



IPC HANDBOOK
SECTION 2, CHAPTER 1.1
IPC CODE OF ETHICS: APPENDIX C
ATHLETES COUNCIL ELECTIONS & CAMPAIGN RULES

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1 CODE OF CONDUCT

Members of the Paralympic Family shall abide by and respect the IPC Code of Ethics at all times and adhere to its ethical standards.

In addition, the rules below apply to all candidates for election as well as to their respective nominating bodies and where relevant any other third party associated with a candidate or nominating body (e.g., Embassies).

1.1 GENERAL CONDUCT

1.1.1 The conduct of all candidates shall comply with all other provisions outlined in the IPC Code of Ethics.

1.1.2 Each candidate and/or their respective nominating body has the right to promote the candidature, subject to these Regulations and the IPC Code of Ethics.

1.1.3 Nominees and/or their respective nominating body shall not Campaign in any way prior to the official public announcement by the IPC of all valid candidates for election. (see also section 2.1 & 2.2)

For the purposes of this Code of Conduct, to "Campaign" shall mean any effort or action - including (but not limited to) any contact by way of letter, email or via any form of social media - the purpose of which is to influence the decision-making process of any relevant person or group in any IPC elections.

1.1.4 The promotion of a candidate by any person or organisation shall always be conducted with dignity and moderation.

1.1.5 All candidates shall fully respect the IPC Regulations Concerning Candidate Presentations as issued by the IPC from time to time.

1.1.6 All candidates shall fully respect the election campaign directions as may be issued by the IPC Electoral Commission from time to time.

1.1.7 Candidates and/or their respective nominating body shall seek the advice of the Electoral Commission where any doubt about the proper interpretation of the Rules and Regulations may arise.

1.2 RELATIONS WITH OTHER CANDIDATES

1.2.1 Candidates must have the intent and ambition to run for election and to be elected, and their candidature shall not have the sole purpose of disturbing another candidate's election.

- 1.2.2 Each candidate and/or their respective nominating body shall, with dignity and consideration, and within the framework of promoting their candidature, fully respect the other candidates, the IPC Members and the IPC itself.
- 1.2.3 Personal attacks shall not be made in public about any other candidate.
- 1.2.3.1 Candidates are strongly advised to also refrain from any negative remarks or personal attacks on other candidates in private conversations, as these always risk becoming public, even though unintended.
- 1.2.3.2 Candidates are however allowed to, with dignity and respect, raise legitimate matters of difference that may exist between them and another candidate, and express differences of views on a particular issue, if asked to do so in a public environment.
- 1.2.4 At no time shall the candidates, their respective nominating body or any member organisation publicly announce or circulate a list of preferred candidates for election.

1.3 UNDUE INFLUENCING, BENEFITS, GIFTS, SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

- 1.3.1 No candidate and/or their respective nominating body or any other third party associated with a candidate or nominating body (e.g., Embassies) shall enter into any promise or undertaking to be performed, whatever the timing of such performance, for the direct or indirect benefit of any third party in order to influence the result of the elections or to be performed should the candidate be successful in his or her election bid.
- 1.3.2 No candidate and/or their respective nominating body or any other third party associated with a candidate or nominating body (e.g., Embassies) shall hold or promote a social function for any person or group who may have influence in the relevant elections with the aim, or in the framework of, promoting his or her candidature. This prohibition shall also include the distribution of vouchers for drinks or meals.
- 1.3.3 Candidates and their respective nominating body or any other third party associated with a candidate or nominating body (e.g., Embassies) may in no circumstances give presents, offer monetary inducements or compensation or gifts (including payment for accommodation and/or flights) or grant advantages of any kind including the promise of any valuable reward to any person or group who may have influence in the relevant elections.

- 1.3.4 No support or service in relation to a candidature may be requested from any IPC department or from any member of the IPC Management Team.

1.4 RELATIONS WITH MEDIA

- 1.4.1 Subject to respecting the principles set out in this Code of Conduct candidates shall be allowed to give interviews to media on their individual candidacy. Candidates shall not however give any media statements or interviews on behalf of the IPC.
- 1.4.2 Candidates shall provide to the IPC Electoral Commission a copy of any press article or with a link to any other media interview of which they are aware concerning (in whole or in part) their candidature. Where possible, this copy shall be provided prior to publication or the posting online of such media, with an accompanying English translation. For the avoidance of doubt, no approval of the IPC is required; this is for reference only.

2 CAMPAIGN RULES

The rules below apply to all candidates for election as well as to their respective nominating bodies and where relevant any other third party associated with a candidate or nominating body (e.g., Embassies).

2.1 PRIOR TO THE START OF THE OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD

- 2.1.1 Nominees and/or the respective nominating body shall not campaign prior to the official public announcement by the IPC of all valid candidatures for election (see also section 2.2).
- 2.1.2 Nominees and/or their respective nominating body shall however, be allowed to issue a written or verbal statement publicly announcing such nomination. Any such public announcement prior to the IPC's official candidature announcements is allowed only to announce the intention to run for election; further position statements which would cross into campaigning are not allowed.

2.2 THE OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD & CAMPAIGN LOCATIONS

- 2.2.1 Following the IPC public announcement of the approved nominees' candidates shall be allowed to promote their candidacy and distribute their promotional document, including by electronic means such as email, social media (being posts on Facebook, Twitter and other similar sites) to all relevant persons or groups, subject to compliance with the IPC Code of Ethics and compliance of these Regulations.
- 2.2.2 No candidate promotional material shall be distributed at any time at any IPC competition venues. With the exception of the voting area (“#Proud Paralympian space”) and 5 metres surrounding it, it will further be allowed to hand out the promotional material in the Paralympic Village on an individual basis (i.e. no bulk distribution, e.g. leave 200 leaflets on a table in the dining hall or send a package of brochures to a delegation.) athletes/team members cannot distribute campaign material on behalf of the candidate (exception apply to noncompeting candidates that are not present for the whole voting period). However, campaigning shall not be allowed during formal ceremonies (e.g., Team Welcome ceremonies) and the distribution of promotional material is also not allowed at any of the competition venues by anyone. It is allowed to stand at the entrance of the dining hall (abiding to the 5m rule), but the person approached should be asked if he/she is interested in receiving this.
- 2.2.3 IPC may however designate a special area where campaign material may be displayed.

The IPC reserves the right to amend these regulations at any time and as needed to ensure compliance with any covid-19 safety measures.

2.3 CAMPAIGN MATERIAL / PUBLICATIONS

- 2.3.1 The IPC shall publish an official presentation of all approved candidates, the content of which will be agreed in advance by each candidate acting reasonably.
- 2.3.1.1 The candidate's official presentation as published by the IPC may also be freely distributed as individual campaign material by the candidate, without further notice to the IPC Electoral Commission.
- 2.3.1.2 The candidate's official presentation as published by the IPC may also be translated into multiple languages. It is the responsibility of the nominating body and the candidate to ensure that the translation reflects, as closely as possible, the same content as the

English version. A copy of any translated text, for each language used, shall be submitted to the IPC Electoral Commission for reference only. The IPC will take note of such text, but will have no responsibility in relation to the translation/s. The nominating body and the candidate shall always be liable for the accuracy of the translation/s.

- 2.3.2** Subject to complying with the IPC Code of Ethics and any specific standards set out in these Campaign Regulations, candidates may also produce, at their own expense a manifesto or other campaign material promoting their candidature. There is no requirement to submit the campaign material for approval to the Electoral Commission in advance of its publication. However, a copy will be sent for reference only.
- 2.3.2.1** The candidate's campaign material may include the branding of the candidate's nominating body but may not include any branding or other references to any third party that might suggest endorsement of the candidate by that party.
- 2.3.2.2** The use of the (stand-alone) IPC logo or Agitos Foundation logo on any campaign material is prohibited. The use of photos of the candidate with the IPC logo in the background (e.g., flag, backdrop at an event) is not prohibited. However, the use of such photos is only allowed on the basis that candidates limit the use of such photos and that the IPC logo on the photo is only incidental - not front and centre.
- 2.3.2.3** Photos of the candidate together with other individuals such as IPC officials is prohibited.
- 2.3.2.4** There are no restrictions to numbers, size and format and to the use of multiple languages on the candidates' personal campaign material.
- 2.3.2.5** Candidates are encouraged to undertake their best efforts in ensuring that their campaign material is accessible for all.
- 2.3.3** The prohibition to distribute gifts as mentioned under section 1.3 above also includes any promotional material of low value such as pins, pens, and/or any other handouts of low value.
- 2.3.4** The distribution of business cards that refer to the candidate's candidature is permitted. This may include a photo of the candidate and a link to his or her electronic campaign material.

2.4 USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

- 2.4.1 Provided that the candidate at all times complies with the IPC Code of Ethics and any specific standards set out in these Regulations or issued by the Electoral Commission a candidate may individually use social media, video messages or any other modern communication tools. There are no restrictions to any such activities.

2.5 CAMPAIGN BUDGET

- 2.5.1 Whereas no budget limitations are imposed, candidates may be asked by the Electoral Commission to disclose the budget that was spent on their campaign and to identify where those resources come from.
- 2.5.2 Such report shall only be provided to the Electoral Commission for information but shall not be published.
- 2.5.3 The Electoral Commission has the authority to ask further questions or evidence (statement of expenditure, bank statements) where deemed necessary.
- 2.5.4 Candidates shall commit to the funding of their campaign originating from legal sources.
- 2.5.5 For the avoidance of doubt and with reference to the prohibition of any government interference during the campaign period, it is clarified that government funding or funding by government agencies for the campaign is allowed subject to this being disclosed to the Electoral Commission.

3 COMPLIANCE AND IPC ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- 3.1 For Candidates and Nominating bodies:
- 3.1.1 A breach of any of these Rules may result in the IPC Electoral Commission deciding on sanctions as outlined in the IPC Electoral Commission rules under article 10.5 of the IPC Legal and Ethics Committee Bylaws. The sanction may include a withdrawal of the candidature.
- 3.1.2 In addition, a breach of any of these Rules may also be considered as an infringement of the IPC Code of Ethics, which may be further investigated by the IPC Legal and Ethics Committee following any elections and may result in further sanctions.

- 3.2** Where there is any doubt as to the proper interpretation of the rules and regulations the IPC Electoral Commission shall be contacted to seek advice and, where relevant, seek permissions.

(This may be done by contacting leen.coudenys@paralympic.org)