WADA ATHLETE COMMITTEE MEETING
13 November 2018
Baku, Azerbaijan

Meeting Outcomes

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Athlete Committee (AC) convened its second in-person meeting of the year in Baku, Azerbaijan on 13 November 2018.

In attendance

- Beckie Scott (Chair), Victoria Aggar, Danka Bartekova, Jeongho Hong, Petr Koukal, Adam Pengilly, Ben Sandford, Richard Schmidt, Seung Min Ryu, Emma Terho, Chiel Warners, Lauryn Williams
- WADA Representatives: Frederic Donze, Stacy Spletzer-Jegen

Meeting Outcomes

1.0 The WADA Athlete Committee acknowledges and thanks those athletes and athlete groups who have spoken up and rendered public their opinions and positions on the current state of anti-doping. The athletes’ voice is important and valuable, and should always be part of the conversation.

2.0 Governance

While we acknowledge that some progress has been made, the WADA AC is disappointed that increased athlete representation was not included as part of the recommendations made by the working group on governance review. The WADA AC holds the following key positions which we strongly recommend are adopted and implemented as soon as possible in order to strengthen WADA’s governance and athlete representation:

- Athlete Committee: That the WADA AC has voting representation on the Executive Committee and Foundation Board of WADA.
- That there should be three independent members of the Executive Committee - recruited, vetted and nominated by the Nominations Committee.
- That the Ethics Board should have decision-making power.

a. Action Items: The WADA AC agreed to establish a Working Group to analyze and develop a model of Athlete Representation that sufficiently reflects the broad athlete constituency, and is accountable to that constituency, as soon as possible.
3.0 RUSADA

The WADA Athlete Committee maintains its disappointment with WADA’s decision to declare RUSADA compliant before having met all the conditions established by the roadmap. However, we acknowledge that full access to the LIMS data must be obtained by WADA by Dec.31, 2018. As soon as this data has been validated, or not, the WADA AC expects a decision rendered on compliance to be immediate.

4.0 The Anti-Doping Charter of Athlete Rights

That WADA AC continues to engage the broader athlete community as part of its development of an Anti-Doping Charter of Athlete Rights, with the aim for it to be fully implemented into the revised World Anti-Doping CODE.

• The next CODE consultation phase will include the draft of the Anti-Doping Charter of Athlete Rights.

5.0 CODE Review Process

The WADA AC was provided an overview of, and opportunity to, consult on proposed CODE revisions.

6.0 ADAMS

The WADA AC welcomes and supports the new “Athlete Central” (new Whereabouts App), and is involved in ongoing developments and feedback.

7.0 The WADA Athlete Forum

The WADA AC acknowledges the value and importance of creating an environment and opportunity for the broader athlete community to engage on the subject of anti-doping; particularly around the development and finalization of the Anti-Doping Charter of Rights.

For this reason, WADA management and the WADA AC will assess the feasibility of combining a 2nd edition of a WADA Athlete Forum together with the WADA ADO symposium in Lausanne, March, 2019.

8.0 Athlete Groups Collaboration

The WADA AC has received a proposal from the IOC AC that includes use of their database to ensure broad consultation across athletes for the next phase of Charter consult, an invitation to participate and/or present at the IOC Athletes’ Forum, and an offer to meet in-person. The WADA AC appreciates the offers extended and will work toward exploring the potential for improved collaboration and communication between the two athlete representative bodies.
• The WADA AC will establish a working group to explore more broadly the potential for enhanced communication mechanisms and relationships with athletes and athlete groups.

9.0 Athletes

The WADA AC voices its concerns around recent allegations of mistreatment within WADA, and wishes to express its strong desire for WADA to remain a place of mutual respect, equality and dignity for all members.