Sports Governance Observer 2015 report
The legitimacy crisis in international sports governance

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Delegation of authority to ISFs


SGO report

- 34 ISFs have given athlete representatives consultative status in their organisational structures

- In order to enable monitoring senior officials’ conduct, athletes’ representatives should have access to decision-making

- There must be a clear connection between the representatives and the athletes, which can be achieved by having athletes elected by their peers
SGO report (1)

• 34 ISFs have given athlete representatives consultative status in their organisational structures

• In order to enable monitoring senior officials’ conduct, athletes’ representatives should have access to decision-making

• There must be a clear connection between the representatives and the athletes, which can be achieved by having athletes elected by their peers
In a majority of 23 federations (66%), the chairman/woman of the athletes’ commission is a member of the decision-making body.

In only eight federations (23%), athletes elect the chairman/woman of the athletes’ commission.

In eight other federations (23%), the chairman/woman of the athletes’ commission is elected by the congress.
### Operationalisation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
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| 1     | Not fulfilled at all  
The organisation makes no formal efforts to involve athletes in its decision making processes |
| 2     | Weak  
- Athletes are represented within the organisation, but the chairman/woman of the athletes committee is not a member of the organisation’s governing body  
and/or  
- Athletes are represented but there is no athletes committee in place |
| 3     | Moderate  
- Athletes are represented within a specific athletes’ committee.  
- The chairman/woman of the athletes committee is a member of the organisation’s governing body  
- The chairman/woman of the athletes committee is not elected by the congress or by athletes  
Or  
- he/she does not have voting authority |
| 4     | Good  
- Athletes are represented within a specific athletes’ committee.  
- The chairman/woman of the athletes committee is a member of the organisation’s governing body  
- The chairman/woman of the athletes committee is elected by congress |
| 5     | State of the art  
- Athletes are represented within a specific athletes’ committee.  
- The chairman/woman of the athletes committee is a member of the organisation’s governing body  
- The chairman/woman of the athletes committee is elected by athletes |
Question

- How should the position of athletes in ISFs be improved?
- How can athletes contribute to good governance in ISFs?
- What is the importance of collective bargaining agreements?
- How are athletes represented at the national level?
- How should athletes unions be improved?