

Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton Athlete Council
Charter

1. Commencement & Duration

The Charter applies to all athletes agreeing to become members of Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton, here on referred to as BCS, by signing the Athlete Agreement. The Charter will be in effect from **July 21st 2009** until such time as changed or replaced by the BCS Athlete Council.

2. Purpose Statement

The purpose of the BCS Athlete Council, hereon referred to as the Council, is to represent the athletes within the sports of bobsleigh and skeleton. It will provide to BCS and or the athletes the perspectives and views of all matters relating to athletes within the organization. This includes but is in no way limited to:

- Providing advice
- Providing counsel
- Providing opinions
- Making recommendations
- Consulting
- Representing the athletes during the BCS Board of Directors meetings
- Representing the athletes during the BCS Executive Committee meetings

3. Management & Governance

Being under the umbrella of BCS, the Council does not enjoy independent legal status. Members of the Council are subject to the by-laws, regulations, policies and directives of BCS.

Members of the Council agree to manage their relationships with the athletes, BCS Board of Directors and BCS Executive Committee in a manner that develops openness, honesty, mutual trust and ensures the highest professional and ethical standards from all parties.

Members of the Council will actively support athlete consultation in policy and program development and ensure timely communication on all matters.

Members of the Council will endeavor to increase awareness of its role among athletes in their respective sports. They will strive to ensure that athletes are aware that they can approach the Council on any matters relating to the sports which they would like raised with the BCS Board of Directors and or the BCS Executive Committee.

4. Meetings & Advice

The Council must meet between the end of a season and prior to the AGM. Meetings will also take place as needed throughout the year either in person or via phone conference.

Each meeting includes consideration of reports and updates on relevant activities of the BCS Executive Committee and consequent advice or recommendations on issues of significance relating to these and those of the athletes.

The Council can provide advice to the BCS Board of Directors and the BCS Executive Committee on a range of matters including but not limited to:

- Olympic team and other selection criteria
- Athlete Agreements
- Anti-Doping education and policy
- BCS programs
- Team planning and building
- BCS By-Laws

5. Council Structure

Composition

The Council will comprise of the following 7 members:

- 1) One national men's Bobsleigh athlete*
 - 2 year term
- 2) One national women's Bobsleigh athlete
 - 2 year term
- 3) One national men's Skeleton athlete
 - 2 year term
- 4) One national women's Skeleton athlete
 - 2 year term
- 5) One development Bobsleigh athlete**
 - 1 year term
- 6) One development Skeleton athlete
 - 1 year term
- 7) One retired athlete***
 - 2 year term

* national refers to an athlete who competed on either the World Cup level or Europa Cup level.

** development refers to an athlete who competed on the America's Cup level.

*** in the case there are no eligible retired athletes available, the newly elected Council reserves the right to fill this position with whom they deem fit.

If a position is left vacant, the Athlete Council may fill this position with another eligible athlete either by holding an additional vote or by appointment regardless of their sport affiliation or level of competition.

Two members from the Council will be nominated by the Council to act as athlete representatives on the BCS Board of Directors and shall be named the Chair and Deputy Chair. These positions will report the outcomes of the BCS Board of Directors meetings to the BCS Executive Committee and athletes as appropriate and or requested. This nomination must occur within one month of the annual Council election or by the next BCS Board of Directors meeting, whichever comes first. The

Council must make known to the BCS Board of Directors and the BCS Executive Committee who has been nominated as the Chair and Deputy Chair prior to them attending their respective meetings.

If an athlete sitting on the Board of Directors cannot attend a meeting they may ask another athlete serving on the Athlete Council to attend in their place.

Eligibility

To be eligible for election to the Council a person must conform to the following:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be a Bobsleigh or Skeleton athlete who competed on the World Cup, Europa Cup or America's Cup level in the past season and is planning on competing in the upcoming season.
- Must not have committed a doping offence during his or her career.
- Retired athletes remain eligible for their respective position for a maximum of 8 years after their last season as an athlete.

To be eligible to vote in the Council election a person must conform to the following:

- Be a Bobsleigh or Skeleton athlete who competed on the World Cup, Europa Cup or America's Cup level in the past season and is planning on competing in the upcoming season.

Election Procedures

The Council election will take place at the Annual Athletes Meeting, at a location the current Council deems appropriate, following each season. Voting will occur at the meeting by ballot and controlled by a third party. Election may also take place via email voting.

Candidates will be nominated either prior or during the Annual Athletes Meeting or via email if the Council deems appropriate. Athletes may nominate bobsleigh and skeleton athletes in any of the positions taking nominations, regardless of their sport affiliation or level of competition.

BCS athletes may vote for any of the Council positions regardless of their sport affiliation or level of competition as elected athletes represent every athlete. Athletes are only required to vote for the Council positions that they feel comfortable voting for.

Eligible voters who are not at the meeting are entitled to give their proxy vote to another eligible voter. Eligible voters may hold a maximum of one proxy vote.

The relevant number of highest polling candidates will be elected to the Council and the representative from the BCS Board of Directors attending the meeting will announce the results of the election.

To prevent an entirely new Council being voted in each year, the male and female Council members will be re-elected on alternating years.

Terms of Appointments

Each Council member will hold office for the term of their position as stated above. Their term starts 24 hours after their election and terminates 24 hours after their term ends unless they are re-elected.

Vacancies

In the event of any vacancy occurring on the Council through death, removal, resignation or other, a request will be sent out to all athletes asking who would be interested in filling the position. If more than one athlete is interested in the position a vote will be held. If only one athlete would like to fill the vacancy they will be appointed by the remaining Athlete Council provided the person fulfills the eligibility criteria.

Quorum

The Council will meet a minimum of three times per year at the expense of BCS and for such meetings a quorum will consist of 4 persons.

Doping Violations

Any person found to have committed a doping violation under the rules and regulations of CCES and or WADA is ineligible to hold any position with the Council. If a current Council member commits a doping violation during their term they will be dismissed immediately upon confirming the infraction without further notice.

Dismissal

A Council member is subject to dismissal pursuant to the by-laws of BCS and the Council may dismiss any member for any cause by a vote of at least 75% with the entire Council being present at a meeting called for the purpose of dismissal.