



ATHLETES COMMISSION

FIDE

WHAT IS ATHLETES COMMISSION?

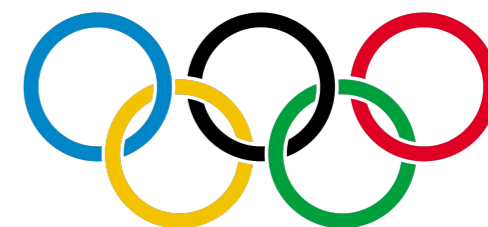
- ▶ Athletes Commission is a group of athletes, whose mission is to :
- ▶ Represent the athletes viewpoint in decision-making.
- ▶ Support athletes to success in their sporting and non-sporting career.



WHY HAVE AN ATHLETES COMMISSION?

- ▶ Athletes involvement in decision-making is a core component of good governance within sports organization and help safeguard the credibility of sport.
- ▶ An Athletes Commission enables athletes voices to be heard and experiences used for the improvement of sport.





**THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT IS ABOUT CLEAN ATHLETES.
THEY ARE OUR BEST AMBASSADORS. THEY ARE OUR
ROLE-MODELS, THEY ARE OUR TREASURE.**

**Thomas Bach
IOC President**



WHO HAS ATHLETES COMMISSION?

- ▶ Athletes Commission are a model of athlete involvement that is replicated across a wide variety of Olympic Movement stakeholders. The remit of an Athletes Commission varies depending on the athletes they represent and their mandate within their organization. These Athletes Commissions from the worldwide network, which includes Athletes Commissions from :



- ▶ Association of National Olympic Committee (ANOC)
- ▶ International Paralympic Committee (IPC)
- ▶ International Sports Federations (IFs)
- ▶ National Olympic Committees (NOCs)
- ▶ National Sports Federations (NFs)
- ▶ Organizing Committees for the Olympic Games (OCOGs)
- ▶ World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)



- ▶ This worldwide network of Athletes Commissions communicates on a regular basis and the IOC Athletes Commission brings this network together, and engages with them through events such as the IOC international Athletes Forum, regular video conferences and online discussion forums. Regular communication ensures the IOC Athletes Commission is discussing the most relevant athlete issues directly with athletes and it provides an opportunity of all Athletes Commissions to support and learn from each other.



THE BENEFITS OF AN ATHLETES COMMISSION

An Athletes Commission can strengthen the decision-making process by:

- ▶ Ensuring that all decisions across the organization consider the impact on the athletes.
- ▶ providing a platform and resource for discussion and research related to new ideas and issues.
- ▶ Providing advice and a perspective straight from the field of play.
- ▶ Consulting with athletes and providing early feedback on potential decisions that will affect them.
- ▶ Strengthening the links with athletes through peer-to-peer communication.



An Athletes Commission can also benefit the organization by:

- ▶ Updating athletes about the organization's activities from an informed person.
- ▶ Becoming ambassadors and supporting the organization in its mission to develop and promote the sport.
- ▶ Being a point of contact for their athlete community to support both the athletes and the organization's communications.
- ▶



ATHLETES COMMISSION STRUCTURE

Balanced composition

- ▶ Male and female
- ▶ Region and countries
- ▶ Active and inactive players

Term

- ▶ Minimum of four-years term for members
- ▶ Staggered elections to ensure continuous transfer of knowledge between members

Size

- ▶ Minimum five members
- ▶ Majority of elected members



Support

- ▶ From the top leadership
- ▶ From administration to support with day-to-day activities

Resources

- ▶ Sufficient resources, admin support and budget for regular meetings, communication and for members to attend major events
- ▶ Dedicated space on FIDE website or intranet to communicate to athletes and provide updates on activities

Vote

- ▶ The Athletes Commission Chair has a vote within FIDE decision-making body, such as Executive Board or Council



WHAT COULD FIDE ATHLETES COMMISSION DISCUS?

- Sport rules and regulations
- Events, qualifying and the program-me of championships
- Gender equality
- Athlete support
- Anti-doping
- Athlete welfare
- Athletes Commission elections
- Athlete image rights

Recommendation

To hold the Athletes Commission election at the chess Olympiad, this might be the best way to engage with all chess players

