

Communication No. 2427

ISU Athletes Commission Elections

In accordance with Article 21 of the 2021 ISU Constitution, the composition, election procedures and purpose of the ISU Athletes Commission will be as follows:

1. Composition of the ISU Athletes Commission

The Commission is composed of five elected Athletes (Skaters), i.e. one Athlete for each of the following disciplines:

- Single & Pair Skating
- Ice Dance
- Synchronized Skating
- Speed Skating
- Short Track Speed Skating.

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 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 Technical 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

To be eligible for election to the Athletes Commission candidates must

- i) be eligible as defined in the ISU Statutes;
- ii) have competed in (senior) ISU Events of the respective discipline within the previous four seasons before the season of election (i.e. for the elections during 2022, the candidates must have competed in ISU (senior) Events of the respective disciplines during at least one of the seasons 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21);
- iii) must not have been sanctioned for any violation of the ISU/World Anti-Doping Code and/or disciplinary and/or ethical offences;

- iv) on the day of election, must be at least eighteen years of age;
- v) be nominated by the ISU Member for which the Athlete is competing in accordance with Rule 109 during the season of election or during his last season of competing in ISU Events.

Members of the Athletes Commission in office at the elections in 2022, may reapply for one additional back-to-back term on the Athletes Commission, even if they do not fulfil the condition of 3. ii) above.

4. Nomination Procedure to the ISU Athletes Commission

Nominations from ISU Members, including the duly completed Nomination Forms (see Appendix), should be sent via email to elections@isu.ch and must be received at the ISU Secretariat by **January 1, 2022**. 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 Athlete per Branch (the Figure Skating Branch including Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating and the Speed Skating Branch including Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating). The same Athlete may be nominated for only one discipline even if he has competed at ISU Events in different disciplines.

A list of the nominees' names and the respective nominating ISU Members, grouped by elected positions, will be published on the ISU website by January 14, 2022. The Nomination Forms of all candidates will also be made available to ISU Members on the ISU Extranet.

5. Election Procedure to the ISU Athletes Commission

The Athletes Commission members, except the Athletes Commission member for Speed Skating, will be elected by their peers at the respective ISU World Championships in the season of the Olympic Winter Games. For Speed Skating, for which no ISU World Speed Skating Championships Single Distances format are held during the Olympic season, the elections shall be held, if possible, during the Olympic Winter Games or alternatively at an ISU World Cup Speed Skating during the season of the Olympic Winter Games.

The next elections will be held as follows:

- a) For the Speed Skating Athlete at the **Olympic Winter Games in Beijing, CHN on February 4-20, 2022** or an **ISU World Cup Speed Skating**, to be announced in due course;
- b) For the Short Track Speed Skating Athlete at the **ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships in Montreal, CAN on March 18-20, 2022**;
- c) For Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance Athletes at the **ISU World Figure Skating Championships in Montpellier, FRA on March 21-27, 2022**;
- d) For the Synchronized Skating Athlete at the **ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships in Hamilton, CAN on April 7-9, 2022**.

The Athletes Commission members are elected by secret ballot. All Skaters entered as Competitors and present/accredited at the respective ISU World Championships respectively for Speed Skating at the Olympic Winter Games or an ISU World Cup Speed Skating (as determined by the Council), 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 ISU Members and invalid votes are deemed not to be present and voting and shall not be counted in ascertaining a majority.

The exact procedure, location and timing for the casting and scrutinizing of the ballots and publication of the election result on site at each Championships/Olympic Winter Games/ISU World Cup Speed Skating 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 Athletes Commission members, the five elected Athletes Commission members elect a Chair and a Vice Chair of the 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 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. As the current Chair of the Athletes Commission is from the Speed Skating Branch, for the next term, the Chair shall be an Athlete from the Figure Skating Branch.

7. Vacancy

If any vacancy occurs among the 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 Council shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. The term of office of such Athlete shall expire at the next following Athletes Commission election. If the vacancy concerns the Chair or Vice Chair of the Athletes Commission, the Athletes Commission members shall elect a replacement during its next following meeting after such vacancy had occurred.

8. Term of Election

The term of election for Skaters elected during the respective 2022 ISU World Championships/ Olympic Winter Games/ ISU World Cup Speed Skating, shall last until the respective 2026 ISU World Championships when the next election shall be held for a term until the respective 2030 ISU World Championships.

9. Athletes Commission member of the Council

There shall be an Athletes Commission member of the Council who must not be of the same Branch as the President and, if possible, not of the same citizenship and not from the same ISU Member as any other member of the Council.

As indicated in **Circular Letter No. 624**, Section D, by May 25, 2022, the Athletes Commission members shall determine the order of preference of their candidates for election as Athlete member to the Council at the 2022 Congress and send the required forms, in line with Article 10, paragraph 2 of the 2021 ISU Constitution.

Tubbergen,
September 21, 2021
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General