



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

FACTSHEET IOC MEMBERS UPDATE - JULY 2014

The IOC is currently composed of 106 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 2013](#), 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 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

The IOC Vice-Presidents are elected by the Session. The duration of their mandate is limited to four years. The four Vice-Presidents are:

- Nawal El Moutawakel (MAR);
- Craig Reedie (GBR);
- John Coates (AUS);
- Zaiqing Yu (CHN).

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 33 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-nine current IOC members have competed at the Olympic Games, and twenty-eight 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 **126th IOC Session** in Sochi Poul-Erik Høyer, Olympic champion in badminton and President of the Badminton World Federation, was elected as an IOC member

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

- Octavian Morariu of Romania, candidature as an individual member;
- Bernard Rajzman of Brazil, candidature as an individual member;
- Mikaela Maria Antonia Cojuangco-Jaworski (Philippines), candidature as an individual member;
- Alexander Zhukov (Russia Federation), candidature linked to his function within an NOC;
- Paul Kibii Tergat (Kenya), candidature as an individual member;
- Lawrence Probst III (United States), candidature linked to his function within an NOC;
- Dagmawit Girmay Berhane (Ethiopia), candidature as an individual member;



- Camiel Eurlings (the Netherlands), candidature as an individual member;
- Stefan Holm (Sweden), candidature linked to his function as active athlete.

The **124th 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), individual member;
- Frank Fredericks (Namibia), individual member;
- Lingwei Li (China), individual member.

The **123rd IOC Session** elected three new members:

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

The **122nd 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 **121st IOC Session** elected six new members from four different continents. In other decisions, Mario Pescante and Ser Miang Ng became IOC Vice-Presidents, and Craig Reedie and John Coates joined the IOC Executive

Board. The Session also elected five honorary members. The new IOC members elected were:

- 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 **120th 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 **119th Session**, four new members were elected, Gerhard Heiberg was re-elected to the Executive Board, and three members became honorary members.

- 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 **126th 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 **125th 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 **124th 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 **123rd 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 **122nd 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.

IOC HONORARY MEMBERS

Kevan Gosper and Lamine Diack, whose IOC membership terminated at the end of 2013 as they have reached the age limit, became honorary members. Both have served as IOC members for over 10 years. During this 125th IOC Session in Buenos Aires, King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands, was also named IOC honorary member.

Francisco Elizalde, Alpha Ibrahim Diallo and Carlos Nuzman were appointed as Honorary Members as of 1 January 2013. They have all served as IOC members for over 10 years.

At the Durban Session, six members who ended their terms of office at the end of 2011 were granted honorary membership status as of 1 January 2012. Those members are: Phillip Walter Coles, Chiharu Igaya, Shun-ichiro Okano, Arne Ljungqvist, Antun Vrdoljak and Lassana Palenfo.

The Session in Vancouver also elected Manuela Di Centa and Kipchoge Keino, both Olympic champions, as honorary members. Manuela Di Centa, an IOC member from 1999 and elected to the Athletes' Commission at the Games in Salt Lake City in 2002, had come to the end of her term of office. She has been an IOC honorary member since 1 March 2010. Kipchoge Keino was an IOC member for 10 years, and his term of office expired at the end of 2010 due to the rules concerning age limits. He has been an honorary member since 1 January 2011.

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.

The four athletes elected by their peers to the IOC Athletes' Commission during the Games of



the Olympiad in London in 2012 are: 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. The votes had to be cast for four different athletes from four different sports. In order to be eligible, the candidates had to have participated either in the Olympic Games in Beijing in 2008 or in London in 2012, and have never been found guilty of a doping offence during their sports career.

The IOC Athletes' Commission election in Vancouver saw the participation of 1,965 athletes – 75.3% of all eligible voters. The members, elected for a term of eight years, were: Adam Pengilly (Great Britain - bobsleigh) and Angela Marie Ruggiero (USA - ice hockey). The two were elected as IOC members. They replaced Pernilla Wiberg and Manuela Di Centa, who were elected to the Athletes' Commission at the Games in Salt Lake City in 2002, and came to the end of their term of office.

The next election to the IOC Athletes' Commission is scheduled for the 2016 and the Games of the Olympiad in Rio, where four new members will be elected in the same way as in London.

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 VOICE OF THE ATHLETES

The IOC Athletes' Commission is now chaired by Claudia Bokel, who was elected to this position by the Commission members on 22

July 2012. Bokel is also representing the athletes' interests on the IOC's Executive Board.

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. Following the reforms adopted by the 110th IOC Session in December 1999, the Commission has comprised 19 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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IOC MEMBERS

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