

FEDERATION COLOMBOPHILE INTERNATIONALE



TO ALL FEDERATIONS AFFILIATED WITH FCI

14/05/2026

Subject: Urgent – Immediate cessation of the use of “Olympic / Olympiad” and related signs

Dear Mr. President,

Following a recent decision by the President of the Dutch-speaking Enterprise Court of Brussels, the FCI is required to immediately cease any use of the Olympic rings and the terms “Olympic”, “Olympiad”, “Olympiade”, and any similar variants. Please find attached the operative part of the judgment.

This obligation applies to all national federations, member organizations, event organizers, and partners operating within the FCI structure.

We therefore request that you take the following actions with immediate effect:

- Cease all use of the Olympic rings;
- Cease all use of the terms “Olympic”, “Olympiad”, “Olympiade”, or similar expressions;
- Remove such elements from:
 - websites and subpages;
 - social media platforms;
 - publications, catalogues, and promotional materials;
 - event names, titles, and regulations;
- Refrain from launching any new communications or events using these terms.

Please note that failure to comply may result in significant financial penalties (daily fines) and legal consequences, for which your organization may be held liable.

We thank you for your immediate cooperation and remain at your disposal should you require any further clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. David Barros MADEIRA
FCI President



Decision of the President of the Dutch-speaking Enterprise Court of Brussels, sitting as in summary proceedings, dated 19 March 2026.

DECISION

The presiding judge:

Declares that it has jurisdiction to hear the dispute, renders judgment inter partes and, after deliberation, issues the following decision.

Declares the claims of the IOC against the FCI well-founded to the extent determined below:

- Holds that the FCI infringes the intellectual property rights of the IOC, in particular the Benelux trademarks and the European Union trademarks, and commits an unfair market practice by the use of the Olympic Rings, the word “Olympic” and the word Olympiad in standalone use or in combination with the Olympic rings or the word Olympic.
- Orders the FCI, within a period of three months after service of this judgment, to cease, in economic commerce and in every possible manner, the use of:
 - o the Olympic Rings;
 - o the word “Olympic”; and
 - o the word “Olympiad” or “Olympiad” in its standalone use and therefore not in combination with “Racing Pigeon” or “Colombophile”,

whereby this cease-and-desist order, for the sake of clarity, also includes an order to cease providing cooperation or support to, or publicity for, any event organised by members of the FCI in which the Olympic Rings, the word “Olympic” or the word “Olympiad” / “Olimpiad” (or local translations thereof) are used independently in its naming, image formation or communication.

Imposes this order under penalty of a coercive fine of EUR 1,000.00 per document (including but not limited to official documents such as statutes, competition regulations, codes of conduct, etc. of the FCI), webpage or any individual form of publicity publication (such as flyers, posters, banners...) issued by the FCI or in cooperation with the FCI in which a violation of this cease-and-desist order is established, and per day (starting from the last day of the infringement, even if it has not fully ceased by then) that this infringement continues, with a maximum total amount of coercive fines of EUR 100,000.00.

- Orders the publication of the operative part of this judgment, at the expense of the FCI, in one international magazine relating to pigeon sport or a translation thereof depending on the language of the relevant magazines, at the choice of the IOC, within a period of no later than two months after this judgment has become res judicata.

States that, insofar as the IOC would advance the costs of this publication, the FCI is obliged to reimburse the costs incurred upon simple presentation of the invoice.

- Orders the publication of the operative part of this judgment in a clear and unmistakably visible and readable manner on the homepage of the FCI website (www.pigeonsfci.net) in the language of the relevant website and this within a period of no later than one month after this judgment has become res judicata and for a period of three months, under penalty of a coercive fine of EUR 500.00 per day that the FCI does not comply with this order, with a maximum total amount of coercive fines of EUR 10,000.00.
- Orders the FCI, through communication of the operative part of this judgment via a general or individual means of communication, to inform its affiliated national pigeon sport federations of the established infringement and the imposed cease-and-desist order within a period of no later than one month after this judgment has become res judicata, under penalty of a coercive fine of EUR 500.00 per day that the FCI does not comply with this order, with a maximum total amount of coercive fines of EUR 10,000.00. Orders the FCI to provide the IOC with proof of this/these notification(s) upon simple request from the IOC.

Dismisses all other or further claims.

Orders the FCI to pay the costs of the proceedings, assessed on the side of the IOC and taxed by the presiding judge for summons costs at EUR 473.31 (including the contribution to the Budgetary Fund for Legal Second-Line Assistance) and the procedural indemnity at EUR 1,883.72.

Declares the contribution to the Budgetary Fund for Legal Second-Line Assistance, deposited by the IOC, definitively acquired by that fund.

Orders the FCI to pay the court registration fee in the amount of EUR 165.00 following invitation thereto by the Belgian Federal Public Service Finance.

Confirms the provisional enforceability of the judgment and the right to set-off.

This judgment was rendered by Mr. S. VERSCHOOT, acting presiding judge of the Dutch-speaking Enterprise Court of Brussels, who attended the hearing and deliberated thereon.

The judgment was pronounced in accordance with Article 6, first paragraph of the Convention of 4 November 1950 for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms by Mr. S. VERSCHOOT, judge, acting presiding judge, in the presence of J. LAFOURT, delegated registrar, at the public hearing of the president of the Dutch-speaking Enterprise Court of Brussels, sitting as in summary proceedings, on 19 MARCH 2026.

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