



## **INTERNATIONAL CHEER UNION (ICU) ATHLETES' COMMISSION TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **DEFINITION**

Within compliance of ICU statutes, the ICU Athletes' Commission includes active athletes who have recently competed at the ICU World Championships or were participants in the most recent edition of the ICU World Championships.

### **CREATION**

The ICU Athletes' Commission shall be constituted the majority, of whose members shall be elected by athletes participating in the ICU World Championships. Unless otherwise indicated, the election shall be held on the occasion of the ICU World Championships, in accordance with regulations adopted by the ICU Governing Council in consultation with the Athletes' Commission. This will include communication to the ICU National Federations (NFs) 1 year prior to the World Championships at which such election is to be held.

### **OBJECTIVES/FUNCTIONING**

The Athletes' Commission is a consultative body of the ICU and a link between the active Cheer athletes and the ICU.

It ensures that the athletes' points of view are taken into account in ICU decisions.

It ensures respect of the rights of the athletes within the Olympic Movement and draws up recommendations to that effect.

It puts forward nominations for representatives to sit on other ICU commissions or associated bodies and thus express the athletes' points of view.

It proposes to establish working groups responsible for liaison with Organising Committees for World, Continental, Regional, National and Local Championships, to help them to respond better to the needs of the athletes, as well as all decision making bodies for the ICU.

During the World Championships, the ICU Athletes' Commission is present in the Athletes' Village and Championships venues and is at the athletes' disposal.

The Athletes' Commission forwards its recommendations/proposals to the ICU Governing Council subject to the approval, after discussion within the Athletes' Commission, of the majority of the members present.

The ICU provides the Commission with an annual operating budget; expenses are subject to ICU approval. In addition, secretarial assistance is provided by the ICU.

## **COMPOSITION**

The Athletes' Commission is composed of no more than 9 members, including:

- Five (5) World Championship Continental Representative Athletes from each of the 5 continents: Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania. *Unless otherwise indicated from a timing standpoint, the 5 Continental Representative Athletes are elected during the ICU World Championships by the athletes competing in these Championships for a term of 4 years;*
- Three (3) World Championship At-Large Continental Representative Athletes, for a basis of population representation, from each of the 3 continents: Americas, Asia and Europe. *The 3 At-Large Continental Representative Athletes are appointed from the pool of Athletes not selected as a result of the elections during the ICU World Championships by the athletes competing in these Championships (e.g. a 2<sup>nd</sup> place candidate) for a term of 4 years- with selection criteria based on achieving balanced gender and regional per the decision of the ICU President;*
- One (1) World Championship Representative Adaptive Abilities (formerly termed "ParaCheer") Athlete. *Unless otherwise indicated, the 1 Continental Representative athlete is elected during the ICU World Championships by the Athletes with disabilities competing in these Championships for a term of 4 years.*

Only athletes who meet the term of being "active" may stand for election and appointment to the Athletes' Commission.

For the purpose of consistency, every 2 years, 5 or 4 of the Athletes' Commission members (approximately ½ of the Athletes' Commission) will be elected/appointed for their respective quadrennial term. *One election/appointment cycle, for 4 Athletes' Commission members, will include 2 Continental Representative Athlete elections (Africa and Europe), 1 Athlete with disability elections and 1 At-Large Continental Representative Athlete appointment (Europe). The other election/appointment cycle, for 5 Athletes' Commission members, will include 3 Continental Representative Athlete elections (Americas, Asia and Oceania), and 2 At-Large Continental Representative Athlete appointments (Americas & Asia).*

Every 4 years, within compliance of the ICU statutes, the Athletes' Commission shall propose an Athletes' Commission member to serve on the ICU Governing Council as the ICU At-Large Athlete Representative.

The Athletes' Commission Chairperson is elected by the Athletes' Commission members at the completion of the term by the outgoing Athletes' Commission Chairperson, or to the discretion of the Athletes' Commission anytime during a Chairperson's term.

## **MEETINGS**

The Athletes' Commission may hold up to two meetings per year. It also meets annually with the ICU Governing Council in order to submit its recommendations.

The meetings are convened by the Chairman of the Commission coordinated through the ICU secretariat.

The agenda and the working documents, as well as the minutes of the meeting, are prepared by the secretariat, at the request of the Chairman.