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# Australian Canoeing Athletes' Commission Bylaw

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Adopted by the Board 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2013

Bylaw #14

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## 1. ATHLETES' COMMISSION BYLAW

- 1.1 This Bylaw was adopted by the Board of AC on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013 under Rule 34.1 of the Constitution.
- 1.2 This Bylaw governs how AC elects Athletes' Commission representatives.
- 1.3 This By-Law is binding on all AC members and has the same effect as a provision in the AC Constitution. Any terms not defined in this Bylaw have the meaning set out in the AC Constitution.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>"Competitive Disciplines"</b> | means any Canoeing discipline for which there is an Australian Canoeing National Championship   |
| <b>"Athlete"</b>                 | means a person who: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) is an active athlete in that he or she competes or has competed in the sport of canoeing at an Australian National Championship level or higher in the 12 years prior to being appointed to the AC Athletes' Commission;</li><li>(b) is over the age of 18; and</li></ol> |

## 3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ATHLETES' COMMISSION

- 3.1. The Athlete's Commission must:
  - (a) be comprised solely of Athletes; and
  - (b) have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 members in accordance with this clause 3.
- 3.2. The Athletes' Commission shall consist of:
  - (a) up to 3 members who may be appointed at any time by the Board including but not limited to:
    - i. any member of the ICF Athletes' Commission who was nominated by Australian Canoeing to the ICF for such a position; and
    - ii. any member of the AOC Athletes' Commission who was nominated by Australian Canoeing to the AOC for such a position.
- 3.3. The membership of the Athletes' Commission should comprise not less than three (3) males and three (3) females provided that where there are less than 6 members of the Athletes' Commission, there will be gender balance.
- 3.4. Each Athlete elected will hold office as a member of the Athletes' Commission for a term of 2 years. The Board will ensure that the term of the members of the Athletes' Commission rotate so that only (approximately) half the members of the Athletes' Commission are appointed in any one year.

## 4. ELECTION PROCEDURE

- 4.1. Election of Athletes' Commission shall be conducted according to the following procedure:
- (a) Rotation for the re-election of (approximately) half of the members on the Athletes' Commission's positions annually.
  - (b) Australian Canoeing will call for expressions of interest from Athletes via its website. Expressions of interest must include a short biography and otherwise be in the form required by the Board from time to time.
  - (c) The Board will consider all expressions of interest and may determine, at its sole discretion, which Athletes' are to be listed as candidates for election.
  - (d) The candidates for election as an Athletes' Commission representative will then be published on the AC Website.
  - (e) If there is more than three candidates an electronic vote will occur on the AC website in a manner determined by the Board.
  - (f) If there are three candidates or less then those candidates will be deemed elected.
  - (g) Only athletes (as defined in clause 2) are entitled to vote.
  - (h) The three candidates that receives the highest number of votes will be deemed elected. In the event of a tie, the youngest candidate will be deemed elected.
  - (i) AC will announce the results of the election on its website.
- 4.2. Each Athlete elected will hold their position on the Athletes' Commission and all Technical Committees for a term of 2 years.
- 4.3. In the event of insufficient nominations are forthcoming for position/s on the Athletes' Commission, the Board of Directors reserve the right to appoint up to three (3) eligible people to fill the vacancies for the term.

## 5. CASUAL VACANCY

- 5.1. In the event a vacancy occurring for a position on the Athletes' Commission, the Board of Directors will appoint an eligible person to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term.

## 6. ATHLETE'S COMMISSION

- 6.1. The role of the Athlete's Commission is to:
- ▶ promote harmony among athletes, coaches and volunteers;
  - ▶ promote communication among athletes;

- ▶ provide peer group review of athlete behaviour;
- ▶ communicate on behalf of athletes to the Chief Executive Officer;
- ▶ provide the Board with the view of athletes on any matters relating to Australian Canoeing;
- ▶ represent athletes in other forums, as invited; and
- ▶ actively promote Australian Canoeing to the community.

## 7. OPERATION OF THE ATHLETES' COMMISSION

- 7.1. The Athletes' Commission will meet at least once per year as determined by the Chief Executive Officer and may meet by teleconference. Members of the Athletes' Commission may request that the Chief Executive Officer convenes a meeting of the Athletes' Commission.
- 7.2. For any meeting a quorum consists of a majority of its members.
- 7.3. Members of the Athletes' Commission have one vote each at meetings. The chairperson does not have a casting vote.
- 7.4. At its first meeting in any financial year, the Athletes' Commission will elect from among their number a Chairman who will hold office until the conclusion of the first meeting of the following financial year or until that person ceases to be a member of the Athletes' Commission.
- 7.5. In the event of a casual vacancy of the Chairman, the Athletes' Commission shall elect from among their number a replacement to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term of the position vacated.

## 8. AMENDMENTS

The Board of AC will review the practical application of this Bylaw in six (6) months' time, provided that it shall provide notice of such change by displaying the amended bylaw on the AC website.