



2012

Athletes' Representative Election Process

Background

In 2008, the position of Athlete Representative was created. The goal is to have athlete representation on the Board of Directors to ensure that national team athletes have a voice at the decision making level of the COF. At the COF annual general meeting in August 2008, a motion was passed to amend the COF constitution to add an **Athletes' Representative** to the COF Board of Directors (BOD). The individual in this position has full voting rights in the same way other Board members do, but unlike board members that are elected by the general membership, the Athletes' Rep is elected by national team athletes.

Term of the Athletes' Representative

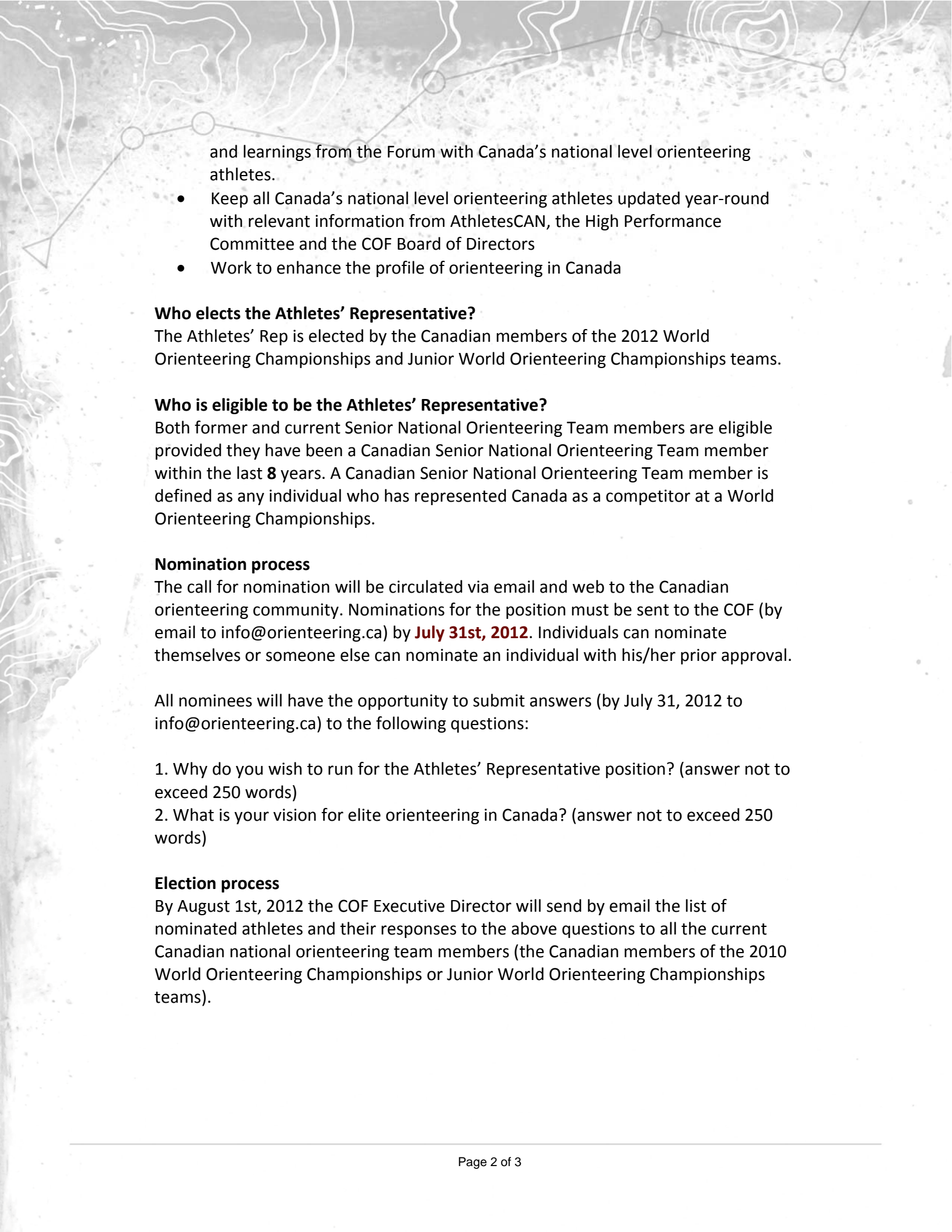
The elected individual will serve a 2-year term starting immediately after the 2012 COF AGM in July and ending with the 2014 COF AGM. After the 2012 COF AGM, the Athletes' Rep will be a voting member of the COF BOD and delegate to the AthletesCAN Forum including all the responsibilities listed below. Prior to that, the elected individual will serve as a member of the COF High Performance Committee to become familiar with the current issues of the High Performance Program and the operating procedures of the High Performance Committee. Another election will be held in January 2014.

Please note that there may be some changes to the HPC's terms of references as an outcome of some suggestions that we have received recently from a governance consultant. Also, we will likely be changing the process by which the Athletes' Rep is named to the Board of Director in order to comply with the new not-for-profit corporations act which comes into effect in 2 years time.

Responsibility of the Athletes' Representative

The rep is expected to:

- Advocate on behalf of the athletes as a participating member of the Canadian Orienteering Federation Board of Directors
- Fulfill the duties of a COF board member
- Advocate on behalf of athletes as a participating member of the COF High Performance Committee
- Be the Athletes' Rep for Orienteering to AthletesCAN including attending the annual AthletesCAN Forum (travel and accommodation expenses are paid for), which is usually held at the end of September. Share the experiences



and learnings from the Forum with Canada's national level orienteering athletes.

- Keep all Canada's national level orienteering athletes updated year-round with relevant information from AthletesCAN, the High Performance Committee and the COF Board of Directors
- Work to enhance the profile of orienteering in Canada

Who elects the Athletes' Representative?

The Athletes' Rep is elected by the Canadian members of the 2012 World Orienteering Championships and Junior World Orienteering Championships teams.

Who is eligible to be the Athletes' Representative?

Both former and current Senior National Orienteering Team members are eligible provided they have been a Canadian Senior National Orienteering Team member within the last **8** years. A Canadian Senior National Orienteering Team member is defined as any individual who has represented Canada as a competitor at a World Orienteering Championships.

Nomination process

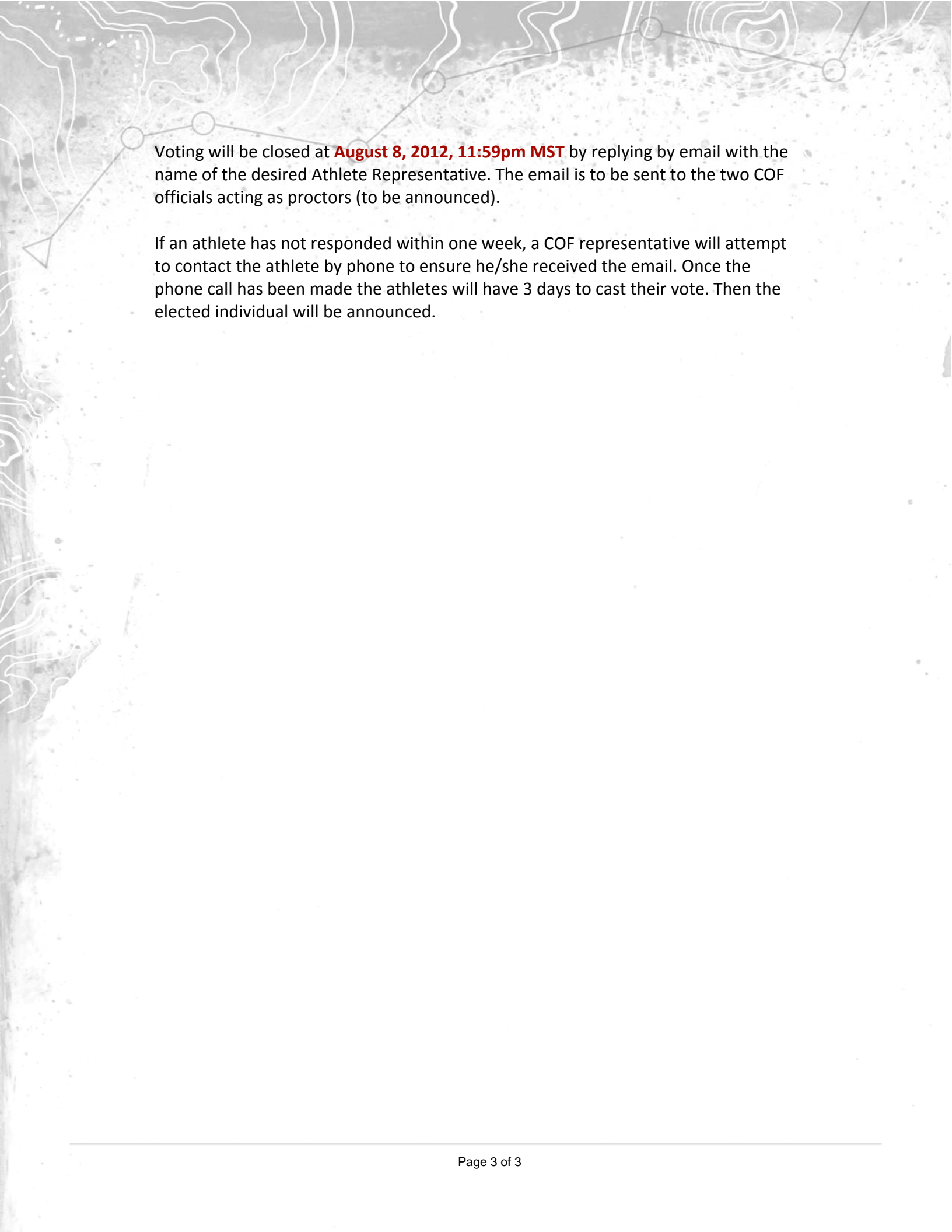
The call for nomination will be circulated via email and web to the Canadian orienteering community. Nominations for the position must be sent to the COF (by email to info@orienteering.ca) by **July 31st, 2012**. Individuals can nominate themselves or someone else can nominate an individual with his/her prior approval.

All nominees will have the opportunity to submit answers (by July 31, 2012 to info@orienteering.ca) to the following questions:

1. Why do you wish to run for the Athletes' Representative position? (answer not to exceed 250 words)
2. What is your vision for elite orienteering in Canada? (answer not to exceed 250 words)

Election process

By August 1st, 2012 the COF Executive Director will send by email the list of nominated athletes and their responses to the above questions to all the current Canadian national orienteering team members (the Canadian members of the 2010 World Orienteering Championships or Junior World Orienteering Championships teams).



Voting will be closed at **August 8, 2012, 11:59pm MST** by replying by email with the name of the desired Athlete Representative. The email is to be sent to the two COF officials acting as proctors (to be announced).

If an athlete has not responded within one week, a COF representative will attempt to contact the athlete by phone to ensure he/she received the email. Once the phone call has been made the athletes will have 3 days to cast their vote. Then the elected individual will be announced.