



## **Athlete-Centredness Statement**

(June 2016)

As a National Sport Organization, the mandate of Biathlon Canada is the promotion of Biathlon as a sport within Canada and to provide representation by Canadian athletes in international competitions. Consistent with this mandate is the need to remain focused on the role of the athlete within the association and ensure that policies and processes are implemented in an athlete-centred manner.

This mandate requires Biathlon Canada to strive to reach its vision through adherence to its mission statement and by taking action consistent with its values.

To ensure that Biathlon Canada remains true to its efforts to be athlete centred, the following are measures by which the association focuses on the needs of the athlete and ensures athletes are in positions to represent their interests in the development of policy and programs:

- An Athlete's Council, consisting of all National Team athletes, will be composed and supported by Biathlon Canada
- Up to two National Team Representatives are elected by the members of the Athlete's Council
- National Team Representatives are present at every meeting of the Board in a non-voting capacity
- National Team Representatives are present at every Committee meeting, either in a voting or non-voting capacity depending on the mandate of the Committee
- National Team Representatives are key members of the High Performance Committee and in this capacity they work to develop the training and competition program and assist in setting standards of performance for selection to National Teams
- The Athlete's Council, represented by the National Team Representatives, are invited to submit reports at each meeting of the Board and make a presentation at each meeting of the Members highlighting past season issues and concerns for future planning.
- Biathlon Canada enforces policies on Conduct, Discipline and Complaints, Appeals, Anti-doping, and Official Languages which all indicate the need to provide both services and support to athletes in a holistic manner which is open and transparent while respecting individual rights
- Biathlon Canada encourages Members to adopt similar athlete-centred policies and Member Boards should have athlete participation aimed at achieving similar effects

The above actions constitute the approach undertaken to ensure that athletes form a key role in the decision-making process of Biathlon Canada and, coupled with adherence to Biathlon Canada's core values by all stakeholders, Biathlon Canada remains committed to the holistic development of athletes and an athlete-centred approach to the conduct of Biathlon Canada's daily operations.