

IOC GUIDELINES RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF AN ATHLETES' COMMISSION WITHIN AN NOC

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 NOCs to form NOC Athletes' Commissions.

The guidelines contained below can be used by NOCs when forming such Commissions.

Not later than 6 months before the Opening Ceremony of each Olympic Games, the IOC invites each NOC with an Athletes' Commission to present a candidate for election to the IOC Athletes' Commission, provided that the NOC's Athletes' Commission fulfils the minimum conditions which are established by these guidelines.

On the basis of these guidelines, each NOC can establish the mandates and competencies relative to its Athletes' Commission.

1. MISSION:

The mission of an NOC Athletes' Commission (hereafter “Commission”) is to represent the views of the athletes within the NOC.

2. OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Commission are:

- 2.1 to consider questions related to athletes and to provide advice to the NOC;
- 2.2 to represent the rights and interests of athletes and to make related recommendations; and
- 2.3 to maintain a contact with the IOC Athletes' Commission.

3. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION:

- 3.1 The Commission has a minimum of five (5) members. All the members come from the country of the NOC in question, are at least sixteen (16) years of age, and have never been sanctioned for a doping offence.
- 3.2 The Commission is composed of a majority of athletes who, at the time of their election/nomination, are at least participating at a national level in a sport which is on the Olympic programme, or have done so within the previous four (4) years.
- 3.3 Both sexes must be represented within the Commission, and there should be a reasonable balance between summer and winter sports practised in the country.
- 3.4 The majority of the members of the Commission are elected by their peers.
- 3.5 The duration of the mandate is four (4) years. It may be renewable.

3.6 The following are ex officio members of the Commission in their country:

- Members of the IOC Athletes' Commission
- Members of the Athletes' Commissions of NOC Continental Associations.

They have the right to vote at meetings of the Commission.

4. REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION WITHIN THE NOC:

4.1 The Commission is represented at the NOC General Assembly by at least two of its members, elected by the Commission, who shall have the right to vote within this Assembly.

4.2 The Commission is represented within the NOC executive organ by at least one member, elected by the NOC General Assembly or the Commission, who shall have the right to vote within this executive organ.

5. MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION:

5.1 The Commission meets at least once a year.

5.2 The NOC is responsible for ensuring, within its means, that the Commission is able to meet.

6. INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS:

In order for an NOC to be eligible to present a candidate for election to the IOC Athletes' Commission (beginning with the 2004 Athens Olympic Games), NOCs have until 31 December 2003 to take appropriate steps so that their NOC Athletes' Commission complies with the minimum conditions contained in these Guidelines.