



**AUSTRALIAN  
CHEER UNION**

# **Australian Cheer Union**

**Athlete's Commission**

**Terms of Reference**

**VERSION 1.1**

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# AUSTRALIAN CHEER UNION Ltd.

## Athletes Commission Terms of Reference



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the recommendation of the IOC 2000 Reform Commission that “athletes should be well represented at all levels of the sports movement: IOC, IFs, NOCs and NFs” and the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, and in view of Rules 2.7 and 28.1.3 of the Olympic Charter, the IOC encourages International Federations (IFs) and National Federations (NFs) to form their own Athlete’s Commissions.

The Australian Cheer Union (ACU) acknowledges that as the “voice of the athletes” it has a responsibility to canvas, listen to and encourage vibrant discussion and information-sharing amongst the athlete community, and to facilitate appropriate forums whereby athletes can voice their concerns and opinions in a comfortable environment.

## 2. PURPOSE

The Athletes' Commission:

- Represent the views and opinions of the athletes and ensure their voice is heard within the Australian Cheer Union
- Inform athletes about ACU activities (i.e educational tools, rules and regulations)
- Work with and support ACU in its mission to lead, promote, grow and champion cheerleading in Australia
- A resource for ACU to enable athletes to be drawn on to provide advice and feedback on matters relevant to athletes
- A group that can facilitate and promote high standards of sportsmanship and ethical performance when competing/participating at the state, national or international level

## 3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The roles and responsibilities of the Athletes' Commission are:

- Establish open lines of communication with athletes to identify issues relevant to cheerleading and performance cheer that need to be addressed by the Commission
- Examine the ACU Operational Plan and give feedback to the Board on areas of improvement and/or concerns that require input from athletes
- Assist in the formulation of policy for athlete support programs

- Engage actively with initiatives and projects that protect and support clean, drug free and ethical athletes on and off the competition floor.
- To provide support for athletes to achieve their personal best
- Consider issues related to athletes and provide regular advice and recommendations to the ACU National Board
- Undertake special projects that may be relevant to the Commission and their Terms of Reference.
- Communicate and form alliances with other Oceania region athlete's commissions.
- Provide representation for Australia and the Oceania region at International Federation Athlete's commission meetings.

Note: This is not a conclusive list and roles and responsibilities may be changed from time to time as determined by the Board.

#### 4. MEMBERSHIP

- The Commission should have a minimum of five members but no more than 10 members
- All Members must be older than 16 years
- Members should preferably represent different states throughout Australia.
- Commission members must never have received any sanction in relation to the World Anti-doping Code.
- The Commission should be composed of a majority of athletes who, at the time of their election/nomination, are participating at a National or International Level
- All disciplines of Cheerleading and Performance Cheer should be represented
- Both sexes should be represented within the commission.
- The majority of the members of the Commission must be elected by their peers.
- ACU may appoint additional members to the Commission in order to ensure a fair balance in terms of gender, sports discipline and geography. Appointed members must be a minority of the board.
- The commission members should elect their Chair from among those members who have been elected to the Commission by their peers, and the Chair may serve in this role for up to two (2) years. After which the term of office may be renewed.

- The commission members should elect a secretary from among those members who have been elected to the Commission by their peers, and the secretary may serve in this role for up to two (2) years. After which the term of office may be renewed.
- The term of office will be two (2) years in the interim 2020-2022 and then four (4) year terms from 2022.

## 5. INDUCTION AND EDUCATION

- Athlete commission members will receive an induction package including all relevant policies and guidelines.
- All commission members should have completed the Sports Integrity Australia Anti-Doping Fundamentals (level one) and Annual Update2021 (level two) e-learning programs.

## 6. MEETINGS

- Unless otherwise instructed to meet on an ad-hoc basis by the Board, the Committee will meet at least four times per calendar year.
- Athlete commission members will receive an induction package including all relevant policies and guidelines.
- All Committee members are required to attend each meeting in person or through other approved means such as teleconferencing or video conferencing.
- The required Quorum must be met for meetings or otherwise the meeting must be postponed. See below for quorum details.
- The notice and agenda of a meeting will include relevant supporting papers

## 8. QUORUM AND VOTING

- A quorum will be more than half the members
- Any matters requiring decision will be decided by a majority vote of members present.
- Where an equal number of votes are cast in favour of and against the matter, the matter will not be carried

## 9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Commission members will be invited to disclose conflicts of interest at the commencement of each meeting.
- Conflict of interest disclosure is to be a standing item on the agenda for each meeting.
- Ongoing conflicts of interest need not be disclosed at each meeting once acknowledged.
- Where members or invitees are deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest, they will be excused from the Commission discussions on the issue where the conflict exists and excluded from any vote.

## 10. MINUTES

- Minutes of the meeting shall be prepared by the Secretary, approved by the chair and circulated to the members within two weeks of the meeting to which they relate.
- The minutes must be ratified at the next meeting of the Commission and signed by the Chair of that next meeting.

## 11. REPORTING TO THE BOARD

- Unless required sooner, the Chair of the Commission will report to the Board at the next meeting of the Board after each meeting of the Committee

## 12. REVIEWS

- These Terms of Reference and composition of the Commission will be reviewed and ratified by the ACU Board every two years.

## 13. RESOURCES

<https://elearning.sportingintegrity.gov.au>

### Review history

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date reviewed</i>	<i>Date endorsed</i>	<i>Content reviewed/purpose</i>
1.1	22/05/2020		• <i>Original Document</i>