



Athlete Committee Report 2026

Overview

Throughout 2026, the World Boxing Athletes Committee (AC) has worked to strengthen athlete representation and ensure athlete perspectives are considered in World Boxing's decisions. This has included contributing to governance discussions, athlete safety and eligibility matters, equipment evaluation, and improving communication between World Boxing and its athletes.

Key Activities and Achievements

1. Committee establishment and athlete representation:
 - i. Held the Committee's first meeting in February 2026 to establish priorities, discuss the Committee's role and agree on ways of working.
 - ii. Reviewed the draft Athlete Charter provided by World Boxing, gathered Committee feedback and secured the Committee's approval.
 - iii. Attended most World Boxing Board meetings as Chair and voted on a range of matters on behalf of the athletes, bringing athlete perspectives into World Boxing decision-making.
 - iv. Participated in additional meetings and discussions with the Secretary General and previously consulted with the Vice-President on matters relevant to the AC.
2. Athlete welfare and safety
 - i. Contributed to the development of questions for an international athlete survey on headguards, helping ensure the survey captured relevant athlete perspectives on their potential reinstatement in elite men's boxing.
 - ii. Worked with World Boxing to agree on distributing the survey at major events leading up to Congress to gather international athlete feedback.
 - iii. Reviewed responses received following the events in China (175), European Boxing Championships (73), Commonwealth Games (32) and Asian Games (24), with Pan-American Games responses still awaited. I have also consulted directly with athletes and coaches.
 - iv. Submitted the Committee's consolidated position on men's gender testing to World Boxing for consideration.
3. Equipment evaluation and procurement
 - i. Served on the formal Evaluation Panel for the RFP for the Supply of Boxing Sport Equipment - LA28 Cycle as Chair of the AC.
 - ii. Provided input across all evaluation criteria and gathered feedback from AC members on brand preferences and equipment experience, helping ensure athlete perspectives were considered in the evaluation process.
4. Communications and athlete engagement
 - i. Met with World Boxing's Communications team to discuss ways to improve communication with athletes and increase awareness of the AC.
 - ii. Reviewed and provided Committee feedback on the proposed communications plan, agreeing to prioritise a dedicated athlete section on the World Boxing website, regular athlete-focused content through World Boxing channels, and concise summaries of AC meeting outcomes.
 - iii. Agreed to focus on these foundations before progressing additional ideas, such as an athlete newsletter or other feedback channels.
5. Athlete voice in policy and competition matters
 - i. Participated in discussions with World Boxing leadership and Board meetings on athlete-related matters, including Olympic qualification, age eligibility, gender eligibility, officiating integrity and the potential use of AI-assisted officiating.



Priorities for the Remainder of 2026

- Review and communicate the international headguard survey findings once all responses are received.
- Provide athlete-focused feedback on the World Boxing Strategic Plan 2026–2029.
- Continue progressing the agreed communications priorities and explore practical ways to strengthen engagement with athletes and Continental Athletes Committees.
- Follow up on outstanding athlete-related policy discussions and confirm which matters the AC should prioritise ahead of Congress and into 2027.

Closing

The Committee has made progress in establishing its role and contributing athlete perspectives to World Boxing's work. The next step is to build on this foundation by strengthening two-way communication with athletes and ensuring the Committee's input leads to meaningful consideration of athlete needs in policy and decision-making.