may be either (a) individuals or (b) corporate bodies with legal status. The number of non-Finnish members may exceed one third of the total.

2. Women residing in Europe, who support the purposes of the association, are eligible for full membership.
3. The association can have individuals as well as corporate bodies as supporting members. Supporting members pay fees and receive relevant information. They do not have the right to vote.
4. Members are approved by the standing committee. The expulsion of a member shall be by a decision of the general assembly. A membership can be terminated for non-payment of fees for more than two years by a decision of the standing committee.
5. Members may terminate their membership by giving a written notice to the convenor or to a member of the standing committee or by announcing the termination at the meeting of the general assembly to be recorded in the minutes.
6. Members pay membership fees as determined by the general assembly. The fees may be different for different categories of members.
7. Members who fall behind in payment of fees shall, until such fees are paid, forfeit their right to vote.
8. The association can have honorary members. An honorary member has the right to vote and does not pay registration or membership fees.

Organs

ARTICLE 4

1. The organ of the association with decision making power is the general assembly.
2. The standing committee is the main executive organ.
3. Further organs are the country or regional coordinators.

Decision Making

ARTICLE 5

Decisions are made by simple majority vote of the general assembly unless the statutes require a qualified majority. The requirement of a qualified majority is at least 3/4 of the votes cast, also it is necessary that the following requirements are met: at least 20 members from at least 5 countries are participating the vote.

The Scientific Conference

ARTICLE 6

EWM aims to have a scientific activity every two years, alternating a scientific conference and some activity at the European Congresses of Mathematics.

The General Assembly

ARTICLE 7

The general assembly is held every year. It is the responsibility of the standing committee to announce the general assembly. The announcement is done at least six weeks in advance in a letter sent to each member or by e-mail. The general assembly may be held in-person or virtually.

The following matters are handled at the general assembly:

1. opening of the assembly
2. election of the assembly's chairperson, secretary, two auditors of the minutes and, if necessary, two vote counters
3. verification of the legality and quorum of the assembly
4. agreeing on the rules of procedure and agenda of the assembly
5. approval of the minutes of the previous general assembly
6. presentation of the financial statements, the annual report and the auditors' report
7. confirmation of the financial statements and discharge of those concerned from liability
8. approval of the action plan, the revenue and expenditure estimate and the amounts of the registration and membership fees
9. election of the convenor, deputy convenor and other members of the standing committee, all of whom may be non-Finnish
10. election of one or two auditors and their deputies
11. confirmation of the choice of country and regional coordinators
12. election of honorary members
13. approval of expulsion of members by qualified majority
14. selection of the time and place for the next scientific conference two years ahead of the conference from possibilities proposed, and a local person who will choose a group to be responsible for the practical and financial arrangements
15. discussion of the other matters mentioned in the invitation to the assembly

If a member of the association wishes to have a matter discussed at the general assembly of the association, they must notify the standing committee in writing at least two weeks before the assembly so that the matter can be included in the agenda of the assembly. The agenda of the assembly is sent out at least one week before the assembly.

The Extraordinary General Assembly

ARTICLE 8

An extraordinary general assembly can be called by giving six weeks notice by e-mail or in writing to all members. The reason for such a meeting must be clearly specified in writing. A request for such a meeting must be endorsed either by at least five members of the standing committee or by at least 25 full members.

The Standing Committee

ARTICLE 9

1. The standing committee consists of the convenor, deputy convenor, and 6-10 other members and 0-10 deputy members. The members of the standing committee must be members of the association. The term of office of committee members starts at the day of election and ends at the day of the general assembly in the fourth year after their election. The standing committee elects a treasurer among the members of the association.
2. The standing committee will be called together by the convenor when necessary or when a member of the committee requests so. A quorum is reached when at least half of its members, including the convenor or deputy convenor, are present. Voting shall be by an absolute majority of votes. In the event of a tie, the convenor shall have the casting vote, but the election shall be by lot.
3. The standing committee will assist in organizing the forthcoming scientific conference.
4. The standing committee proposes the budget to the general assembly, receives the accounts to be presented to the general assembly and approves donations from outside organizations.
5. The standing committee shall appoint and dismiss the staff, define their duties and confirm their remuneration.
6. The standing committee appoints subordinate committees entrusted with special tasks within the general framework of the association.

Country or Regional Coordinators

ARTICLE 10

1. The task of a country or regional coordinator is to gather and pass on information among EWM members in their region, to answer enquiries and to coordinate local activities.

2. As far as possible there should be at least one and preferably two regional coordinators in each country or region in Europe. There may be also coordinators in non-European countries in which there is significant interest in EWM. The coordinators are chosen as specified in Article 7 and the by-laws.

Signing for the Association

ARTICLE 11

The convenor or any two members of the standing committee can sign for the association.

Finances

ARTICLE 12

1. EWM may receive gifts, grants, bequests and legacies. The association may raise funds for purposes connected to its aims by selling mathematical or similar material and it can own property and shares.
2. The fiscal year shall be one calendar year.

Amendments

ARTICLE 13

1. Amendment of the statutes or by-laws shall be mentioned to all members of the association before the general assembly. The wording of the amendment should be sent out together with the announcement of the general assembly.
2. Amendment of the statutes or by-laws must be endorsed by a qualified majority of the general assembly.

Dissolving or Merging of the Association

ARTICLE 14

1. Dissolving or merging the association shall be mentioned to all members of the association before the general assembly or an extraordinary general assembly.
2. Dissolving or merging the association must be endorsed by a qualified majority of the general assembly or an extraordinary general assembly.

In the event of the association being dissolved or abolished, any assets remaining after discharge of all debts shall be transferred to a legal body having aims similar to those of the association.

By-laws

ARTICLE 15

These statutes are followed by a collection of by-laws approved by the general assembly.

1. Membership

This article extends Article 3 of the statutes.

The membership will be temporary until it becomes confirmed by the standing committee and the relevant fees have been paid. Either the general assembly or the standing committee may waive fees in particular cases.

Members may terminate their membership by giving a written or e-mailed notice to the standing committee.

All matters of doubt or difficulty relating to membership shall be decided by the standing committee subject to confirmation by the general assembly.

Other than for non-payment of fees, a member can only be removed on the basis of written reasons, and after the member has had the opportunity to speak in front of the general assembly. The expulsion requires a qualified majority as specified in Article 7.

2. The General Assembly

A meeting of the general assembly is held annually, either virtually or during a scientific activity of EWM. The matters handled at the general assembly are specified in Article 7 of the statutes. The general assembly is open to members and guests.

Unless otherwise specified by the general assembly, decisions on matters other than changes of the statutes or by-laws or those specified by Article 7 are delegated by the general assembly to the standing committee.

3. Standing Committee

This article extends the description of the standing committee in Article 9 of the statutes.

Selection of the Standing Committee:

Any member of the association can propose names for the new standing committee. The standing committee ensures that a new standing committee is proposed for election and that a broad range of subjects and countries is present. The written list of suggestions should be available before the general assembly. The final choice will be made by the general assembly. Half of the terms will expire at the general assembly meeting and half will continue. The first terms to expire will be drawn by lots.

The Main Responsibilities of the Standing Committee are:

1. To ensure that the activities of the association are in line and guided by the purpose of the association as outlined in Article 2 of the statutes.
2. To approve new members.
3. As specified in Article 7 of the statutes, to announce the general assembly and to prepare its agenda, and if possible to announce major issues to be considered in advance.
4. To select a treasurer and officers for further tasks among the members of the association.
5. To receive the financial statement prepared by the treasurer and the auditor's report.
6. To propose the action plan and the budget (revenue and expenditure estimate) and to prepare the annual report.
7. To take care of other issues which may arise between general assembly.
8. To be responsible for advising and assisting with the forthcoming scientific conference and the scientific activity at ECM and to announce them to the members in due time.

4. The Convenors

The job of the convenor and her deputies is to ensure that appropriate actions are taken at appropriate time, thus activating the standing committee as necessary.

5. Committees

Committees for specific purposes, for example finances or local organization, may be set up as and when necessary, either by the general assembly or by the standing committee.

6. Deputies

In so far as possible all people with responsibilities should have deputies. In particular, there must be a deputy convenor for the standing committee.

7. The Country or Regional Coordinators

This article extends Article 10 of the statutes.

Selection of Country or Regional Coordinators.

- EWM members in a region should agree among themselves the best method of choice suited to their region. In case of serious disagreement, the matter should be referred to the standing committee and if necessary put to a vote in the general assembly.
- The choice of all coordinators should be confirmed by the general assembly.
- As far as possible, coordinators should change every two to four years.

Duties of the Regional and Country Coordinators.

The tasks of a regional or country coordinator includes

- the coordination of local activities
- the maintenance of a local network
- the collection of information about women mathematicians in their region
- advertisement of EWM activities in their region
- acting as a liaison for anyone wanting to contact women mathematicians or to get information about women mathematicians in her country or region
- giving her name to national, country and local mathematical societies as a person to contact in matters relating to women mathematicians in that country or region