

Voting Regulations for the Election of the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)

144th IOC Session

Olympia (Greece), 19-21 March 2025

Preamble

Following his second term, the current IOC President, Dr Thomas Bach, cannot be re-elected.

The 144th IOC Session will elect a new IOC President.

The purpose of these Voting Regulations (hereunder “Regulations”) is to define all the provisions applicable for the election of the IOC President by the 144th IOC Session, in conformity with the Olympic Charter (OC), in particular Rule 20 and the Bye-law to Rule 20 OC, Rule 18.2.3 and the Bye-law to Rule 18.3, 5.4, 6, 7 OC, and the legal provisions governing the IOC, in particular Article 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code.

In view of this, the IOC Executive Board decides to adopt the following Regulations:

A-Preliminary Provisions

1. The election of the IOC President by the 144th Session will take place on 19-21 March 2025.
2. From 16 September 2024 until the announcement of the result of the election of the new IOC President, all candidates are required to abide by the Directives Concerning the Election of the IOC President, approved by the IOC Executive Board on 11 August 2024 and published on the IOC website the following day.
3. All candidates will have the opportunity to present their candidature to the IOC Members during the dedicated in-person meeting organised in Lausanne on 30 January 2025. There will be no other presentation by the candidates during the 144th IOC Session.
4. The new President will be elected in principle for a term of eight years, unless the newly elected President loses his/her IOC membership before the end of the term for whatever reason, in particular because of the age limit.
5. The term of office of the new IOC President will start on 24 June 2025, allowing the newly elected IOC President to leave any previous office or position, and in order to facilitate a smooth transition between the current IOC President and the newly elected IOC President.

B- 144th IOC Session- President Election Process

6. The election of the President of the IOC will take place during the 144th Session on 19-21 March 2025 on the day and at the time set by the IOC President.
7. The election process will be chaired by the IOC President or, in the event of his absence or incapacity, by the chairperson designated pursuant to the Bye-law to Rule 18.3 OC. The President will be assisted by the IOC Director General.
8. To ensure the secrecy of the vote, the election process will take place entirely in camera and will not be broadcast. A recording will be organised only for archive purposes. Only the IOC Members and the persons listed by the IOC Director General (i.e. the scrutineers, designated staff and Lumi employees required for the election operations) will be present in the room during the election process itself.
9. No electronic devices will be allowed in the Session room during the election process itself; a collection of these items will be organised.
10. The election will be held by secret ballot. Electronic voting will be used as is customary for elections within the IOC. However, if technical imperatives so require, the IOC President may decide to proceed using any other means of secret ballot he deems appropriate.
11. In order to check the electronic voting system, a test vote will take place prior to the actual vote.
12. The IOC President will appoint in advance three scrutineers and appoint a chair from among them (an IOC Honorary Member, a Swiss notary and one independent member of the IOC Ethics Commission) for the whole duration of the IOC President's election voting process to validate the overall voting process and the results.
13. For the whole IOC President's election process, that is to say for the presentation to the IOC Members on 30 January 2025 and for the vote itself, each candidate will be allotted an order number by a drawing of lots. This draw was held during the IOC Ethics Commission meeting on 25 November 2024.
14. The names of the IOC Members who must refrain from voting pursuant to the Bye-law to Rule 18.5.4 OC, will be communicated to the IOC Session by the IOC Director General before each round of voting. It is the responsibility of the IOC Director General to ensure that the voting cards are taken from the IOC Members concerned and returned to them when necessary for further rounds.
15. In accordance with Rule 18.3 OC, the quorum required for the IOC Session is half the total membership of the IOC with voting rights plus one.

16. In accordance with Rule 18 OC, each IOC Member has one vote. The vote of an IOC Member not participating in the round of voting, abstentions, and blank or spoiled votes will not be taken into account. Voting by proxy is not allowed. The candidate who obtains the absolute majority of votes cast will be proclaimed elected.
17. The IOC President will not exercise his right to vote but he reserves his right to exercise a casting vote according to article 20 of the present Regulations.
18. If no candidate obtains the absolute majority of votes in a round of voting, there will be other rounds of voting until a candidate obtains the absolute majority of the votes. The candidate obtaining the fewest votes in each of the rounds of voting will be eliminated and will not participate in the following round of voting.
19. If the same number of votes is obtained by two or more candidates during a round of voting in which these candidates should be eliminated, there will be a specific intermediary vote only between the candidates who obtained the same number of votes; the candidate who obtains the fewest votes will be eliminated and will not participate in the following round of voting between the remaining candidates.
20. If the same number of votes is obtained by the last two candidates during the final vote, there will be new rounds of voting until one of the last two candidates obtains the greater number of votes. After a second round of voting for which the last two candidates obtain the same number of votes, the IOC President, after consultation with the IOC Executive Board, will use his right to exercise a casting vote.
21. The result of each round of voting will be communicated in writing by the chair of the scrutineers to the IOC President, who will announce the results to the IOC Session as follows:
 - a) At the end of each round of voting, including any intermediary vote(s), if no candidate is elected, the IOC President will not communicate the numbers of votes received by the respective candidates; he will announce only the name of the candidate who will not participate in the following round of voting. The candidate who will no longer participate will not take the floor.
 - b) As soon as a candidate is elected by obtaining the absolute majority, the IOC President will inform the IOC Session that the voting process is over; the doors of the IOC Session room will open and the IOC Session will be broadcast live; the IOC President will announce the name of the new IOC President to whom he will pass the floor for a short declaration.
 - c) The full results of all the rounds of voting will be published as soon as the name of the new IOC President is announced. The results of the election will be recorded in the form of minutes signed by the scrutineers.
22. The term of office of the newly elected IOC President will start on 24 June 2025. Thus the current IOC President will continue his term of office until this date.

C - Final Provisions

23. In accordance with the Bye-law to Rule 18.6 OC, these Regulations may be amended by the IOC Executive Board at any time until the completion of this election procedure.
24. In accordance with the Bye-law to Rule 18.7 OC, any matter of procedure concerning the IOC Session or these votes which are not covered by the Olympic Charter or the present Regulations will be decided by the IOC President, whose decisions will be final and binding, and which cannot be challenged or appealed.
25. For any matter not specifically addressed in the present Regulations and the Olympic Charter, the Swiss Civil Code (Art. 60 et seq.) is applicable.

Approved by the IOC Executive Board in Lausanne on 3-5 December 2024