



**SECRETARY GENERAL
COMMISSIONS AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Athletes Commission

19 December 2025

Online

Present:

Gulnora Saidova	FIE Secretary General
Ruben Limardo	President of the Commission
Alexander Massialas	Member of the Commission
Ziad Elsisy	Member of the Commission
Zohra Kehli	Member of the Commission
Ilieva Yoana	Member of the Commission
Ruslan Kurbanov	Member of the Commission
Velikaya Sofya	Member of the Commission
Berthier Amita	Member of the Commission
Curatoli Luca	Member of the Commission
Ali Alhammadi	Referee
Elena Murdaca	Administrative Director
Ezequiel Abello Navas	Sports Department
Celine Ramseyer	CMTV Department

1. Strategic Direction & Role of Athletes

Athletes were encouraged to act as ambassadors of fencing, contributing to visibility, promotion, and leadership initiatives. Plans were presented to strengthen athlete involvement in:

- promotion of fencing,
 - media and TV visibility,
 - leadership and educational programs.
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2. FIE Programs Overview. Presented by Elena Murdaca.

Key programs requiring Athletes' Commission support:

- Fencing for the Planet (environmental & social sustainability)
- Safe Sport
- Clean Sport
- Fair Play
- Donate Your Fencing Gear

Athletes' voices were highlighted as essential for effective communication and outreach.

3. Fencing for the Planet

- Proposal to appoint two Athletes' Commission members to actively support environmental initiatives.
 - Activities include social media campaigns, roundtables, and participation during WCHs.
 - Long-term engagement (for the commission term) is preferred, with flexibility to rotate programs.
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4. Donate Your Fencing Gear Program

- Discussion on limitations of collecting equipment only at World Championships.
 - Athletes proposed:
 - national and club-level collection points,
 - cooperation with large federations (e.g. USA, China),
 - subsidized or alternative logistics solutions.
 - Concerns raised regarding sustainability, customs procedures, and shipping costs.
 - Agreement to further explore zonal championships as potential collection points
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5. Educational & Communication Initiatives. Proposal by Ali Alhammadi

- Creation of animated educational videos featuring athletes' voices to explain:
 - expected behavior at competitions,
 - core values,
 - rules interpretation.
 - Content to be multilingual and distributed via FIE and federation platforms.
 - Broad support expressed; budget and implementation to be reviewed.
 - Athletes encouraged to suggest ideas and recommend potential contributors (including non-elite athletes and creators).
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6. Junior World Championships Training Camp & Leadership Program. Presented by Ezequiel Abello Navas

- Training camp planned before Junior World Championships.
 - Proposal to involve Athletes' Commission members as mentors and speakers.
 - Target participation: at least two athletes (ideally one man and one woman).
 - Flexible format: lectures, mentoring, or short training sessions.
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7. Rules, Refereeing & Communication with Athletes

- Athletes expressed concerns about:
 - lack of timely communication on rule interpretations,
 - inconsistent refereeing expectations,
 - late schedule changes at competitions.
- Proposal to:
 - improve direct communication from Referees' Commission to athletes,

- issue pre-competition updates via official FIE channels,
 - consider a formal Athlete–Referee communication mechanism.
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8. Next Steps & Follow-Up

- Elena Murdaca to share relevant presentations and program materials.
 - Rubén Limardo to coordinate scheduling of the next meeting (February preferred).
 - Commission members to:
 - consider program involvement,
 - prepare proposals ahead of Congress deadlines (8 months rule).
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