International Olympic Committee

FACTSHEET

IOC Members

23 July 2021

Roles and responsibilities

The IOC is currently composed of 99 members, including IOC President Thomas Bach, each being elected by the IOC Session by the majority of the votes cast.

The IOC 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, Chapter 2, 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 IOC Session may, on the proposal of the IOC Executive Board (EB), 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 hosts of the Games, changes to the Olympic Charter, election of the IOC President, Vice-Presidents, and members of the IOC EB, as well as the cooptation of new members.

The IOC 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).

Table A: IOC Presidents

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 – 2025

The IOC Vice-Presidents and IOC Executive Board (EB) Members

All ten members of the IOC EB Members (including the four Vice-Presidents) are elected by the IOC 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 EB is four years. A member may serve for a maximum of two successive terms; he may be elected again as member of the IOC EB after a minimum period of two years. The four IOC Vice-Presidents are:
- Anita L. DeFrantz (USA);
- Ser Miang NG (SGP);
- John Coates, AC (AUS);
- Zaiqing Yu (CHN).

The IOC EB manages the affairs of the IOC. It:
- 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 IOC 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.

IOC Honorary President, IOC Honorary Members and IOC 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 43 honorary members of the IOC.

Finally, the IOC Session can elect IOC Honour Members from personalities outside the IOC who have rendered particularly special services to it. There is currently two IOC Honour Members. The IOC Honorary Members and the IOC Honour Members 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 Sports 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-five current IOC Members have competed at the Olympic Games, and thirty 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 EB, the only competent organ to propose a candidate to the IOC Session.

The IOC 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 IOC 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 IOC Members at the last IOC Sessions

During the **136th IOC Session** in 2020, 5 new members were elected:

- Maria de la Caridad Colón Ruenes (Cuba), as an individual member;
- Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović (Croatia), as an individual member;
- Reema Bandar Al-Saud (Saudi Arabia), as an individual member;
- Battushig Batbold (Mongolia), as an individual member;
- Sebastian Coe (Great Britain), linked to his function within an IF.

During the **135th IOC Session** in 2020, 3 new members were elected:

- Yasuhiro Yamashita (Japan), linked to his function within an NOC;
- David Haggerty (USA), linked to his function within an IF;
- Gianni Infantino (Switzerland), linked to his function within an IF.

During the **134th IOC Session** in 2019, 10 new members were elected:

- Odette Assembe Engoulou (Cameroon), as an individual member;
- Filomena Fortes (Cape Verde), as an individual member;
- Matlohang Moiloa-Ramoqopo (Lesotho), as an individual member;
- Tidjane Thiam (Côte d'Ivoire), as an individual member;
- Laura Chinchilla (Costa Rica), as an individual member;
- Erick Thohir (Indonesia), as an individual member;
- Spyros Capralos (Greece), as an individual member;
- Mustapha Berraf (Algeria), linked to his function in a continental association of NOCs;
- Narinder Dhruv Batra (India), linked to his function within an NOC;
- Kee Heung Lee (South Korea), linked to his function within an NOC.

During the **133rd IOC Session** in 2018, 9 new members were elected:

- Giovanni Malagò (Italy), as an individual member;
- Felicite Rwemarika (Rwanda), as an individual member;
- Camilo Pérez López Moreira (Paraguay), as an individual member;
- Daina Gudzineviciute (Lithuania), as an individual member;
- Samira Asghari (Afghanistan), as an individual member;
- HRH Prince Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck (Bhutan), linked to his function within an NOC;
- William Frederick Blick (Uganda), linked to his function within an NOC;
- Morinari Watanabe (Japan), linked to his function within an IF;
- Andrew Parsons (Brazil), linked to his function within an IF.

During the **132nd IOC Session** in 2018, 1 new member was elected:

- Jiří Kejval (Czech Republic), as an individual member.

During the **IOC Session Lima** in 2017, 8 new members were elected:

- Baklai Temengil (Palau), 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 within an NOC;
- Khalid Muhammad Al Zubair (Oman), linked to his function within an NOC;
- Jean-Christophe Rolland (France), linked to his function within an IF;
- Ingmar de Vos (Belgium), linked to his function within an IF.

During the **129th IOC Session** in 2016, 8 new members were elected:

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

During the **128th IOC Session** in 2015, two new members were elected:

- Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye (Senegal), linked to his function within an NOC;
- Nenad Lalovic (Serbia), linked to his function within an IF.

During the **126th IOC Session** in 2014, 1 new member was elected:

- Poul-Erik Høyer (Denmark), linked to his function within an IF.

During the **125th IOC Session** in 2013, 9 new members were elected:

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

During the **extraordinary IOC Session** in 2013, 4 new members were elected:

- Danka Bartekova (Russia), as an active athlete;
- James Tomkins (Australia), as an active athlete;
- Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe), as an active athlete;
- Tony Estanguet (France), as an active athlete.

During the **124th IOC Session** in 2012, 5 new members were elected:

- Tsunekazu Takeda (Japan), as an individual member;
- Frank Fredericks (Namibia), as an individual member;
- Lingwei Li (People's Republic of China), as an individual member.
- Aisha Garad Ali (Djibouti), linked to her function within an NOC;
- Pierre-Olivier Beckers (Belgium), linked to his function within an NOC.

IOC Executive Board (EB) elections

During the **136th IOC Session** in 2020, Mikaela Cojuangco Jaworski (Philippines) and Gerardo Werthein (Argentina) were elected as members of the IOC EB. They replaced Sergey Bubka (Ukraine), whose eight-year term came to an end, and Ser Miang Ng (Singapore), whose four-year term came to an end and who was elected Vice-President.

During the **134th IOC Session** in 2019, HRH Prince Feisal (Jordania) replaced Gunilla Lindberg (Sweden) on the IOC EB, whose eight-year term on the IOC EB came to an end. Nawal El Moutawakel (Morocco) replaced Willi Kaltschmitt Luján (Guatemala), who reached the age limit at the end of this year.

During the **133rd IOC Session** in 2018, Ivo Ferriani (Italy) was elected to the IOC EB as a member "with a view to representing the interests of the Olympic Winter International Federations.".

During the **IOC Session Lima** in 2017, Anita L. DeFrantz (USA) was elected IOC Vice-president and Denis Oswald as a member of the IOC EB.

During the **129th IOC Session** in 2016, Juan Antonio Samaranch (Spain) and Uğur Erdener (Turkey) replaced Vice-Presidents Nawal El Moutawakel (Morocco) and Sir Craig Reedie (Great Britain). Five new and returning members also joined the IOC EB: Gian Franco Kasper (Switzerland), Angela Ruggiero (USA), Sergey Bubka (Ukraine), Ser Miang Ng (Singapore), and Willi Kaltschmitt (Guatemala).

During the **128th IOC Session** in 2015, Gunilla Lindberg (Sweden) was re-elected as a member of the IOC EB.

During the **127th IOC Session** in 2014, Jean-Claude Killy (France), Raja Randhir Singh (India), HRH Prince Nawaf Faisal Fahd Abdulaziz (Saudi Arabia), Leo Wallner (Austria) and Melitón Sánchez Rivas (Panama) were elected as IOC Honorary Member.

During the **126th IOC Session** in 2014, two positions in the IOC EB were up for vote: Zaiqing Yu (People's Republic of China) became IOC Vice-President, a position that became available following the election of Thomas Bach (Germany) as IOC President in September 2013. Ugur Erdener (Turkey) was elected to the IOC EB with the mandate of Sam Ramsamy (South Africa) coming to an end.

During the **125th IOC Session** in 2013, Anita L. DeFrantz (USA), succeeded John Coates (Australia), who was himself elected Vice-President in replacement of Ser Miang Ng (Singapore), whose back-to-back four-year terms came to an end.

At the **124th IOC Session** in 2012, Nawal El Moutawakel (Morocco) and Craig Reedie (Great Britain) were elected as IOC Vice-Presidents. New members elected to the IOC EB included Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr. (Spain), Sergey Bubka (Ukraine) and Willi Kaltschmitt Luján (Guatemala). As is traditional, four positions on the IOC EB 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 IOC EB: Ching-Kuo Wu (Chinese Tapei, ASOIF), René Fasel (Switzerland, re-elected, AIOWF), Patrick Hickey (Ireland, ANOC), Claudia Bokel (Germany, Chair of the IOC Athletes' Commission). Outgoing IOC EB Members were former Vice-Presidents Zaiqing Yu (People's Republic of China) and Mario Pescante (Italy) as well as Denis Oswald (Switzerland), Mario Vázquez Raña (Mexico), Frank Fredericks (Namibia) and Richard Carrión (Puerto Rico).

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.

At the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018, two athletes have been elected to the to the IOC's Athletes' Commission by their fellow Olympians:

- Emma Terho (Finland, ice hockey);
- Kikkan Randall (USA, cross-country skiing).

With a record participation rate of 83.86 per cent, athletes at the Olympic Winter Games made their way to the voting booths in the Athlete365 Space in both the PyeongChang and Gangneung Olympic Villages to cast their votes. All 2,930 athletes competing in PyeongChang were eligible to vote and had six candidates to choose from representing three continents and five different sports.

During the Olympic Games Rio 2016, four athletes have been elected to the IOC's Athletes' Commission by their peers:

- Britta Heidemann (Germany, fencing);
- Seug-min Ryu (South Korea, table tennis);
- Daniel Gyurta (Hungary, aquatics);
- Yelena Isinbayeva (Russia, athletics).

Still during the Olympic Games Rio 2016, the IOC appointed four new members to the IOC's Athletes' Commission:

- Nadin Dawani (Jordania, taekwondo);
- Aya Medany (Egypt, modern pentathlon);
- Saina Nehwal (India, badminton);
- Luis Scola (Argentina, basketball).

In total, 5,185 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 Sochi 2014, two athletes were elected to the IOC's Athletes' Commission by their peers:

- Ole Einar Bjørndalen (Norway, biathlon);
- Hayley Wickenheiser (Canada, ice hockey).

The two elected members replaced Rebecca Scott (Canada, cross country) and Saku Koivu (Finland, ice hockey), who were elected to the IOC's Athletes' Commission at the Olympic Winter Games Turin 2006 for a term of eight years each. In April 2016, Ole Einar Bjørndalen (Norway, biathlon) 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 Olympic Games London 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);
- Tony Estanguet (France, canoe).

Some 6,924 athletes – 64 per cent of all eligible voters – chose from among 21 candidates from the same number of countries.

The next election to the IOC Athletes' Commission is scheduled during the Games of the XXXII Olympiad Tokyo 2020, where amongst 30 candidates, four athletes will be elected and will replace the four members whose mandates finish at the end of Tokyo 2020, including Chair Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe, aquatics) and members Danka Bartekova (Slovakia, shooting), Tony Estanguet (France, canoe) and James

Tomkins (Great Britain, rowing). In addition, an appointed member of the Commission, Stefan Holm (Sweden), will also end his term next year.

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 have 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 Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe) who was elected to this position by the Commission members in 2018 coming after Angela Ruggiero (USA).

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 eleven athletes, appointed by the IOC President.

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

Further information on the IOC Athletes' Commission here.

Further information on IOC Members here.

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