



**WL ATHLETES'
COMMISSION**
2022 Elections
Candidate Pack



1. 1. Introduction

This Candidate Pack summarises the steps and requirements for any athlete wishing to be considered for election as a member of the World Lacrosse Athletes' Commission (WLAC).

There are three (3) positions available for election at the World Lacrosse Women's World Lacrosse Championships in 2022 to be held in Towson, Maryland.

The importance of athletes to decision-making within WL was recognised and embedded into the WL structures with the governance and integrity reforms approved in December 2016. As agreed at the 2020 World Lacrosse General Assembly, the Chairperson and the Co-Chair of the Athletes' Commission (one male and one female) will be full voting members of the WL Board of Directors.

The rules relating to the Athletes' Commission and the election process are set out in the attached WL Athletes' Commission Terms of Reference, the WL Candidacy Rules, the WL Governance Rules (effective from 1 October 2019), the WL Integrity Code of Conduct and other related WL rules.

These are all available at <https://worldlacrosse.sport/about-world-lacrosse/governance/>.

2. Mission and Athletes Definition

A. Mission

The World Lacrosse Athletes' Commission (WLAC) is fully supportive of the overall delivery of the World Lacrosse mission to develop lacrosse throughout the world to positively impact the lives of its participants and their communities.

In addition to the main organizational mission, the World Lacrosse Athletes Commission's mission is: "Be active and engaged in inspiring all athletes to develop their game through collaboration, innovation, and openness."

B. Athletes Definition

To fully consider all the matters (Anti-Doping, Elite performance, Rules, Event Structure, Competition Format, International Development, Sport Education, etc.) that relate to international sport the WLAC uses the following definition when referring to Athletes:

Athletes are "All lacrosse athletes who have or who will represent their country or national team at a senior World Lacrosse World Championships"

3. Role, Responsibility, Composition and Term

C. Role

The purpose of the WLAC is to examine all questions of interest to Athletes and to present suggestions or recommendations to the WL Board. It may not present proposals directly to the General Assembly (GA), but it may present proposals to the Board or to the other Committees of WL and for this reason the AC has the right to assign one of its members to represent the Athletes' interest on a number of specific Committees, including:

- Rules Committees
- Competition Committees
- Governance Committee
- Other Committees or Commissions as agreed from time to time by the Board

D. Responsibilities

Members of the Athletes' Commission must participate in at least one in person meeting per year, quarterly conference calls and on-going email consultation in between meetings, as well as promotion and other events when possible.

All members are expected to review all materials when circulated and provide meaningful feedback either in person, by email and/or by conference call, on a variety of important subjects concerning Athletes and the sport.

To that end the WLAC will:

- Prepare for the WL Board an WLAC Operational Plan (2021-2025 Operational Plan is available ([https://worldlacrosse.sport/about-world-lacrosse/governance/.](https://worldlacrosse.sport/about-world-lacrosse/governance/))
- Implement and evaluate the agreed Operational Plan
- Serve as a consultative body and make recommendations to the WL Board, WL Committees, and other bodies as required
- Seek feedback from Athletes and provide feedback to the relevant areas of WL
- Encourage and assist Athletes, and WL member NGBs to establish their own Athletes' Commissions
- Liaise with the Athletes' Commissions of the IOC and other sporting organizations to enable the sharing of information and research
- Create, manage and promote platforms and structures for Athletes which facilitate communication and the sharing of knowledge and experiences amongst the group
- Develop, collate, provide and promote resources for Athletes on topics of direct concern including but not limited to Athlete health and welfare, anti-doping, betting, ethics and match-fixing.

The Co-Chair is responsible for carrying out any of the responsibilities described above if the Chairperson is unable to do so. They may also have specific responsibilities delegated to them by the Chairperson or the Athletes' Commission.

The term in the positions of Chair and Co-Chair is 2 years but members may be re-elected for an additional consecutive two-year term (4 years total), provided they remain members of the Athletes' Commission. This is outlined in the WALC Chair Appointment Procedure.

E. Athletes' Commission Members on the WL Board of Directors

The Chairperson of the Athletes' Commission is automatically a member of the WL Board of Directors.

In addition, the Co-Chair of the Athletes' Commission sits on the WL Board of Directors. The Co-Chair must identify as a different gender than that of the Chairperson and be elected by all the members of the Athletes' Commission.

F. Composition

The Athletes' Commission members will be elected in the following cadence:

- Three (3) female athletes will be elected at the Senior Women's World Lacrosse Championships.
- Two (2) male athletes will be elected at the Senior Men's World Lacrosse Championships.
- One (1) male athlete will be elected at the Senior Men's World Box Lacrosse Championships.
- In future, one (1) female athlete will be elected at the Senior Women's World Box Lacrosse Championships (2024). Once this occurs one (1) additional Men's Athlete will be selected from the subsequent Division II Men's World Championships to maintain Gender equality.

A Call for nominations notification will be published a minimum of 45 days prior to the proposed election event allowing at least 30 days for nominations to take place and 15 days to appropriately vet candidates. The next round of elections for members will be held alongside the 2022 Women's World Lacrosse Championships. Elections will be voted on by all participating athletes from a respective World Championships.

The term of appointment to the Athletes Commission is 4 years, commencing upon the election of the person(s) at the World Lacrosse Championships and expiring 4 years later.

The Athletes' Commission should be constituted as follows:

- At least one member from each of the recognized continental regions (as defined by the CF).
- No member federation may have more than one elected AC (Athletes Commission) member at any point in time.
- Always maintain a 50/50 split of Male and Female Athlete representatives
- Always maintain at least one AC member responsible for each recognised discipline of lacrosse (Box, Men's Field, Women's Field, Men's Sixes, Women's Sixes etc.)

A member of the Athletes' Commission, if eligible, may be re-elected or re-appointed for further subsequent and consecutive terms of office a maximum of two (2) terms (i.e., 8 years).

The current make-up of the Athletes' Commission and the expiry of their terms is below.

Member Federation	AC Member	Elected or Appointed	Expiry of Term	Terms Served	Gender
Australia	Keith Nyberg	Appointed	2023	First	M
Canada	Dana Dobbie	Appointed	2022	First	F
Ireland	Sean Gibson	Appointed	2024	First	M
Japan	Sachio Yamada	Appointed	2022	First	F
South Korea	Jane Lee	Elected	2022	First	F
USA	Rob Pannell	Appointed	2023	First	M

Member Federations who already have an Athletes' Commission member represented until 31 December 2023 (i.e., AUS, IRE & USA) may not nominate candidates at the 2022 Athletes' Commission elections.

G. Eligibility

Every candidate for election or appointment to the Athletes' Commission must satisfy all the following requirements:

To be considered eligible the athlete must:

1. be a current member of a recognized World Lacrosse member National Governing Body (or a body affiliated to the NGB), where the NGB is in Good Standing.
2. be at least 18 years old.
3. be able to read, write and communicate in English well.
4. have competed in a minimum of one senior international world championship event and;
5. be active internationally, as an athlete, having competed in a major international lacrosse competition within the last eight (8) years.
 - 5.1. These include:
 - 5.1.1. World Lacrosse World Championships
 - 5.1.2. Recognized Continental Federation (CF) Championship
 - 5.1.3. Recognized WL Regional Qualifier
6. not be one of the following:
 - 6.1. Head Coach of a Senior level National Team
 - 6.2. National or International level Official (Referee or Umpire), or higher
 - 6.3. Any Official (Referee or Umpire) who has been selected to officiate at the Olympics, Multisport Games, WL, CF or WL Qualifier Level
7. not be under investigation, or convicted or otherwise sanctioned for:
 - 7.1. a doping offence (whether they have served the sanction imposed on them); or

- 7.2. any other offence or breach of any rules of the World Lacrosse, a Continental Federation, or a National Governing Body (whether they have served the sanction imposed on them).
- 7.3. an offence under any applicable laws punishable by a term of imprisonment and,
8. all candidates will be vetted by a Vetting Panel.

The Vetting Panel will consist of two current Athletes' Commission members and one external member from the World Lacrosse Board to ensure that all candidates meet the requirements laid out above.

4. Steps To Be Elected

H. There are six steps to complete to be elected to the Athletes' Commission:

Step 1 - Self Nomination

Step 2 - Supporting recommendation from one of the following:

- A senior officer (i.e., President or Secretary General or Chief Executive) of the candidate's Member Federation (NGB)
- Continental Federation Athletes Commission Member
- NGB Athletes Commission Member
- National Team Head or Assistant Coach
- National Team Captain or Assistant Captain.

Step 3 - Vetting

Step 4 - Election

Step 6 - Board of Directors Notification

I. Step 1 - Nomination Supported by a Member Federation

Any Athlete seeking to be a candidate must be self-nominated and come from a Member Federation (which is in Good Standing with the WL) where either:

- a. The Athlete is a current member or affiliated to the Member Federation; or,
- b. The Athlete's Club or other Lacrosse organisation is a current member of the Member Federation.

The Candidate must submit a lacrosse resume or CV that highlights relevant administrative, leadership, and playing experience in the sport of lacrosse. The Candidate's resume or CV should clearly identify the qualifying events in which the nominee has participated, and country represented.

In addition to the lacrosse resume, the Athlete Candidate must submit a one-page (format A4) cover letter in which they detail their biography and explain the reasons for their candidature.

The recommendation letter must be sent by email to: Elections-AC@worldlacrosse.sport.

Athletes from Member Federations that already have a standing member of the Athletes' Commission may not be nominated as candidates (see table of members included at paragraph 3.D).

J. Step 2 – Written Recommendation

A written recommendation supporting the candidate's nomination must be received by the WLAC no later than 14 June (23:59 CEST). This deadline will be strictly enforced.

The recommendation letter must be sent by email to: Elections-AC@worldlacrosse.sport.

It must be signed by the one of the following:

- 1) a senior officer (i.e., President or the Secretary General or the Chief Executive) of the candidate's Member Federation.
- 2) Continental Federation Athletes' Commission Member
- 3) NGB Athletes' Commission Member
- 4) National Team Head or Assistant Coach
- 5) National Team Captain or Assistant Captain.

Step 3 - Vetting

All candidates must be declared Eligible by the Vetting Panel to participate in an election.

Eligibility to stand for election requires the following to be satisfied the candidate:

- a. Has all the documentation submitted prior to the appropriate deadlines
- b. Meets the Eligibility criteria outlined above in section E
- c. is of good character and reputation within the lacrosse community

Vetting may be undertaken at any time before AC Elections Committee finally approves the elected members of the Athletes' Commission, however, to expedite the process and help ensure vetting is completed prior to the elections, all prospective candidates are requested to submit all documentation for consideration by 14th June 2022 as outlined above. Candidates who pass the vetting will be sent a letter confirming their eligibility.

A list of all the eligible candidates, including brief profiles drafted by each candidate, will be sent to all Member Federations, and published no later than 25th June on the WL website.

K. Step 4 – Election

For 2022, an Athletes' Commission Elections Committee will be appointed by the WLAC Chair.

The AC Elections Committee will be composed of five members as follows: Chairperson, Secretary, and three (3) other persons. The members will be announced on the WL website prior to the elections. Members of the current AC whose position is up for election, may not serve on the AC Elections Committee.

The AC Elections Committee will:

- organise and supervise the election, including determining the valid votes, counting the votes, certifying the results, and notifying the WL President of the outcome
- respond to questions or complaints about, or by, a candidate and investigate any alleged breaches.
- refer any alleged breaches to the WL Governance Committee for investigation and, if appropriate, prosecution under the Code of Conduct.

Only eligible registered competing Athletes holding an "Athlete" accreditation at the WL World Lacrosse Championships, will have the right to vote. Only one vote per accredited Athlete is permitted. Each Athlete will be sent a link to their email address upon being recognised as a participating athlete by the World Lacrosse Event Eligibility Committee.

The election will be held over all designated preliminary "or round robin" competing days of a World Lacrosse World Championship. Commencing at 11:00 on the opening day to 14:00 on the last day of the round robin competition. Elections will be facilitated through an online voting mechanism to be communicated to all participating athletes.

Votes will be cast using an online election platform and to be valid, the ballots must indicate a minimum of one name and a maximum of three names.

After voting has closed, the Chairperson of the AC Elections Committee will inform the WL President of the result. The outcome of the election as certified by the AC Elections Committee is final and there is no right of appeal.

The names of the elected athletes will be announced at the closing ceremonies of a relevant WL World Lacrosse Championships and posted on the WL Website. The Member Federations will also be informed of the results via Circular.

L. Step 5 – Board Notification

Following the election, the Chair of the elections committee will notify the World Lacrosse Board in writing of the elected members.