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Munich, 01/04/2015

Dear Friends ,

Greetings from the ISSF Athletes' Committee. In this post we would like to give you all an overview of the work of the committee since our election in September last year.

The ISSF Athletes' Committee met for the first time in Munich in January 2015.

Some of the important highlights of our work so far has been:

1. The ISSF Athletes' Committee reached out to finalists from the London 2012 Olympic Games asking for inputs on the finals hall for Rio which will have a similar hall. We received input on some important points and the same have been forwarded to the Secretary General and onwards to the Organizing Committee.
2. Feed back form at the ISSF World Cups: As some of you may have noticed already of an online form during the World Cups inviting feedback on the organization of the championships. We encourage you to spare the time and fill these giving us your valuable feedback that will help us and the ISSF improve the conduct of our championships.
3. Recommendations to Organizers: The ISSF Athletes' Committee gave input regarding scheduling, transport and accommodation issues. We are glad to report that our input was well received and already implemented in some cases. It is the common goal of the ISSF Athletes' Committee and the ISSF to provide the best conditions for the athletes on all aspects and the AC will continue to liaison with the organizers based on the input we receive from you.
4. Rule interpretations: Based on the input received the ISSF Athletes' Committee gave recommendations on certain rules which were unclear. The ISSF has recently published an interpretation of the rules for 2015 on the rules section of the official website www.issf-sports.org
5. Communication with the WADA athletes committee and IOC Athletes Committee: the ISSF Athletes' Committee established contact with the WADA AC and the IOC Athletes Committee through Ms. Danka Bartekova. Information regarding the IOC training academy for retired athletes is available on the athletes' committee pages.

6. Improving finals presentations: The ISSF Athletes' Committee discussed several points on improving our finals presentations keeping in mind not to interfere the performance of the athletes. This is especially important for our sport to maintain our strong presence within the Olympic movement. Some suggestions were also received from athletes. There have been no decisions made on this as yet and we will keep you informed on the subject. Your suggestions on this aspect will be extremely valuable to us.

7. Fair allocation of training possibilities: The ISSF Athletes' Committee gave recommendations for fair training possibilities to be made available at the ISSF World Cups. We are pleased to inform you that the ISSF has taken that into account in the recently published rule interpretations.

8. The ISSF Athletes' Committee held meetings with the ISSF Secretary General Franz Schreiber and ISSF Vice-President Gary Anderson. We discussed all issues and we are thankful to them for the support we have received. The Secretary General gave us a detailed overview of the IOC Agenda 2020.

9. Medalist presentation: We kindly ask for your support during the medalist presentation post the finals as experienced during the 2014 championships. This is especially important to television production and we seek your support in ensuring that this runs smoothly. Coaches or other athletes must wait for a few moments after the finals while the medalists are being announced before they enter the field of play.

The athletes committee will meet again in November 2015 alongside all the other section committees. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any concerns you may have.

Good Luck for the season ahead!

Abhinav Bindra,

Chairman of the ISSF Athletes Committee