

AFF Athletes' Commission Term of Reference (TOR)

Mission Statement

1. To represent the views and interests of athletes and to empower athletes through information and the facilitation of communication.

Role and Objectives

2. The role and objectives of the AFF Athletes' Commission are to:
 - (a) Act as a link between the athletes and the AFF.
 - (b) Represent the views and interests of athletes and participate in AFF Board consultation and decision-making.
 - (c) Establish open lines of communication with athletes to:
 - (i) discuss and obtain feedback on issues concerning athletes;
 - (ii) identify issues that need to be addressed by the AFF Athletes' Commission; and
 - (iii) communicate AFF issues of relevance to athletes.
 - (d) Consider questions and issues relating to athletes and provide advice to the AFF Board. In this context the AFF Athletes' Commission may provide the AFF Board the following on all matters within its scope:
 - (i) offer or give advice;
 - (ii) offer or give counsel;
 - (iii) offer an opinion;
 - (iv) make a recommendation;
 - (v) consult; or
 - (vi) give information or notice.
 - (e) Promote respect of the rights of the athletes.
 - (f) Undertake special projects that are relevant to the AFF Athletes' Commission and these TOR.

Constitution

3. The AFF Athletes' Commission is constituted under clause 19 of the AFF Constitution. The AFF Athletes' Commission is a "Committee" as defined in clause 1.1 of the AFF Constitution.

Composition

4. The AFF Athletes' Commission will comprise of up to five eligible persons.
5. Of the people elected to the AFF Athletes' Commission:
 - (a) at least one (1) of the candidates elected must be male; and
 - (b) at least one (1) of the candidates elected must be female.

Eligibility

6. Persons may only be nominated for election to the AFF Athletes' Commission if he or she meets the criteria to be eligible for election. To be eligible for election to the AFF Athletes' Commission a person must:
 - (a) be at least 18 years of age;
 - (b) be a registered fencer with a Member State in the calendar year of the relevant election;
 - (c) not have been sanctioned for a doping offence in their sporting career;
 - (d) be available to attend (either in person or by phone or other electronic means) a minimum of three meetings per year.
7. Persons may only sit on AFF Athletes' Commission while he or she satisfies the following criteria:
 - (a) be at least 18 years of age;
 - (b) be a registered fencer with a Member State or fencer who has been a registered fencer with a Member State within the last 2 calendar years;
 - (c) not have been sanctioned for a doping offence in their sporting career;
 - (d) be available to attend (either in person or by phone or other electronic means) a minimum of three meetings per year.

Any member of the AFF Athletes' Commission who ceases to satisfy the above criteria at any time during his or her term must step down at such time.

Election to the Commission

8. The election of persons to the AFF Athletes' Commission will be conducted before 31 December in every four (4) year period in respect of the four (4) year period commencing on 1 November in that same year.
9. Any person that is or has been a registered fencer with a Member State in the calendar year of the relevant election (or such other longer period as determined by the AFF Board) is entitled to vote in an election of candidates to the AFF Athletes' Commission.
10. In any election held to appoint any person to the AFF Athletes' Commission:
 - (a) a person eligible to vote in the election will have one (1) vote; and
 - (b) a person may cast a vote in any manner determined by the AFF Board at its discretion; but
 - (c) no person eligible to vote shall be entitled to appoint any other person to act as the first person's proxy for the purposes of voting; and

- (d) elections will be conducted as simple, “first past the post” elections, with the principle being that (subject to the provisions of this TOR relating to the minimum number of male and female members of the AFF Athletes’ Commission) the highest-polling candidates are elected.
11. The five (5) eligible candidates polling the highest number of votes will be declared elected to the AFF Athletes’ Commission. However, if the four (4) candidates polling the highest number of votes are all of the same gender, then the one (1) eligible candidate of the other gender who polls the highest number of votes will be declared elected to the fifth position.

Term and Vacancies

12. Subject to the eligibility requirements, the term of office for AFF Athletes’ Commission members will be four (4) years, commencing 1 November the year of the applicable AFF Athletes’ Commission election.
13. Any vacancy occurring in respect of members may be filled at any time at the discretion of the AFF Board, provided that such vacancy must be filled with an individual who would have been eligible to be nominated for election for such position at the last applicable AFF Athletes’ Commission election.

Representation

14. The AFF Athletes’ Commission is represented on the AFF Board by one member, the Athletes’ Director, appointed pursuant to the AFF Constitution.

Review

15. Any amendments to these TOR must be ratified by the AFF Board.