

ATHLETES' COMMISSION 2024 Election Pack

Introduction



The British Olympic Association

The British Olympic Association (BOA) is the National Olympic Committee for Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is responsible for preparing and leading the Team GB delegation at the Olympic Games and promoting the Olympic Movement within the UK.

The BOA Athletes' Commission

The Athletes' Commission (AC), is a group of elected Olympians from summer and winter sports. We advise the BOA, ensuring Team GB athletes' viewpoints and interests are at the heart of every decision. We also work closely with the BOA's teams to help shape each stage of the athlete journey, from pre-Games to post-Games. Our current Chair, Lizzie Simmonds, is responsible for feeding the views of the Commission and wider athlete community to the BOA's senior leadership team and executive Board. To see the current Athletes' Commission members click here

How is the Commission formed?

The AC, led by the Chair, includes 12 elected Olympians, voted into position by the Team GB athlete community. Six members complete their terms in December 2024, and applications are now open for new candidates to get involved and support the excellent work of the Commission throughout the next Olympic cycle. This pack contains information about the election and how to apply.







What does the AC do?



Commission members gain exclusive insight and involvement in Olympic cycle planning. Following the success of Paris 2024, we're excited to help shape the world-class support and services Team GB athletes will receive at Milan Cortina 2026 and LA 2028. Some key areas we influenced for Paris 2024 include:

Kit design: We contributed at every stage of the design, ensuring athletes felt comfortable and confident, on and off the field of play

'One Team GB' culture: We added ideas to Games Ready sessions, athlete gifting, team announcements, Kitting Out, and other key moments

Team GB environments: Using feedback from previous Games, we helped the BOA teams design comfortable, connected spaces in the prep camp, village, and satellite venues

Partner activations and fan zones: We provided input on campaigns and activations to bring athlete stories to life before and during the Games

Communication: We run a private Instagram (@teamgb_athletes) to share updates and support our Team GB athlete community

Post-Games support: Several AC members are trained in the UKSI 'Decompression' protocol to offer vital post-Games support









International representation

As your representatives within the international Olympic athlete network, we also respond to global issues and work with key stakeholders to influence policies that impact Team GB athletes

Why should you get involved?



AC members help shape every stage of an athlete's journey with Team GB, from competing at a Youth Games to post-Olympic life. But being part of the AC isn't just about giving back:

- You'll collaborate with passionate, like-minded individuals, communicate with the broader athlete community, and expand your profile and network
- You'll gain valuable skills; engaging with diverse viewpoints, challenging ideas, and contributing proactively to the BOA's strategy
- Members who are interested in additional leadership development can take ownership of topic discussion, focus groups, or AC projects
- You'll build relationships with BOA teams, with the opportunity to support wider Team GB projects that align with your passions, such as sustainability, social impact or content creation

Hear from some of our current members...

What I really love is the coming together of all these brilliant athletes who I might not normally cross paths with, united with a common goal to give our athletes the best possible experience at the Olympic Games

Adam Gemili Athletics

Helping current athletes to maximise their Olympic experiences, and their careers during and after sport, is hugely rewarding. Being part of such a great group of athletes on the AC is also hard to beat!

loyd Wallace Freestyle Skiing

As a member of the AC, I feel extremely grateful to be involved during important discussions about athlete experience

Emily Muskett Weightlifting

I've loved being part of the AC because I've seen the impact the athlete voice can have on key decision making

Georgie Twigg Hockey

Understanding the sporting landscape and the importance of diplomacy has been fascinating and has supported my development in this space

Kristian Thomas Gymnastics

I have really enjoyed gaining insights and perspectives from current and former athletes from across different sports in Team GB

Eve Mairhead Curling

Time commitment & eligibility



What is the time commitment?

There are 4 meetings per year, held at the BOA offices in London. In between meetings there may be ad hoc virtual calls

If members can't make the meeting in person, we can arrange for them to dial in via Microsoft Teams

The term runs for four years, starting from January 2025

This is a voluntary position, but reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed

Who is eligible to apply?

We represent athletes from all backgrounds and across all Olympic sports. We also welcome and value both active and retired Olympians

In order to apply for the Athletes' Commission you must:

- Be aged eighteen or over, and have competed for Team GB at an Olympic Games within the last 3 years (since Tokyo 2020)*
- Aim to make (in person or via Microsoft Teams) at least three of the four AC meetings per year
- Be passionate about helping Team GB improve its services and support to athletes!

Ensuring diversity across athletes and sports

The Commission aims to represent a wide range of athlete interests, so its composition has specific criteria that must be met across all elected members

Any eligible athlete can apply, but only the top six voted athletes who fulfil these criteria will be elected. You can read more about our composition requirements <u>here</u>

*Please note that due to the composition of the six members continuing their terms, only athletes who competed at Tokyo 2020, Beijing 2022, or Paris 2024 are eligible to apply for this year's election

Representatives from hockey will be unable to stand in the election, as the two spaces for hockey are filled by members continuing their terms. Athletes from all other Olympic sports are welcome to apply

The election process



Submitting your application

- Complete the application form, which can be found <u>here</u>. The deadline for applications is **midnight on Sunday 20th October**
- After the application process closes, your submission will be reviewed by our Working Group, who will ratify candidates in consultation with the relevant National Governing Body
- 3. Once candidates have been ratified, your profile will be uploaded to the online election website and the voting will go live **on Monday 4th November**

How does the voting process work?

- Olympians who have competed for Team GB at an Olympic Games since 2012, plus all members of the Team GB Gold Club, will receive a personalised link to vote for their new representatives. Each person is allowed two votes, which must go to two candidates from different National Governing Bodies
- 2. Once the voting has gone live, you can promote your candidacy, contact your network, and ask for their support!
- 3. The voting will close on Monday 1st December, at which point the six candidates with the most votes (who meet the composition requirements) will be elected, ready to start their term in January 2025

How to get in touch

We are here to represent your views and support your journey with Team GB. If you have a question about the election, or would like to speak to us about your experience with Team GB, you can email:

The group: athletes.commission@teamgb.com

Our Chair: lizzie.simmonds@teamgb.com

BOA point of contact: christine.bower@teamgb.com



ATHLETES' COMMISSION