

O ATHLETES COMMISSION

ATHLETES COMMISSION

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

O.1. MISSION

The mission of the ETTU Athletes’ Commission (hereafter “Commission”) is to represent the views of the athletes and make their voice heard within the ETTU.

O.2. OBJECTIVES

- O.2.1 The objectives of the Commission are to
 - O.2.1.1 Consider issues related to athletes and provide advice to the ETTU
 - O.2.1.2 Represent the rights and interests of athletes and to make related recommendations
 - O.2.1.3 Maintain contact with the ITTF Athletes’ Commission, EOC and EPC Athletes’ Commissions.
- O.2.2 The Commission shall have the following specific tasks and activities:
 - O.2.2.1 to establish a means of seeking athletes’ opinion on issues of major importance in TT through as wide a network of enquiry as possible;
 - O.2.2.2 to keep the ETTU EB regularly informed of athlete opinion on issues of major importance in TT;
 - O.2.2.3 to report to the EB on organisational issues that may arise in connection with athlete participation at the different competitions organised under the ETTU umbrella;
 - O.2.2.4 to provide opinions on specific issues of athlete interest that may be entrusted to it by the ETTU;
 - O.2.2.5 to promote a “healthy image” and “fairplay” including anti-doping, anti-corruption and illegal betting;
 - O.2.2.6 to be the link between active athletes and ETTU
 - O.2.2.7 to liaise and consult with other Committees and Commissions, where appropriate;
 - O.2.2.8 to contribute to the promotion and fostering of the European and worldwide development of TT.

O.3. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

- O.3.1 The Commission is composed of 5 members:
 - O.3.1.1 4 athletes elected during the European Championships
 - O.3.1.2 1 athlete elected during the PTT EC
- O.3.2 They must be at least 16 years of age and have never been sanctioned for a doping offence.
- O.3.3 It will not be possible to have more than 1 representative of the same National Association, except the Para TT representative who may come from the same association as another member of the Athletes Commission.

O.3.4 The term of office is 4 years. It may be renewed. Inactive members may be replaced after 1 year. A minimum 75% of the members must vote in favour of replacing an inactive member provided that such member has had an opportunity to present reasons for their inactivity. Such inactive member shall be replaced by the athlete who placed next on the results of the election, if still available, provided that he or she shall not come from an association already represented on the Commission and that the gender representation is maintained.

O.4. ELECTED MEMBERS

O.4.1 Elections: the athletes in collaboration with ETTU organise the election on the occasion of the:

O.4.1.1 European Championships (EC)

O.4.1.2 The PTT European Championships (PTT EC)

in the year following the election of the ETTU EB. The first elections will be held in 2013 at the EC in Vienna and PTT EC in Lignano. Then the next elections will be held in 2017 and every 4 years thereafter.

O.4.2 Organisation of elections: in cooperation with the athletes' commission the ETTU Secretariat will send the information to all European NAs.

O.4.2.1 Eligibility criteria: candidates must meet the following criteria:

- a) must be nominated by his/her NA prior to the EC and PTT EC where the election takes place and having participated at the previous EC and PTT EC during the period of the last 4 years.
- b) must be 16 years of age at the time the election takes place
- c) must not have been sanctioned for a doping offence or illegal betting
- d) must have been selected by his/her NA
- e) a NA may present up to 2 candidates

The eligibility of each candidate is decided and confirmed by the EB.

O.4.2.2 Presentation and submission of candidatures:

To be admissible, the candidature proposal must include the following documents and be received by the ETTU by the date set in the invitation:

- a) a candidature form, duly signed by the candidate and the President of his/her NA
- b) a complete biography form
- c) a recent passport photo

O.4.2.3 Election process

a) Electorate: all athletes taking part in the EC and PTT EC have the right to vote

b) Information: the ETTU will publish an election leaflet which presents all the candidates and gives general information on the elections (dates, locations, voting procedure etc.)

c) Voting procedure: is described in the election manual and shall in any case comply with the following principles:

- each player has one vote
- the vote must be exercised in person and by secret ballot
- voting by proxy or correspondence is not allowed

- abstentions, blank or spoiled votes are not taken into

consideration in the calculation of the required majority.

- d) Elected athletes: one male and one female athlete who obtain the highest number of votes are elected to the Commission; thereafter 2 more athletes who obtain the highest number of votes are elected to the Commission; the Para TT athlete who obtains the highest number of votes is elected to the Commission at the PTT EC.
- e) Tie: in case of a tie, preference is given:
 - to a candidate to balance gender equity
 - finally to the highest ranked candidate in the ITTF World Ranking.

O.5. CHAIR OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION

He /she will be proposed by the Commission to the EB.

O.6. REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION WITHIN THE ETTU

- O.6.1 The Chair of the Commission is a co-opted member of the EB, with voting rights.
- O.6.2 The Chair can be replaced by an AC member to attend the EB meetings.

O.7. MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

- O.7.1 The Commission shall meet at least once a year before, at, or immediately after the European Championships at the same place.
- O.7.2 The ETTU is responsible for ensuring, within its means, that the Commission is able to meet.
- O.7.3 Travel: the ETTU is responsible for 100% of the agreed economy air fare for the Chair and for the Para TT member of the Commission should they not otherwise be at the EC.
- O.7.4 Accommodation: the ETTU is responsible to provide full board accommodation for the Chair and for the Para TT member of the Commission for the official dates stated in the invitation to the meeting.
- O.7.5 The working language of the Commission will be English.
