



WADA ATHLETE COMMITTEE

MEETING NOTES

Wednesday 22 April 2020 (07:00-10:00; in Montreal)
via virtual conference call

In attendance:

- Ben Sandford (*Chair*)
- Danka Bartekova
- Chelsey Gotell
- Jeongho Hong
- Kady Kanoute
- Li Na
- Adam Pengilly
- Emma Terho

WADA Representatives:

- Witold Bańka (partial attendance)
- Olivier Niggli (partial attendance)
- Frederic Donze
- Stuart Kemp
- Stacy Spletzer-Jegen

Apologies:

- Kirsty Coventry
- Petr Koukal
- Seungmin Ryu
- Yuhan Tan

The following points are highlights from the agenda and meeting held virtually on 22 April 2020:

Agenda

The agenda included Athlete Anti-doping ACT, Anti-doping Athlete's Ombudsperson, Governance Reform/Athlete Representation, Athlete Updates on Technology, Possible Online Athlete Sessions/Webinars, and Misc. Topics for discussion and Next meeting.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the Committee and its two new members in particular, Yuhan Tan and Chelsey Gotell. Each member provided a short introduction.

2. WADA Leadership update

A welcome was also provided by both Witold Banka and Olivier Niggli who attended the beginning of the meeting. Both the President and Director General provided members of the AC with an update on current WADA priorities and were available for questions. This included a brief outline of the Strategic plan and WADA priorities.

3. Athlete Representation within WADA

Completing the work on athlete representation was set as a priority for the WADA AC. This work follows on from the WADA Working Group on Governance Matters and its recommendations that were adopted by the Foundation Board in November 2018. The Governance Working Group recommended that there be a follow up review to deal with athlete representation, which has been ongoing since then, and initially the WADA AC established a working group with a mix of members from the WADA AC, external experts and WADA.

It was decided that the working group would be reformed with new members and a new Chairperson. It was decided that Adam Pengilly will chair the working group and its members will be Ben Sandford, Emma Terho, Kady Kanoute, Li Na and Chelsey Gotell. The group will start work immediately and look to present proposals to the rest of the WADA AC later in the year. The WADA AC will then make the decision on what to present as a proposal to the WADA Executive Committee and the Foundation Board.

4. Ombudsperson

Another focus of the WADA AC over the next year is working towards the establishment of an Ombudsperson (or Ombudsperson office) as has previously been presented to the Executive Committee. Previous information about the concept was provided as an update to members. The AC members discussed how this concept could move forward. It was decided to work with WADA to establish a working group. Initial discussions with WADA on this have already begun and we will provide further updates at the next Executive Committee meeting.

5. Athletes' Anti-Doping Rights Act (Athletes Act)

With the revised World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and the Athletes Act coming into force on 1 January 2021, the AC members discussed how to promote the Athletes Act to athletes and encourage Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) to adopt Part 2 - 'Recommended Athlete Rights' of the Act. Further discussions on this will take place in the coming weeks, and the Committee will look to promote it through a number of different channels the coming months as we approach 2021.

6. Online Communication

With the WADA Symposium and related Athlete Session being cancelled this year, the AC members decided that holding webinars which can be attended by athletes would be a good approach. The Committee decided to come up with a list of possible topics and circulate in the coming weeks. Discussion around who will initially be invited to attend and other details. The WADA AC will look at distributing the webinars to ADOs so they can be translated or subtitled to reach as many athletes as possible.

7. Athlete's update on Technology

Stuart Kemp provided an update on the ADAMS Athlete Central App. Discussions on making this a hub for all athletes, using it for education purposes and creating a feedback loop within the system, in particular. The upcoming WADA paperless system was also discussed.

The WADA AC will meet virtually again next on 1 May 2020 to receive updates on WADA's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan and Operation LIMS.