

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 2043

ISU Athletes Commission Elections

Further to the decision of the 56th ISU Ordinary Congress 2016 in Dubrovnik, CRO, to introduce an ISU Athletes Commission and in accordance with Article 21 of the 2016 ISU Constitution, the composition, election procedure and purpose of the ISU Athletes Commission will be as follows:

1. Composition of the ISU Athletes Commission

The Commission is composed of five (5) elected Athletes (Skaters), i.e. one (1) Athlete for each discipline (Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance, Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating). Provided that the Athletes Commission members are not actively competing, the elected Skaters will also be full members of the respective Technical Committee with a right to vote (See Article 20 of the 2016 ISU Constitution).

2. Purpose of the ISU Athletes Commission

The mission of the ISU Athletes' Commission is to represent the views of the athletes and make their voice heard within the ISU.

In order to achieve this, the Commission should:

- a) Learn about the Skaters' opinions and ideas in order to represent their views within the ISU for topics including but not limited to rules and regulations, events, calendar, promotion and marketing of the sport, health and welfare, anti-doping, career preparation, education and life skills. Inform and update Skaters on different activities and developments, and raise awareness and educate them on topics of direct concern.
- b) Represent the rights and interests of Skaters and to make related recommendations, for example the appointment of arbitrators by the International Council of Arbitration for Sport (ICAS).
- c) Support the ISU in its mission to develop and promote the sport. Consider issues related to Skaters and provide advice to the ISU Council, Technical Committees, Sports Directors, Director General and other internal bodies as appropriate.
- d) Engage actively with initiatives and projects that protect and support clean athletes on and off the field of play;
- e) Serve as ambassadors to increase popularity of Skating and inspire youth.
- f) Encourage and assist National Federations and athletes to establish their own National Athletes' Commission;
- g) Maintain contact with the Athletes' Commission of the IOC.

3. Elected Athletes

Skaters elected to the ISU Athletes Commissions must:

- a) be eligible as defined in the ISU Statutes.
- b) have competed in (senior) ISU Events of the respective discipline within the previous four (4) seasons before the season of election (i.e. for the first election during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships, the candidates must have competed in ISU (senior) Events of the respective disciplines during at least one of the seasons 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17).

- c) must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences.
- d) be at least 18 years of age on the day of election.
- e) be nominated by the ISU Member for whom the Athlete is/was competing in accordance with Rule 109 during the season of election or during his last season of competing in ISU Events.

4. Nomination Procedure to the ISU Athletes Commission

Nominations including the duly completed Nomination Forms from ISU Members must be received at the ISU Secretariat by **January 1, 2017**. ISU Members are encouraged to base their nominations on Athletes elections at the national level and to include nominations of both genders. Each ISU Member may nominate only one (1) Athlete per Branch (The Figure Skating Branch including Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance & Synchronized Skating and the Speed Skating Branch including Speed Skating & Short Track Speed Skating). The same Athlete may be nominated for only one (1) discipline even if he has competed in ISU Events of different disciplines.

A list of the nominees' names and the respective nominating Members grouped by elected positions will be published on the ISU website by January 13, 2017. The Nomination Forms of all candidates will also be made available to the ISU Members on the ISU Extranet.

5. Election Procedure to the ISU Athletes Commission

The ISU Athletes Commission members will be elected by their peers, the first time during the ISU World Championships of the respective discipline of the season 2016/17 as follows:

- a) For the Speed Skating Athlete at the **ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships in Gangneung, KOR on February 9-12, 2017;**
- b) For the Short Track Speed Skating Athlete at the **ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships in Rotterdam, NED on March 10-12, 2017;**
- c) For Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance Athletes at the **ISU World Figure Skating Championships in Helsinki, FIN on March 29-April 2, 2017;**
- d) For the Synchronized Skating Athlete at the **ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships in Colorado Springs, USA on April 7-8, 2017.**

The ISU Athletes Commission members are elected by secret ballot. All Skaters entered as Competitors and present/accredited (including substitutes if present/accredited) at the respective ISU World Championships shall be entitled to cast one vote. The candidate with the highest number of votes obtained is elected. In case of a tie the candidate with the highest number of votes obtained in a second ballot is elected. If there is still a tie, the election will be decided by lot. Abstaining Skaters and invalid votes are deemed not to be present and voting and shall not be counted.

The exact procedure, location and timing for the casting and scrutinizing of the ballots and publication of the election result on site of each Championships shall be published separately for each concerned Championships.

6. Election Procedure of the ISU Athletes Commission Chair and Vice Chair

At its first meeting after the elections of the ISU Athletes Commission members, the five (5) elected ISU Athletes Commission members elect a Chair and a Vice Chair of the ISU Athletes Commission who must be from different Branches (Figure Skating Branch including Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating on the one hand and the Speed Skating Branch including Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating on the other hand). After each election of the ISU Athletes Commission, chairmanship shall alternatively shift from an Athlete from the Figure Skating Branch to an Athlete from the Speed Skating Branch and vice versa.

7. Vacancy

If any vacancy occurs among the ISU Athletes Commission members, the Athlete with the highest number of votes from the non-elected candidates from the last election for the respective discipline shall immediately fill the vacancy. If such vacancy occurs but cannot be filled in this manner, the ISU Council shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. The term of office of such Athlete shall expire at the next following ISU Athletes Commission election. If the vacancy concerns the Chair or Vice Chair of the ISU Athletes Commission, the ISU Athletes Commission members shall elect a replacement during its next following meeting after such vacancy had occurred.

8. Term of Election

The term of the election shall basically be aligned in accordance with the cycle of elections for other ISU Office Holders elected by the ISU Congress.

For the first term of election for Skaters elected during the respective 2017 ISU World Championships, it shall last until the respective 2019 ISU World Championships only when the next election shall be held for a term until the respective 2023 ISU World Championships.

Tubbergen,
September 30, 2016
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General