

Athletes Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: December 13, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM – 3:20 PM CT

Location: Zoom

Facilitator: Valerie Gruest (Chair)

Minutes Recorded By: Valerie Gruest (Chair)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM CT by Chair Valerie Gruest.

2. Roll Call / Attendance

Members Present:

- Edgar Crespo
- Jack Dahlgren
- Percy (Last Name Noted in Attendance)

3. Committee Updates and Key Discussions

Athlete Core

An end-of-year recap was shared, highlighting progress made in building athlete-focused initiatives and engagement channels. Continued development and visibility of the Athlete Core remains a priority moving into 2026.

Athlete Forum

- The Athlete Forum is scheduled for **May 9, 2026**.
- Initial planning updates were shared, with emphasis on alignment with broader athlete programming and follow-up opportunities.

Major Working Group (MWG)

- Updates were shared regarding MWG activities, including upcoming engagement in **Buenos Aires**.

WhatsApp Community & Social Media

- Continued growth of the WhatsApp athlete community and use of social media channels was discussed as a key engagement tool.
- Members emphasized the importance of consistent communication and clear value for athletes.

Mentorship Program

2025 Wrap-Up

- Feedback survey shared; responses are due by **Wednesday, December 17, 2025**.
- Survey link: <https://forms.gle/2o3mtM3hYskXTq6e9>
- Discussion included continued support for the current cohort and opportunities to integrate mentors and mentees into broader programming.

2026 Launch

- Applications close on **December 20, 2025**.
- The selection process was discussed, with a call for volunteers to support application review.
- Ongoing mentorship support structures were briefly outlined.

Athlete Development – 2026 Planning

- **Convention (January 23–25, 2026):** High-level planning underway.
- **UWC Impact Sessions:** Continued development and integration into athlete programming.
- **UWC Panels:** Opportunities identified to highlight athlete voices and relevant themes.
- **UWC Podcast:** Updates shared on planning and content development.

4. Action Items

Task	Responsible	Notes
Complete and submit mentorship feedback survey	All Members	Due Dec. 17, 2025
Support mentorship application review	Volunteers	Applications close Dec. 20, 2025
Continue development of Athlete Forum	All Members	Event scheduled May 9, 2026
Advance planning for 2026 convention and UWC activities	Chair & Committee	January 23–25, 2026

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM CT by Chair Valerie Gruet.

Minutes Submitted By:

Valerie Gruet (Chair)

Date Prepared: December 13, 2025