



Athletes' Council Terms of Reference

Approved by Skipping Australia Executive, 16 October 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Composition of the Athletes' Council	3
Role and Responsibilities of the Athletes' Council	3
Responsibilities	4
Organisation of the Athletes' Council	4
Elected and Removal of Members	5
Term of Office	5
Vacancy	5
Final Provisions	6

ATHLETES' COUNCIL TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

1. The Skipping Australia Athletes' Council (Athletes' Council) is established in accordance with section 7e of the Skipping Australia Constitution.
2. The establishment aligns with the principle of the IJRU Athletes' Council Charter.
3. The following Terms of Reference outlines the Athletes' Council's role, responsibilities, membership, operations and authorities.

Composition of the Athletes' Council

4. Composition
 - 4.1. The Athletes' Council is composed of:
 - 4.1.1. Between eight and ten (8-10) athletes (competitive athlete or recreation members as defined by the Skipping Australia Membership Structure),
 - 4.1.2. a mix of both male and female athletes, and
 - 4.1.3. athletes from each State / Territory where an affiliate skipping club, team or group is based.
5. The Athletes' Council member is required to:
 - 5.1. be at least 15 years of age by as of December 31 of the election year,
 - 5.2. confirm that he/she must have never received any sanction in relation to the World Anti-Doping Code,
 - 5.3. be able to attend online meetings regularly, and
 - 5.4. belong to an affiliate skipping club / team or group and have their nomination for membership of the Athletes' Council supported by that club and, where one exists, the State / Territory Peak Sporting Body in the jurisdiction where they reside.

Role and Responsibilities of the Athletes' Council

6. Roles of the Athletes' Council
 - 6.1. The roles of the Athletes' Council are to represent athletes within the sport of jump rope / skipping, and
 - 6.2. Act as the cumulative Athlete's voice and represent that voice to the Skipping Australia Committee.
7. Authority
 - 7.1. The Athletes' Council is not a separate legal entity. It has no authority to act on behalf of Skipping Australia or to represent it towards any third parties.

Responsibilities

8. The Athletes' Council will:
 - 8.1. Proactively consult with other athletes and provide ideas and proposals to the Skipping Australia Executive on initiatives that would strengthen our sport, and
 - 8.2. Contribute content and ideas to the Skipping Australia Secretary / Communications Officer to enhance Skipping Australia's engagement with athletes and increase its public profile.
9. The Athletes' Council may be:
 - 9.1. Invited by the Skipping Australia Executive to provide advice, recommendations and/or submit proposals or reports to the Skipping Australia Committee,
 - 9.2. Asked to nominate a representative to represent athletes on Skipping Australia sub-committees, and
 - 9.3. Lead and/or support specific projects outlined in the Skipping Australia Strategic Plan.
10. The duties of an Athletes' Council member include:
 - 10.1. Undertake activities to fulfil the role of the Athletes' Council as outlined in Section 6 above,
 - 10.2. Serve as a liaison between athletes and the Athletes' Council, and consult with athletes across Australia, where required,
 - 10.3. Respect the Skipping Australia constitution, as well as the World Anti-Doping Code,
 - 10.4. Participate in regular (approx. 8-12 per year) Athletes' Council conference calls, and
 - 10.5. Represent the athletes in sub-committees, including attending meetings and providing written and verbal reports to the Athletes' Council as required.

Organisation of the Athletes' Council

11. Organisation of the Athletes' Council
 - 11.1. The Council shall be co-chaired (one female and one male, ideally from different jurisdictions),
 - 11.2. Upon proposal by the Athletes' Council, the Skipping Australia Executive shall appoint Co-Chairpersons,
 - 11.3. The terms of office for the Co-Chairpersons shall be approximately two (2) years from the date of appointment. Such terms may be renewed,
 - 11.4. President, or his/her representative, shall be invited to attend all meetings of the Athletes' Council,
 - 11.5. The Chairpersons are responsible for organising and preparing all meetings of the Athletes' Council and keeping records of their meetings.
12. Voting procedures of the Athletes' Council
 - 12.1. Each member of the Athletes' Council, is entitled to one vote,

- 12.2. The quorum required for any decision of the Council shall be a majority of the total number of members eligible to vote. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

Elected and Removal of Members

13. Election of members
 - 13.1. Eight (8) members will be elected at Skipping Australia's Annual General Meeting.
 - 13.2. Nominations of candidates will be made in accordance with Skipping Australia's constitution, with the additional requirement that nominations must be supported by their club and, where one exists, the State / Territory Peak Sporting Body in the jurisdiction where they reside.
14. Where required, Skipping Australia President may appoint up to two (2) additional members to the Athletes' Council which ensures a balance between regions, gender and sport discipline following the principles outlined in the IJRU mission statement, Diversity, Inclusion, Excellence and Innovation.
15. Removal
 - 15.1. In the event of any failure by a member to perform the duties set out in Section 9, or in the event of any other misconduct, the Skipping Australia President, in consultation with the Athletes' Council, may remove such member from the Council and replace such member in accordance with the provisions applicable to vacancies set out below. The removal shall enter into force immediately,
 - 15.2. The removal of a member is decided without prejudice to the possible opening of any disciplinary procedure,
 - 15.3. The Skipping Australia Executive may remove any member from the Athletes' Council at any time if there is reason to believe the individual has breached their responsibilities as laid out by Skipping Australia's constitution or policies, WADA and or this Terms of Reference.

Term of Office

16. The term of office of a member begins on the date of announcement of their appointment.
17. Upon establishment, half the members will be appointed for a term of approximately one (1) year, with the remainder appointed for approximately (2) years, to establish an off-set renewal practice, whereby half of the membership will be elected each Annual General Meeting.
18. Once operational, the length of term of office shall be approximately two (2) years.
19. Any elected member, upon completion of his or her term of office, may stand for re-election.

Vacancy

20. In the event of any vacancy caused by an Athletes' Council member's death, resignation, incapacity, impediment or any cause of inability to perform their function, the Skipping Australia Executive may replace that member by direct appointment. Any member thus appointed shall serve out the term of office of the replaced member.

Final Provisions

21. These Terms of Reference were adopted by the Skipping Australia Executive on 16 October 2021. They enter into force immediately upon adoption.