



INTRODUCTION TO ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES

WBSC ATHLETES' COMMISSION | 2025



WHO ARE WE

The **WBSC Athletes' Commission** is an elected body which serves as a link between the athletes and the WBSC, representing future, current and recently retired Baseball/Softball Athletes. The **Athlete Representatives** are volunteers, driven by their desire to represent fellow Baseball/Softball athletes and support them to succeed on and off the field of play.

The WBSC Athletes' Commission is composed of two Athlete Representatives from each discipline—Men's Baseball, Women's Baseball, Men's Softball, Women's Softball—of whom are either **elected** by Baseball/Softball athletes around the world or **appointed** by the WBSC for a **term of four years**. During this term, the elected Athlete Representatives shall serve as WBSC Executive Board Member, and depending on the topic and availability, two representatives can be part of the Presidential Council.

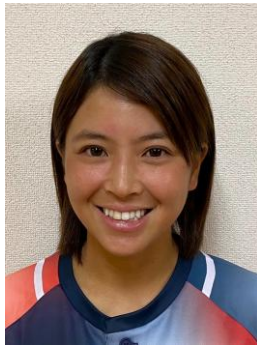


CURRENT

ATHLETES' COMMISSION



Randolph ODUBER
BASEBALL
EXECUTIVE BOARD
NED



Ayako ROKKAKU
BASEBALL
EXECUTIVE BOARD
JPN



Monica ABBOTT
SOFTBALL
EXECUTIVE BOARD
USA



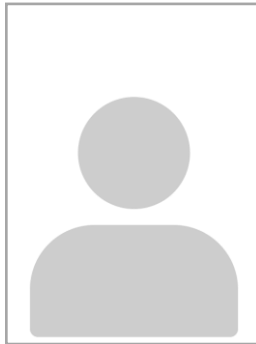
Cole EVANS
SOFTBALL
EXECUTIVE BOARD
NZL



Timothy ATHERTON
BASEBALL
AUS



Vanessa MUI
BASEBALL
HKG



VACANT
SOFTBALL
-



Maria SOTO
SOFTBALL
VEN

WHAT WE DO

The WBSC Athletes' Commission has a leading role in making sure athlete participation is empowered at the baseball/softball decision-making level. This includes direct feedback to the WBSC Executive Board, as well as recommending to other Commissions and Working Groups. By providing advice and a perspective straight from the field of play, the Athletes' Commission should ensure that the athletes' voices are heard and to be used for the improvement of our sport.

As a role model, Athlete Representatives may extend their role as an ambassador to raise the awareness of Anti-Doping & Healthy lifestyle, Prevention of Competition Manipulation, Sustainable Development and Safeguarding from Harassment and Abuse.



INTRODUCTION TO ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES

In cooperation with other WBSC Commissions, the Integrity Unit and other relevant sport organisations, such as IOC, WADA and ITA, the Athletes' Commission should ensure that fellow athletes are able to maximise their potential and performance in a safe, healthy and fair environment.

To do so, acknowledging and understanding the **Athletes' Rights** and **Athletes' Responsibilities** is an important first step.



ATHLETES' RIGHTS

To promote the ability and opportunity of athletes to:

1. Practise sport and compete without being subject to any type of discrimination.
2. Be part of a transparent, fair and clean sporting environment, particularly one that fights against doping and competition manipulation, and provides for transparent umpiring, qualification processes, and competition schedules.
3. Access general information on athlete and competition-related matters in a timely and clear manner.
4. Access education on sports-related matters as well as to work or study while actively training and competing, should the athlete choose to do so and where practicable.
5. Leverage opportunities to generate income in relation to their sporting career, name and likeness, while recognising the intellectual property or other rights, Tournament Regulations as well as the Olympic Charter.
6. Fair and equal gender representation.
7. The protection of mental and physical health, including a safe competition and training environment and protection from abuse and harassment.
8. Elected athlete representation within the WBSC.
9. Report unethical behaviour without fear of retaliation.
10. Privacy, including protection of personal information.
11. Freedom of expression.
12. Due process, including the right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial panel, the right to request a public hearing and the right to an effective remedy.

ATHLETES' RESPONSIBILITIES

To encourage athletes to:

1. Uphold the Olympic values and adhere to the Fundamental Principles of Olympism.
2. Respect the integrity of sport and compete as a clean athlete, by not doping and not manipulating competitions.
3. Act in accordance with the IOC Code of Ethics, and the WBSC Integrity Code and be encouraged to report unethical behaviour, including instances of doping, competition manipulation, prohibited discrimination and abuse and harassment.
4. Comply with applicable national laws, and the rules of the qualification processes and competitions, of the sport, and of the relevant sporting organisation, as well as the Olympic Charter.
5. Respect the rights and well-being of, and not discriminate against, other athletes, their entourage, volunteers and all others within the sporting environment, and refrain from political demonstration in competitions, competition venues and ceremonies.
6. Respect the solidarity principle of the Olympic Movement, which allows assistance and support to be provided among athletes and members of the Olympic Movement.
7. Act as a role model, including by promoting clean sport.
8. Inform themselves and be aware of their responsibilities.
9. Participate in hearings when requested to do so and provide truthful testimony in such proceedings.
10. Participate and vote in athlete representatives' elections.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE

Voice for Athletes to WBSC Leadership

- Participation in Executive Board Meetings and Congresses
- Participation in [Working Groups for Baseball/Softball Events](#)
- Feedback on WBSC World Cups and sanctioned events
- Feedback for developing [Baseball/Softball Mobile Games](#)
- Feedback on Official Baseball/Softball Rules
- Review of [Safeguarding from Harassment and Abuse Rules](#)
- Planning and proposal of [WBSC Safeguarding Strategy](#)
- Development of [WBSC #Safecall Guidelines](#) for WBSC Events
- Recommendation for changes in Election Procedure for Athlete Rep.
- Hosting the first [WBSC Athletes' Summit](#) at Olympic House



Being a Representative for WBSC

- Participation in the IOC Athletes Commission Global Conferences
- Participation in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Virtual Games-Time Experience Interview
- Participation in the [IOC's Athletes Forums](#) biannually
- Participation in the WBSC Podcast "[The Global Game](#)"
- Gold medal / Trophy deliverer at WBSC World Cups
- Representative on-site at WBSC World Cups and [Premier12](#).
- Participation in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Campaign – Sport for Climate Action Awareness



Advocate for Integrity of Sport

- Launch of WBSC [#PlayBallPlayFair](#) - Integrity campaign
- Appointment as [IOC-WBSC Ambassadors for Prevention of Competition Manipulation](#)
- Launch of [WBSC Webinar on Prevention of Competition Manipulation and Anti-Doping](#)
- Participation in WADA's Campaign "Play True, Play Safe"
- Appointment as International Testing Agency (ITA) Education Ambassador
- Enrolment in [IOC Certification Course for Safeguarding in Sport](#)
- Launch of the WBSC [#SafeCall](#) - Safeguarding campaign



ADVICE

FROM THE FORMER ATHLETES' COMMISSION



The key would be our presence at WBSC tournaments. It is crucial that the next commission members can be seen, especially at tournaments throughout all age groups, male and female competitions.

As an Athlete Representative, we have the responsibility to encourage other athletes around us to observe, share and spread information that is important in our sport, and also in a position to strongly express the values and the needs of the athletes to the leadership.

The role depends on your availability and flexibility. I hope the next Athlete Representatives have the ability to stand in front of our athletes more often.

Justin Huber
Former Co-Chair of
WBSC Athletes' Commission



FORMER

ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES



Justin HUBER
BASEBALL
AUS



Pauline PRADE
BASEBALL
FRA



Ashley STEPHENSON
BASEBALL
CAN



Erika POLIDORI
SOFTBALL
CAN



Václav SVOBODA
SOFTBALL
CZE



WBSC
WORLD
BASEBALL SOFTBALL
CONFEDERATION

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