

**ATHLETES COMMITTEE REPORT**

The newly composed FEI Athletes Committee met in person and by teleconference and shared inspiring speeches, informative reports and important views. Their first meeting delivered on the promise of getting the member athletes to share their voice through improved communication among them and discuss the most important issues concerning the athletes.

By having an athlete in each Technical Sport Committee, the Committee could effectively impact the development of their respective sport, whereas, their Chair, as member of the Executive Board, would voice the athletes' interests and concerns at the FEI highest decision-making level.

**Communication** was certainly the key subject of discussion, namely on four points:

- 1. How do athlete representatives communicate with the sports community they are supposed to represent and among themselves and how can the FEI assist in this process?**

Engaging with the athlete community can be very challenging. So the Committee has as main duty to establish dialogue with their respective communities/disciplines and represent their interests at the FEI level as well as improve dialogue.

Also, a platform where the athletes could share information and collect feedback is in progress. The FEI will target the disciplines audiences with emailers and invite them to join the relevant platforms.

- 2. How to reach out to NFs to encourage them to create a National Athletes Committee?**

A minority of NFs already include an athlete in their deciding bodies. The Athletes Committee strongly recommends National Athletes Committees being formed, following the IOC recommendation.

- 3. How does the FEI promote each of the disciplines and the Athlete representative role?**

The FEI will adopt a discipline approach with unique identities, dedicated channels, etc. and continue to promote the FEI Athlete Representative role on the website.

- 4. How can the FEI better serve the Athletes Community?**

An FEI Athlete Toolkit on InsideFEI is being developed to provide insight and input on matters concerning the athletes i.e. rules at play, sport nationality, competition manipulation, safeguarding in sport, medical safety, sports psychology and mental training techniques, etc. and to help athletes navigate the website and find all the information (or links to that information) that is relevant to them.

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19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Another highlight was the participation in the 9<sup>th</sup> IOC Athletes' Forum in Lausanne that ended with the following conclusions:

1. **The creation of a working group with ASOIF to develop a set of principles and guidelines in which an identified share of the Olympic funding would be dedicated to specific athlete support programmes including athlete representation. These principles and guidelines should be finalized and implemented for the next Olympic cycle starting after Tokyo 2020.**
2. **To find ways to better target the enablers of doping such as doctors, medical staff, coaches and officials, and to strongly sanction them.**
3. **The granting of more support for athletes in their career transition from sport to business through the launching of Athlete365 Business Accelerator.**
4. **Call for the support from IFs for the Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration**
5. **To invite athletes to be ambassadors for the Olympic Movement**
6. **To foster engagement and communication among the Athletes' Commissions by also including International Federations in future Forums.**