



## Policy on Athlete Centredness

Adopted by the COF Board of Directors September 21, 2010

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### **Policy Statement**

The philosophy of the Canadian Orienteering Federation places the interests of the athlete at the heart of the organization.

### **Background**

Sport Canada and other sponsors of National Federations require that an NSO be athlete-centred. The Canadian Orienteering Federation is committed to ensuring that there is direct involvement of high performance athletes in the decision making processes of the organization.

### **Guidelines**

The Canadian Orienteering Federation is committed to an athlete focused organization which encourages the participation of athletes in the governance of the organization.

The Canadian Orienteering Federation policy on Athlete Centredness is focused on all of the following competitive athlete categories:

- Elite athletes
- Junior athletes
- Age-Group athletes (35 years and older)

The Canadian Orienteering Federation will maintain an Athletes' Representative to sit on the Board of Directors as a voting member. The Athletes' Representative is elected by the democratic process outlined in the High Performance Committee's Terms of Reference by his/her peers and provides the primary link between the athletes and the Board of Directors.

The Canadian Orienteering Federation will continue to invest in programs that will maximize benefits to athletes.

The Canadian Orienteering Federation will continue to have a High Performance Committee to work towards maximizing benefits to Junior and Elite athletes. The High Performance Committee will include an elite athlete and a junior athlete in addition to the Athletes' Representative to provide a further avenue for athlete input.

The COF will meet the needs of age group athletes by providing competitions with categories for all ages. It will recognize significant performances and accomplishments at national and international competitions