



PHILIPPINE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (POC) Athletes' Commission Term of Reference (TOR)

Role of the Athletes Commission

The Athletes Commission is a consultative and advisory body for elite Filipino national athletes. It shall assist the POC achieve its mission by providing a critical link between POC leaders and the athletes.

Goal of the Athletes Commission

The goal of the Athletes Commission is to help the athletes achieve their full potential and to sustain their success in various competitions, to maintain a healthy and efficient relationship between athletes and the NOC through direct communication, and to carry out programs of the IOC AC in order to assist the national athletes in life areas within and after retirement from competitive sports.

Mission Statement

To ensure that the voice of the Philippine national athletes will be expressed, heard and submitted to the Philippine Olympic Committee's (POC) Executive Board and their associated decision-making bodies.

Review

The TOR is to be reviewed by the Athletes' Commission every year in order to track progress and use the review as a tool to determine required actions in order for the AC to attain its objectives and remain in the same direction and acceptable status with the IOC AC.

Amendments

The AC should evaluate these Terms Of Reference every two years and make necessary amendments if needed or if there are significant changes within the IOC, IOC AC, OCA, OCA AC that could directly affect the POC AC and/or athletes welfare in the aforementioned bodies. These amendments are subject to the approval of the NOC Executive Board.

Objectives and Activities

1. **Objective:** To represent the rights and interests of the athletes and participate in international games; POC activities, consultation and decision-making as required;

Activities: An assessment report done by the AC shall be submitted to the POC after every game so that the real concerns from the field of play will be voiced out; Assessment shall include but not limited to the following: games preparation including training, selection process, dissemination of information, quick response to requests among others.

Create an internal facebook account between athletes so they can share, discuss and post feedbacks;

2. **Objective:** Contribute to co-operation, development and advocacy within the Olympic Movement;

Activities: Participate in athletes' forums organized by IOC, OCA and regional counterparts; Create and establish athletes forums where athletes can gather and be trained as ambassadors and learn to give inspirational talks to school children by promoting Olympism in their schools

3. **Objective:** Help ensure that a suitable and effective range of services exists to support athletes lives during their training, before any games, during and beyond Games time and competitive sport;

Activities: During out of competition: Start a clean up campaign in athletes dormitories; Improve existing athletes lounges by submitting suggestions to PSC; During training-have a 24/7 medical access for the athletes living in dormitories; Before any games- create a "countdown clock" to elevate the spirit of the athletes participating/competing in the games; During the games- An athletes liaison officer should be present in all games organized by IOC, OCA, SEAG and to all national games;

4. **Objective:** Help support the athletes achieve their success.

Activities: Create opportunities to scholarships, education (open or home based education), learn on budgeting, financial planning and literacy, investments, government benefits and insurances; help the athletes in getting the right coaches for them; access to better training sites and competitions prior to any games (best practice resources);

Reach and communicate with athletes and their entourage on a peer-to-peer basis collecting feedbacks and new ideas from the field of play.

Incorporate positive signages in all training venues to help improve the mindset of the athletes;

Establish education programs for a 4-year plan by creating partnerships with ADECCO- a career/transition program; partnerships with corporate companies for on the job trainings or as part time workers; create a 2-day workshop about Olympism, character building, team building;

5. **Objective:** Open a communication line with their respective NSA's and the management of POC;

Activities: Encourage other athletes to create an athletes commission within their NSA for better communication; establish point persons per sport

Suggest and/or offer advises on various areas within Team Operations and Performance including (without limitation); Games village environment and activities, athlete agreement, performance services, uniform, planning, workshops, communication;

6. **Objective:** Adapt and propagate the 2015 Anti-Doping Code

Activities: Create an anti-doping seminar for the athletes, coaches and athletes' entourage thru fun activities involved. Discuss the history, prevailing issues, learn to say NO and learn to speak up! Open forum/discussions with the medical team/ establish value - based practices;

Membership

The POC Athletes Commission shall comprise of up to five (5) members from both sexes that belong to Olympic sports. These athletes may be current or retired athletes that will *be elected by their peers*. From the five (5) elected athletes, one (1) shall represent in the POC Executive Board with voting powers while one (1) male Olympian and one (1) female Olympian will represent the Commission in the POC General Assembly meeting. Both Olympians have the voting powers in the Assembly. Among the 5 elected, one will be voted as Chairman of the AC. All will have a four (4) year term and must abide by the Olympic Charter, the Olympic values, OCA Charter, WADA Anti-Doping Code and the POC charter.

Eligibility

To be a member or be voted upon in the AC, the athlete must be:

1. At least 18 years old;
2. Has not been sanctioned for any doping offence during his/her sports career;
3. Has not been convicted of any criminal offence; nor suspended for any behavioral cases; nor been subjected to any ethical /arbitration cases;
4. Has at least participated in any 2 of the following games from the past 10 years,
 - a. Summer and Winter Olympic Games
 - b. Youth Olympic games (Summer/Winter)
 - c. World Competitions
 - d. Continental games
 - e. Regional Games
5. His/her national sports association may endorse the athlete;

Vacancies

In the event of a member's resignation or a member being unable to carry out their agreed duties as a member of the Commission, that elected member will be replaced for the duration of the term. The AC Chairman, in consultation with the POC Board and the AC Commission will choose a replacement from among other eligible athletes belonging to the Olympic sports.

Operations

1. The POC AC shall meet personally at least once every quarter at the POC office or as needed depending on the activities/assignments set before them; Additional meetings may be made via skype, viber texts or emails, provided all correspondences are recorded and noted.
2. The POC AC shall call for a General Assembly at the end of the year for all national athletes representing Olympic and non-olympic sports for annual reports, evaluate progress and discuss projects to be prepared for the coming year;
3. The POC AC shall meet before the AC General Assembly for the purpose of reviewing the TOR, discuss project proposals, prepare the annual report for the other athletes and for the POC Executive Board/General Assembly, make recommendations to the POC Board and other decision making bodies;
4. The POC AC may enter in sponsorships/ex-deals for the benefit of all the athletes.

If incase monetary funds will be collected, such monies shall be under the custody of the POC to be used for the purpose of the project presented upon solicitation.

This must be done also in accordance with guidelines for sponsorships from the IOC.

5. The POC AC must assign only one liaison officer from the admin staff/managerial side for the AC's representation in all major games and in case all of the members will not be able to represent themselves.

6. The POC AC shall create work assignments, duties and responsibilities among themselves for the following purposes:

- a. Record keeping
- b. Budgeting
- c. Transparency

Approved by the POC Executive Board, May 27, 2015

