

International Dragon Boat Federation
ATHLETES COMMISSION

Athlete's Commission Election Procedure

This Regulation is adopted by the Executive Committee of the International Dragon Boat Federation.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This IDBF Athletes Commission Election Procedure (hereafter the "Election Procedure") regulates and governs the election process for the members of the IDBF Athlete's Commission (hereafter "the Commission").

II. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for election to the Commission, a candidate must meet the following criteria:

- i. the candidate must be an Active Premier Athlete at the time of the election. An Active Athlete within the meaning of this Election Procedures By-Law is an athlete who participates in the World Nations Championships being held at the same time as the relevant election, or competed in the immediately preceding Club Crew World Championships or Regional National Championships, and must be able to demonstrate this by presenting their athlete accreditation for at least one of these events held the previous year, or confirmation from their Member Country that they will be attending the next World Nations Championships as an athlete;
- ii. the candidate must have reached the age of 18 no later than by the date of the Closing Ceremony of the World Nations Championships during which the election takes place;
- iii. the candidate must not have incurred any measure or sanction in relation to any violation of the IDBF Code of Ethics, the World Anti-Doping Code or any other applicable regulations issued by the IDBF or the IDBF Member Country to which the candidate belongs;
- iv. the candidate must belong to the IDBF Member of their country of residence, and must be nominated and endorsed by this IDBF Member;
- v. the candidate must not be a member of a Member Country that already has a member on the Commission (either appointed or elected), unless this member's term on the Commission is due to expire at the forthcoming World Nations Championships or they have indicated that they shall otherwise leave the Commission prior to the new candidate, if successful, taking up their position on the Commission;

- vi. the candidate must be able to communicate effectively in English or be able to bring a translator to all meetings of the Commission;
- vii. the candidate must be able to commit, at a minimum, to the duties of a member of the Commission as specified in Clause 3 of the IDBF Athlete's Commission Regulations;
- viii. the candidate must agree maintain their active status within dragon boating for their term of office, and at a minimum must remain a member of their IDBF Member.

III. The Nominations Process

Six (6) months prior to the commencement of the relevant World Nations Championships the IDBF Election Committee (hereafter the "Election Committee") shall send an invitation to all IDBF Member Countries to present a candidate for election to the Commission. This invitation shall include the format and required content of the nomination. Member Countries are entitled to present one candidate for election to the Commission at each election, but are not entitled to present a candidate for election if they already have a member elected or appointed to the Athlete's Commission, unless this member's term is due to expire (or they have otherwise indicated that they are leaving the Commission) at the next World Nation's Championships.

No later than one (1) month following the presentation of a candidate by a Member Country to the Election Committee, the Election Committee shall rule on the validity of this candidate, and shall communicate this decision to the Member Country. If required the Election Committee may request additional information from the Member Country. If a Member Country's candidate is ruled ineligible to stand for election they shall be entitled to present another candidate until the closing date for nominations. The decision of the Election Committee regarding validity of candidates to stand for election is final.

Nominations shall close three (3) months prior to the commencement of the World Nations Championships in that year.

If the number of candidates is less than or equal to the number of spots available for election, the Election Committee shall declare all candidates elected.

IV. CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

(a) Duration

The election shall commence three days before the first day of racing of the relevant World Nations Championships and end one hour following the finish of the final race of the competition.

(b) Promotion of candidates

Promotion of candidatures is allowed only to the extent permitted under this Election Procedure. Promotion means any act or action that may enhance the level of awareness of a particular candidature, and includes advertising, campaigns or any organized or planned action for the election of a candidate.

All acts of promotion in favour of any candidature must be carried out with dignity, moderation and respect towards the other candidates as well as all athletes.

Promotion of candidates should be limited, and should not in any way detract from the World Nations Championships.

Once the Election Committee has approved the list of candidates for the election, candidates may accept interviews from the media and take part in or hold press or media conferences. The IDBF may organize one or more press conferences for all candidates to present themselves and promote their candidatures.

Candidates may use social media to promote their candidatures, subject to the following conditions:

- i. promotion via social media is permitted only from the date that the Election Committee approves the list of candidates for the election until the conclusion of the election; and
- ii. candidates using social media to promote their candidatures must comply with this Election Procedure By-Law and any other relevant regulations or rules that may apply.

The following acts and forms of promotion are prohibited in all circumstances:

- i. the use of promotional material other than the material specifically authorized or provided by the IDBF in accordance with this Election Procedure By-Law, in particular the use of any document, video or prop such as a tablet, display, sign, panel, mascot, t-shirt, cap, picture, national symbol or any form of advertising or other promotion in favour of the athlete;
- ii. the distribution of any form of gift, memorabilia, souvenir or token; or
- iii. the use of any form of incentive or inducement, whether financial or otherwise, to vote for a candidate.

Any acts and forms of promotion, including promotion via social media, by Participants other than the candidate are prohibited, with the exception that following the IDBF media release confirming the candidate list each Member Country may issue one media release announcing their candidate.

Candidates are permitted to wear a candidate badge and may take the initiative of approaching and talking with athletes and their entourage, but no election activities are to be undertaken within the marshalling area or during medal presentations.

(c) Election and Voting

Each athlete holding an Athlete's Accreditation at the World Championships during which the election takes place will have the right to vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

The Election Committee will prepare a document entitled the "Election Manual" which will not only present all the candidates but also provide information on the upcoming election, including the exact dates of the election, the location of the voting station, and voting and election instructions. The Election Manual will be made available to the entire electorate during the election in the Athlete's Village. Votes which do not comply with the voting instructions contained in the Election Manual will be declared null and void.

All candidates are entitled to have one (1) scrutineer to be present at all times that votes are being counted.

(d) Election Committee and Election Procedure

The Election Committee will be composed of one Chair and two members, all appointed by the IDBF President for each election. The members of the Election Committee will be

- i. the Chair of the IDBF Athlete's Commission (assuming they are not a candidate and if so the Vice Chair);
- ii. 2 members of the IDBF Executive.

The Election Committee shall have full control over the conduct of the elections, including but not limited to:

- i. calling for nominations under Clause III above;
- ii. ruling on the validity of candidates under Clause III above;
- iii. declaring candidates elected under Clause III above;
- iv. controlling and ruling on the promotion of candidates under Clause IV(b) above;
- v. establishing the required polling location/s;
- vi. counting all votes and declaring elected candidates who have the highest number of votes for each of the positions available for election.

(e) Disputes

Candidates shall be entitled, in the event of any disputes not including rulings as to the validity of a proposed candidate's candidature, of appeal to an Appeals Panel. The Appeals Panel shall be comprised on the IDBF President along with two members of the IDBF Executive, chosen by lot, who are not on the Election Committee. The decision of the Appeals Panel is final.