

## **Regulations related to the IOC Athletes' Commission**

### **IOC GUIDELINES RELATED TO THE CREATION OF AN IF ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Guidelines)**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the IOC 2000 Reform Commission that “*athletes should be well represented at all levels of the sports movement: IOC, IFs, NOCs and NFs*”, the IOC encourages IFs and NFs to form their own athletes' commissions.

Further to recommendation 40 of the Olympic Agenda 2020, the Guidelines below form the framework for International Federations when forming such commissions.

In line with these Guidelines, each IF can establish the terms of reference and powers of its own Athletes' Commission.

#### **1. MISSION**

The mission of an IF Athletes' Commission (hereafter “Commission”) is to:

- a. Represent the views and opinions of the athletes and ensure their voice is heard within the IF; and
- b. Inform athletes about the IF activities (i.e. educational tools, rules and regulations).
- c. Work with and support the IF in its mission to develop and promote the sport.

#### **2. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Commission are to:

- a. Consider issues related to athletes and provide advice to the IF;
- b. Engage actively with initiatives and projects that protect and support clean athletes on and off the field of play;
- c. Represent the rights and interests of athletes and to make related recommendations, (for example the appointment of arbitrators by the International Council of Arbitration for Sport (ICAS);
- d. Consult with athletes in the evaluation of the rules and regulations of their respective sport and subsequently provide feedback to the IF; and
- e. Maintain contact with the IOC Athletes' Commission.

#### **3. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION**

- a. The Commission should have a minimum of five members. They should be at least 18 years of age, and must be older than 16 years of age.
- b. Commission members must have never received any sanction in relation to the World Anti-Doping Code.
- c. The Commission should be composed of a majority of athletes who, at the time of their election/nomination, are participating at international level or have done so within the previous four years. The composition should reflect the disciplines of the IF.
- d. Both sexes should be represented within the Commission.
- e. The majority of the members of the Commission should be elected by their peers.
- f. The Commission members should elect their Chair from among those members who have been elected to the Commission by their peers, and the Chair may serve in this role for up to four years.
- g. The term of office of Commission members can be for up to four years, or less in the case of filling a casual vacancy. The Chair and members may be re-elected/renewed if they meet the conditions in 3.b above.

- h. The timing of the Commission member and Chair elections is recommended to be within the same year as, or a year before or after, the election of the IF Executive Board (or equivalent highest decision-making body based on the IF's structure).

#### **4. REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION WITHIN THE IF**

The Commission should be represented within the IF's Executive Body (or equivalent highest decision-making body based on the IF's structure) by its Chair or at least one other member who is also an athlete who meets the conditions in 3.b above. They must be elected by the Commission and should have the right to vote within the Executive Body.

#### **5. MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION**

- a. The Commission should meet at least once a year.
- b. The IF administration should be responsible for ensuring, within the means of the IF, that the Commission is able to meet.

#### **6. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

In order for NOCs to put forward a candidate for election to the IOC Athletes' Commission, the IF of the proposed candidate must have an Athletes' Commission that meets the conditions set out in these Guidelines.

In the event that an IF does not have a Commission that meets these Guidelines, this criterion may be waived, provided that the IF sends written confirmation to the IOC that it:

- (i) agrees, to create a Commission by 30 June 2017 which satisfies the requirements of these Guidelines, and
- (ii) commits to working with the IOC on an implementation plan for creating a Commission.

These IOC Guidelines relating to the creation of an IF Athletes' Commission were approved by the IOC Executive Board on 1 March 2016 in Lausanne.