Athletes’ Commission

Change Status to Athletes' Committee

A submission from the RSX Class Association

Purpose or Objective

In pursuant of the increased role that Athletes represent in the Federation, the Athletes’ Commission as defined in the ISAF regulation as a commission is no longer ideal and shall be changed to a committee.

Proposal

Amend the Regulations as follows:

Insert New Regulation 6.1 Athletes’ Committee and delete 8.9 Athletes’ Commission. Renumbe the Regulations appropriately to follow this addition.

6.1 Athletes Committee

Constituting the committee; other appointments

6.1.1 The Athletes Committee has been established by the Council pursuant to Article 42.

6.1.2 The Athletes Committee shall consist of:

(a) One member for each class in the Olympic program and an ex-officio IOC Athletes commission member as appointed by the IOC each with voting rights.

(b) a chairman and vice-chairman

(c) one alternate for each member of the committee.

(d) when a member is unable to attend any meetings an alternate shall be available to attend.

(e) members may also be appointed to any committee, Sub-committee or Commission as an ex-officio with voting rights.

6.1.3 Election of the committee members and alternates:

(a) shall be made by vote through ballots collected by website made available by the ISAF secretariat

(b) shall take place every four years and occur in July of the three years before the Olympic Games

(c) any potential candidate shall make themselves known to the ISAF secretariat at least 30 days prior to the vote
(d) be voted by athletes currently on the ISAF Olympic World Rankings and only for the class of ranking.

(e) the candidate that has the most votes for each class he/she is running for is elected as a member, the candidate that has the second most votes is the alternate. The candidate can only run for one class per election.

(f) in the event of a new class selected to the Olympic program after the election has already occurred, the chairman of the committee shall select a member and alternate until new elections and in consultation with the new class concerned and the athletes committee.

(g) The positions of chairman and vice-chairman shall be determined by the athletes committee as soon as practicable after the election.

6.1.4 In appointing committee members, and to meet eligibility of the committee, the candidates shall:

(a) be active athletes that in the 8 years prior to election have competed in a Olympic class World Championships and finished in the top 50%, or competed at the Olympic Games

(b) be eligible for nomination if he/she has not held that position for the immediate preceding continuous period of eight years.

(c) Not have ever been convicted of a doping violation, or appeared on the ISAF suspended sailors list

Terms of reference

6.1.5 The Athletes Committee shall:

(a) Consider issues related to athletes and provide advice

(b) Represent the rights and interests of Olympic athletes and make recommendations

(c) Maintain contact with the IOC athlete's Commission

(d) During the Olympic Games and other ISAF major events including evaluations the chair or vice-chair, if not otherwise attending, is present and at the athletes disposal.

5. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

5.1 Nominations

(a) Except in the case of the Audit Committee and athletes committee nominations of candidates for membership of Committees and Sub-committees may be made by Member National Authorities.

(b) The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee but no employee of the ISAF or its subsidiary and associated companies shall be appointed. In making the appointment the Council will take into account the need for experience in matters of finance and/or investment.

(c) The Athletes committee shall be appointed by athletes as required in regulation 6.1

5.1.5 All nominations for membership of Committees shall be received by the Secretary General not later than 1200 hours UTC 1 August in the year of the General Assembly save that nominations from the ISAF Classes Committee shall be
received not later than the day before an Ordinary Meeting of the General Assembly and the Athletes’ Committee as per Regulation 6.1.

5.1.7 Nominating Member National Authorities must pay all the respective travel/accommodation cost for the Committee Member (save the members of the Athletes Committee) to attend ISAF Meetings or, as may be arranged between the Member National Authority and the delegate.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

The limitations within the Regulations as defined by a commission are no longer the best fit for the Athletes representation to ISAF. By changing to a committee this allows:

1. The athletes ability to not only be appointed and defined for and by the Executive
2. To make submissions
3. To expand it’s ability to shape policy and improve athletes rights
4. Elect and governs it’s athletes committee members

In addition the update to Athletes Committee’s Bylaws and election and nomination procedure clarify the committees need to receive the support and autonomy necessary to not subjugate it’s capability but to best represent athletes on every level of the Federation.

The IOC, in it’s official recommendations to the IF’s in the 2009 guidelines state:

1. OBJECTIVES

   The objectives of the Commission are to:
   a. Consider issues related to athletes and provide advice to the IF;
   b. Represent the rights and interests of athletes and to make related recommendations; and
   c. Maintain contact with the IOC Athletes’ Commission.

3. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

   a. The Commission has a minimum of five members. They must be at least 16 years of age, and have never been sanctioned for a doping offence.
   b. The Commission is composed of a majority of athletes who, at the time of their election/nomination, are participating at least at national level in a sport on the Olympic programme, or have done so within the previous four years.
   c. Both sexes must be represented within the Commission.
   d. The majority of the members of the Commission are elected by their peers.
   e. The length of the term of office is four years. It may be renewed.
f. The members of the IOC Athletes’ Commission from the sport concerned are ex-officio members of the Commission. They have the right to vote at meetings of the Commission.