



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

# FACTSHEET IOC MEMBERS

UPDATE - DECEMBER 2017

The IOC is currently composed of 100 members, including President Thomas Bach, each being elected by the IOC Session by the majority of the votes cast.

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### THE MEMBERS

The IOC members, natural persons, are representatives of the IOC in their respective countries, and not their country's delegate within the IOC. As stated in the Olympic Charter: "*Members of the IOC represent and promote the interests of the IOC and of the Olympic Movement in their countries and in the organisations of the Olympic Movement in which they serve*" ([Olympic Charter](#), Rule 16).

The IOC members meet at the general assembly, or Session, which is the organisation's supreme organ, and whose decisions are final.

The IOC members are elected for a period of eight years, and their mandate can be renewed.

The age limit fixed is 70 years old, except for members co-opted between 1966 and 1999, for whom the age limit is 80. The Session may, on the proposal of the IOC Executive Board, extend the age limit for any IOC member for a period a four year maximum.

The members meet every year at the IOC Session in order to take decisions concerning the institution and the Olympic Games, such as the election of the host cities of the Games, changes to the Olympic Charter, election of the IOC President, Vice-Presidents, and members of the Executive Board, as well as the cooptation of new members.

### THE PRESIDENT

The IOC President is elected by the members of the organisation by a secret ballot. Only one IOC member can be elected to the presidency. Their mandate is of eight years, renewable once for four years. The IOC President is the IOC's permanent representative and presides over all its activities. Since 10 September 2013, the IOC President is Thomas Bach (Germany).

Demetrius Vikelas (GRE)	1894 – 1896
Pierre de Coubertin (FRA)	1896 – 1925
Henri de Baillet-Latour (BEL)	1925 – 1942
J. Sigfrid Edström (SWE)	1946 – 1952
Avery Brundage (USA)	1952 – 1972
Lord Killanin (IRL)	1972 – 1980
Juan Antonio Samaranch (ESP)	1980 – 2001
Jacques Rogge (BEL)	2001 – 2013
Thomas Bach (GER)	2013 –

### THE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

All members of the IOC Executive Board members (including the four Vice-Presidents) are elected by the Session in a secret ballot by a majority of the votes cast. The duration of the terms of office of the Vice-Presidents and of the ten other members of the IOC Executive Board is four years. A member may serve for a maximum of two successive terms; he may be elected again as member of the IOC Executive Board after a minimum period of two years.

The four IOC Vice-Presidents are:

- Juan Antonio Samaranch (ES);
- Ugur Erdener (TR);
- John Coates (AUS);
- Zaiqing Yu (CHN).

The Executive Board manages the affairs of the IOC. The EB:

- conducts the procedure for acceptance and selection of candidatures for the organisation of the Olympic Games;
- enacts, in the form it deems most appropriate, all regulations necessary to



ensure the proper implementation of the Olympic Charter and the organisation of the Olympic Games;

- presents a report to the Session on any proposed change of the Olympic Charter, one of its Rules or bye-laws;
- is responsible for the management of the IOC's finances and prepares an annual report;
- assumes the general overall responsibility for the administration of the IOC.

### **HONORARY PRESIDENT, HONORARY MEMBERS AND HONOUR MEMBERS**

An IOC member may be elected as Honorary President if they have rendered exceptional services as President of the IOC.

Count Jacques Rogge is Honorary President.

Equally, any member who retires after serving the IOC for at least 10 years and having rendered exceptional services to it may be elected as an honorary member of the IOC. There are currently 42 honorary members of the IOC

Finally, the Session can elect honour members from personalities outside the IOC who have rendered particularly special services to it. There is currently one honour member. The honorary members and the honour member do not have the right to vote at the IOC Session.

### **CURRENT COMPOSITION**

The members are elected as independent individuals, active athletes or presidents or persons with an executive or leadership function within an International Federation (IF) or National Olympic Committee (NOC).

Rule 16 of the Olympic Charter defines the composition of the IOC, including member eligibility and numbers. For the representatives of IFs and NOCs, there can be no more than 15 members for each of these families.

The IOC members elected as active athletes are also members of the Athletes' Commission. There cannot be more than 15 of these members. The majority of the members of this Commission are elected by the athletes taking part in the Olympic Games.

### **A SPORTING PAST**

Thirty-six current IOC members have competed at the Olympic Games, and twenty-nine of them have won medals.

IOC President Thomas Bach competed in one edition of the Games in fencing and won a gold medal (foil team in Montreal in 1976).

### **ELECTION CRITERIA FOR MEMBERS - COOPTATION**

The IOC Nominations Commission, comprising of at least one representative of the IOC Ethics Commission and one representative of the IOC Athletes' Commission, examines each candidature file and forwards them in the form of a report to the IOC Executive Board, the only competent organ to propose a candidate to the Session.

The Session is the only competent organ to elect an IOC member. The election is held by secret ballot, and the decisions are taken according to the majority of the votes cast. This type of appointment of members by members is known as co-optation.

### **VOTING METHODS**

So that a vote can take place, the quorum is set at half the total number of IOC members, plus one. Each IOC member can cast one vote in a vote during the Session. Except in the event of a modification to the fundamental principles of Olympism or the Olympic Charter, the decisions are taken by the majority of votes cast.



## ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS AT THE LAST IOC SESSIONS

During the **130<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** in 2016 eight new members were elected:

- Baklai Temengil (Palaos), as an individual member.
- Kristin Kloster Aasen (Norway), as an individual member ;
- Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul (Thailand) as an individual member ;
- Luis Mejia Oviedo (Dominican Republic) as an individual member ;
- Neven Ivan Ilic Alvarez (Chili) linked to his function in an NOC;
- Khalid Muhammad Al Zubair (Oman) linked to his function in an NOC;
- Jean-Christophe Rolland (France) from the Rowing International Federation;
- Ingmar de Vos (Belgique) from the Equestrian International Federation.

During the **129<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** in 2016 eight new members were elected:

- Nita Ambani (India), candidature as an individual member;
- Sari Essayah (Finland), linked to his function within an NOC;
- Ivo Ferriani (Italy), president of the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation;
- Luis Moreno (Colombia), candidature as an individual member;
- Auvita Rapilla (Papua New Guinea), linked to her function within an NOC;
- Anant Singh (South Africa), candidature as an individual member
- Tricia Smith (Canada);
- Karl Stoss (Austria), candidature as an individual member.

During the **128<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** in 2015 two new members were elected:

- Nenad Lalovic (Serbia), President of United World Wrestling;

- Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye, candidature linked to his function within an NOC.

During the **126<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** in Sochi in 2014, Poul-Erik Høyer (Denmark), Olympic champion in badminton and President of the Badminton World Federation, was elected as an IOC member

The **125<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** taking in Buenos Aires kicked off with the election of the following nine new IOC members:

- Octavian Morariu (Romania);
- Bernard Rajzman (Brazil);
- Mikaela Maria Antonia Cojuangco-Jaworski (Philippines);
- Alexander Zhukov (Russia Federation), candidature linked to his function within an NOC;
- Paul Kibii Tergat (Kenya);
- Lawrence Probst III (United States), candidature linked to his function within an NOC;
- Dagmawit Girmay Berhane (Ethiopia);
- Camiel Eurlings (the Netherlands);
- Stefan Holm (Sweden).

The **124<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** held in London elected five new IOC members

- Aisha Garad Ali (Djibouti) linked to function within an NOC;
- Pierre-Olivier Beckers (Belgium) linked to function within an NOC;
- Tsunekazu Takeda (Japan);
- Frank Fredericks (Namibia);
- Lingwei Li (China).

The **123<sup>rd</sup> IOC Session** elected three new members:

- José Perurena López (Spain), from the International Canoe Federation;
- Gerardo Werthein (Argentina);
- Barbara Kendall (New Zealand) active athlete.



The **122<sup>nd</sup> IOC Session** elected six new members. These were:

- HRH Prince Faisal bin Al-Hussein of Jordan (Jordan)
- Maria de la Soledad Casado Estupiñan (Spain), President of the International Triathlon Union (ITU)
- Barry John Maister (New Zealand)
- Dagmawit Girmay Berhane (Ethiopia)
- Patrick McQuaid (Ireland), President of the International Cycling Union (UCI)
- Yang Yang (China).

The **121<sup>st</sup> IOC Session** elected six new members:

- Richard Peterkin (St Lucia)
- HRH Frederik, the Crown Prince of Denmark
- Habu Ahmed Gumel (Nigeria)
- Habib Abdul Nabi Macki (Oman)
- Lydia Nsekera (Burundi)
- Göran Petersson (Sweden), President of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF)

At the **120<sup>th</sup> Session**, two new members were elected.

- Sergey Bubka, Olympic champion and President of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, was re-elected as an IOC member. His previous IOC membership was connected to his function as Chairman of the IOC Athletes' Commission.
- Dr Ugur Erdener, President of World Archery (WA), was elected as a new IOC member.

At the **119<sup>th</sup> Session**, four new members were elected:

- HRH Princess Haya bint Al-Hussein (United Arab Emirates), President of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI);
- Rita Subowo (Indonesia), President of the Indonesian Olympic Committee;
- Patrick Baumann (Switzerland), Secretary General of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA);

- Andrés Botero (Colombia), President of the Colombian Olympic Committee.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

During the **126<sup>th</sup> IOC Session**, two positions in the IOC Executive Board were up for vote: Zaiqing Yu became IOC Vice-President, a position that became available following the election of Thomas Bach as IOC President in September 2013. Ugur Erdener was elected to the IOC Executive Board with the mandate of Sam Ramsamy coming to an end.

During the **125<sup>th</sup> Session**, Anita DeFrantz, succeeded John Coates, who was himself elected Vice-President in replacement of Ser Miang Ng, whose back-to-back four-year terms came to an end.

At the **124<sup>th</sup> Session**, Nawal El Moutawakel and Craig Reedie were elected as IOC Vice-Presidents.

New members elected to the Executive Board include Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr., Sergey Bubka and Willi Kaltschmitt Luján.

As is traditional, four positions on the Executive Board were closely linked to the representation of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), the Association of International Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF), the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and the IOC Athletes' Commission. The following four IOC members were elected or re-elected to the Executive Board: Ching-Kuo Wu (ASOIF), René Fasel (re-elected, AIOWF), Patrick Hickey (ANOC), Claudia Bokel (Chair of the IOC Athletes' Commission). Outgoing Executive Board members were former Vice-Presidents Zaiqing Yu and Mario Pescante as well as Denis Oswald, Mario Vázquez Raña, Frank Fredericks and Richard Carrión.

During the **123<sup>rd</sup> Session** Gunilla Lindberg was elected to the EB to replace Gerhard Heiberg, who had reached the end of his term on the EB.



Lindberg has been an IOC member since 1996. This is her second stint on the EB, after she previously served on the Board from 2000 to 2004.

During the **122<sup>nd</sup> Session**, Thomas Bach, who was previously an IOC Vice-President, was re-elected to this position for another four years. Sam Ramsamy was re-elected as an Executive Board member, also for another four years.

During the **121<sup>st</sup> IOC Session** Mario Pescante and Ser Miang Ng became IOC Vice-Presidents, and Craig Reedie and John Coates joined the IOC Executive Board.

## ATHLETES' ELECTIONS

Created in 1981, the Athletes' Commission is the link between the Olympic athletes and the IOC. It also enables the athletes to have their voice heard within the Olympic Movement.

During the Olympic Games in Rio in 2016, four athletes have been elected to the Athletes' Commission of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) by their peers:

- Britta Heidemann (Germany), former fencer and new member of the Athletes' Commission.
- Seug-min Ryu (South Korea), former table tennis player and new member of the Athletes' Commission.
- Daniel Gyurta (Hungary), former swimmer and new member of the Athlete's Commission.
- Election de Yelena Isinbayeva (Russian Federation), former pole-vaulter and new member of the Athletes' Commission..

In total 5185 athletes participated to the voting booths. They had to choose 4 athletes from four different sports among 23 candidates from the same number of countries..

During the **Olympic Winter Games in Sochi** in 2014, Ole Einar Bjørndalen (Norway - biathlon)

and Hayley Wickenheiser (Canada - ice hockey) have been elected to the Athletes' Commission of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) by their peers. The two elected members replaced The two new members will replace Rebecca Scott and Saku Koivu, who were elected to the Athletes' Commission at the Turin Games in 2006 for a term of eight years each. In April 2016, Bjørndalen resigned as an IOC member after his decision to continue his biathlon career.

A new Olympic record was set by the Sochi athletes after 80.87 per cent of them made their way to the voting booths to cast their votes. Some 2,871 athletes were eligible to vote and had nine candidates from the same number of countries to choose from.

During the **Games of the Olympiad in London in 2012**, four athletes were elected by their peers to the IOC Athletes' Commission: Danka Bartekova (Slovakia –shooting), James Tomkins (Australia - rowing), Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe - aquatics) and Tony Estanguet (France - canoe). Some 6,924 athletes – 64 per cent of all eligible voters – choose from among 21 candidates from the same number of countries.

In 2010, amongst the nine candidates from various countries, Adam Pengilly (Great Britain - bobsleigh) and Angela Marie Ruggiero (USA - ice hockey) were elected to the IOC Athletes' Commission.

The next election to the IOC Athletes' Commission is scheduled for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang, where two new members will be elected in the same way as in Sochi.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Only NOCs with an athletes' commission may put forward a candidate. In order to be eligible, the candidates have to have participated in the previous edition of the Olympic Games, and/or have to have taken part in the Games in which



they are candidates. The candidates has to be 18 years or older and have never been found guilty of a doping offence during their sports career.

## THE VOICE OF THE ATHLETES

The IOC Athletes' Commission is chaired by Angela Ruggiero (USA- Ice Hockey) who was elected to this position by the Commission members in 2016 coming after Claudia Bokel.

At each edition of the Olympic Games (summer and winter), the athletes taking part are invited to vote to elect the majority of the members of the Athletes' Commission. The Commission has currently 17 members:

- eight summer sports athletes, elected during the Games of the Olympiad (four at each edition of the Games);
- four winter sports athletes, elected during the Olympic Winter Games (two at each edition of the Games); and
- up to seven athletes, appointed by the IOC President to ensure an equal balance of gender, sport and region.

In addition, a representative of the World Olympians Association (WOA) and a representative of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) are ex-officio members.

Learn more about the IOC Athletes' Commission [here](#)

## Further information

[IOC members](#)

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