



BRITISH ATHLETES
COMMISSION

GUIDELINES FOR TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE BAC.

Introduction

The British Athletes Commission (BAC) is a members' association for individuals who have represented their Home Nation or Great Britain in a sport that is recognised by the BAC as defined in the Articles.

The majority of the athletes who are members of the BAC are individuals who are defined as being "World Class" or "World Class Potential" in their Olympic or Paralympic Sport and are in receipt of an Athletes' Personal Allowance (APA) allocated via UK Sport (the Sports Council accountable to DCMS for the distribution of funding.) These are "automatic" members of the BAC as defined by their status on the Talent Pathway and the relationship between their National Governing Body and UK Sport.

High Performance athletes can also join the BAC – on meeting the eligibility criteria – if

- They pay an individual voluntary membership.
- They are part of a group membership paid for by their NGB for athletes who are not necessarily funded by UKS but are in high performance e.g. "Commonwealth sports".

Whatever category of membership – automatic, group, individual - there have to be common rules to be applied regarding termination of membership and this document sets out what those rules or conditions are to ensure consistency, fairness and transparency.

General

- BAC membership remains valid for a period of six months after an athlete's APA funding ceases and then automatically ceases after that date unless any prior instruction has been given e.g. the athlete has elected to take out a voluntary membership so that membership remains in place.
- On notification from UK Sport (or other Sports Council if relevant) or an NGB that an athlete's funding has ceased the BAC will instigate a short period of communications with the member as follows:
 - On notification of cessation of funding BAC will advise the member that their membership remains live for a further six months to offer our services of advice, support and guidance if they are needed i.e. if the athlete has a potential grievance.

BAC will offer the athlete continued membership of the "Athlete Medical Scheme" (AMS) with the athlete paying individual voluntary premiums based on their circumstances. The option must be exercised within three months of funding ceasing and premiums backdated to the date funding ceases to ensure continuation of cover.

- Three months after funding has ceased BAC will advise the athlete they no longer have the option to continue in the AMS, but their membership of the BAC remains automatically live for a further three months with an option to purchase an individual voluntary membership.

- Six months after funding has ceased BAC will advise the athlete that they are no longer a member of the BAC but that they can re-join at any time to have access to our services and benefits.

Individual Circumstances

There may well be circumstances when the action(s) of an individual member is/are such that they have their funding cut or they are suspended / banned from the high performance group in their NGB. This may well be a time when the athlete needs to turn to the BAC for advice, support and guidance and the BAC will always treat each case on its merits and assist in resolving any dispute or grievance as appropriate.

Whilst noting that each case will be treated on its merits - and based on an understanding of the circumstances as presented to the BAC - some general rules need to be applied. Examples of these rules are listed below but the BAC reserves the right to change or amend these rules at any time in the light of our own Articles, appropriate and relevant legislation and / or sports guidelines and procedures (e.g. the safeguarding standards for protecting children and young people in sport or adults at risk).

- Should an athlete be found to be in breach of the terms of their APA agreement e.g. for bringing sport (or their sport) into disrepute, BAC membership will be terminated immediately.
- Should an athlete be found guilty of any crime, doping offence, or breach of the Safeguarding standards / rules and policies of the athlete's NGB regarding children, young people and / or adults at risk, then membership will terminated immediately.

On termination of membership access to the BAC's online event facility Athletes Direct (a member benefit) will cease with immediate effect (unless an application for individual membership is accepted) and any owners of events or bookings made advised by the BAC.

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