



CANADIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

ATHLETES' COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RULE 50

Final (August 26, 2020)

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1. Executive Summary

The Olympic Charter's Rule 50 ("**Rule 50**") has the objective of "providing a framework to protect the neutrality of sport and the Olympic Games" and to maintain the focus of the Olympic Games on athletic performance, sport, and international unity ([Rule 50 Guidelines Developed by the IOC Athletes' Commission](#)). As key stakeholders in the Olympic Movement, and as the community in which Rule 50 directly impacts, it is essential that the perspective of athletes around the world is taken into consideration during the review process; that athletes also contribute towards the progression and evolution of the Olympic Movement while having the responsibility to protect the values and principles for which the Olympic Movement stands.

Canadian athletes ("**athletes**") generally understand and acknowledge the complexity of the Olympic Charter's Rule 50. Our athletes strive for a balance between enhanced freedom of expression versus maintaining the values and idealism of the Olympic Games. On January 9th, 2020, the International Olympic Committee ("**IOC**") introduced new guidelines to Rule 50, reducing the locations at Games where it could be enforced. In May 2020, events in the USA sparked renewed discussions on Rule 50, its purpose, and effect on Olympians from around the world. In Canada there were, and still are, mixed opinions on Rule 50. Our athletes' views are spread across a spectrum from maintaining the Rule in its pre-January 2020 form to the complete abolition of Rule 50.



This document outlines the process taken by the Canadian Olympic Committee Athletes' Commission (“**COC AC**”, “**our**” “**we**” or “**us**”) to solicit feedback from a wide cross section of athletes. The purpose being to synthesize a consensus opinion representative of the majority of Canadian high-performance athletes; but also highlight the views of the athletes that were not in the majority, yet still important in shaping an equitable end result. Our consultation included 1:1 conversations with summer and winter athletes plus their athlete representatives. It included a public webinar open to all national team athletes, educational videos shared via our social media, and data analysis from an athlete wide survey on Rule 50.

The process uncovered that a majority of athletes express a need for clear definitions of terms used in Rule 50 including, but not limited to, ‘demonstration,’ ‘protest,’ and ‘propaganda.’ Athletes believe that any form of demonstration permitted at Games should align with the values of Olympism, Human Rights, and athlete safety. Any permissible demonstration should respect the rights and reputations of others, respect other athletes and countries, ensure non-interference with competition and protect from demonstrations contrary to the values of Olympism or that are otherwise harmful, misleading, discriminatory or based on hate. The majority of Canadian athletes acknowledge the need for a rule that clearly defines parameters for what constitutes permissible versus prohibited ‘demonstration,’ ‘protest,’ and ‘propaganda’ and which clearly articulates the consequences for violating that rule.

Based on our consultation the COC AC’s overall recommendation to the International Olympic Committee’s Athletes’ Commission is to further amend Rule 50 based on our (7) recommendations.

- I. Establish two separate rules; (a) the first dealing with commercial matters, such as emblems, advertising, and commercial installations; (2) the second pertaining to demonstration, protest, and propaganda. Note our subsequent recommendations pertain to rule 50.2
- II. Clearly define the terms used within Rule 50
- III. Establish provisions for acceptable Demonstration based on the values and principles of Olympism.
- IV. Parameters should be established for the forms of Demonstration that are permitted. Demonstrations should maintain respect for other athletes and countries and for the competition itself.
- V. Maintain neutral or protected spaces as they are critical to the success of the Olympic Games. This includes the addition of designated spaces inside the Olympic Village. The field of play must be a protected space.



- VI. Clearly define and outline the consequences for violating rules around Demonstration, Protest and Propaganda. Establish a spectrum/tiered approach that clearly delineates “degrees of violation” with the associated repercussions for that level of violation
- VII. Find and implement other opportunities to meaningfully celebrate unity and inclusion with specific emphasis on taking a stand against racism and discrimination.

The remainder of the document illustrates the details of the Canadian athlete perspective on what the future of Rule 50 should be and provides more context on our recommendations based on those perspectives. Unless otherwise defined in text, all capitalized terms used in this document have the meaning as set out in the Definition of Terms section.



Definition of Terms

Rule 50 is a technical document that outlines a set of standards, behaviours, expectations and repercussions with regard to athlete protest, demonstration and propaganda. Accordingly, for the purpose of this document and ease of reference, capitalized terms used in this document have the definitions given to them as set out below.

“Rule 50.2” refers to “No kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted in any Olympic sites, venues or other areas.” ([Olympic Charter](#), pg. 90)

“Demonstration” means the action or process of showing the existence or truth of something by giving proof or evidence. A public display of group feelings towards a person, cause, matter, etc. (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary*) A public meeting or march against something or expressing views on a particular issue. (*Cambridge English Dictionary*)

“Protest” means a solemn declaration opinion and usually of dissent; the act of objecting or a gesture of disapproval; a usually organized public demonstration of disapproval; a complaint, objection or display of unwillingness usually to an idea or a course of action; an objection made to an official or governing body of a sport. (*Merriam- Webster Dictionary*)

“Propaganda” refers to the spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person; ideas, facts, or allegations spread deliberately to further one’s cause or to damage an opposing cause, also a public action having such an effect. (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary*)

“Commercial” means concerned with or engaged in commerce; making or intended to make money (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary*).

“Commercial Use” refers to any use for which there is an endorsement, direct association or official relationship between a third-party logo, product or service and my image, including advertising and publicity purposes.

“Field of Play” refers to the part of a field that is officially marked as the place where the action of a game happens: playing field (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary*). Inclusive of the competition area, start/finish area, mixed zones (athlete’s side), and timing and scoring. (*IOC Accreditation Guide*)



“Human Rights” means the rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human Rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination. (*United Nations*)

“Mixed Zone” refers to the area where media can interview athletes as they leave the Field of Play, which is established at every competition venue and official training venue.

“Olympic Village” refers to the main accommodation site for athletes and participants at the Games, as set by the Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games. (*Canadian Olympic Committee Athlete Agreement*)

“Political” means of or relating to government, a government, or conduct of government. Relating to the government or public affairs of a country. Relating to ideas or strategies of a particular party or group in politics. (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary*).

“Social Justice” means the objective of creating a fair and equal society in which each individual matter, their rights are recognized and protected, and decisions are made in ways that are fair and honest. (*Oxford Reference*)



2. PROCESS

To fully understand and effectively communicate the Canadian athlete perspective with respect to Rule 50, the Canadian Olympic Committee Athletes' Commission set out and followed the process outlined below:

1. Educate ourselves on Rule 50.
2. Attend IOC AC and Pan American Sports AC discussions on Rule 50
3. Provide Canadian athletes with context and background on Rule 50, the changes introduced in January 2020 by the IOC and the IOC Athletes' Commission's renewed consultation process.
4. Contextualize Rule 50 in an international landscape for Canadian athletes.
5. Present pros and cons to the three general perspectives (i.e., "maintain", "amend" or "abolish") on how to treat Rule 50 going forward in a balanced manner.
6. Develop and distribute a COC AC made video illustrating points #3-5
7. Consult Canadian athletes and construct a detailed understanding of their opinions through a three-pronged consultation process, consisting of:
 1. one-on-one athlete outreach (via email communications, calls, etc.);
 2. a Zoom webinar open to all Canadian athletes in Olympic sports (along with live polling and Q&A period);
 3. an athlete survey distributed to all Canadian athletes (through, and in concert with, AthletesCAN).
8. Discuss the Canadian athlete perspective with IOC AC. Provide our recommendations as part of the IOC AC's broader rule 50 consultation process.
9. Publish the COC AC recommendations

| Education & Consultation Methods | Overview |
|--|--|
| 1:1 Athlete Conversations & NSO Athlete Rep Conversations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Over 50 athletes across winter and summer sports ● Focused on providing background and context on Rule 50 while permitting athletes to express their reactions and views on Rule 50. |
| Canadian Athlete Webinar (July 7, 2020) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 110 athlete attendees ● Focused on educating athletes on Rule 50, presenting a balanced view of different perspectives (maintain, abolish, amend), while also allowing time for questions and feedback. ● Conducted polling with key questions with the aim of |



| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| | assessing athlete values and perspectives at the start of the session and again at the end of the session. |
| Athlete Survey | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepared and distributed by AthletesCAN with our collaboration.• 104 Canadian Olympians responded; a combination of active and retired athletes across over 35 sports.• Data was reviewed by both COC AC and AthletesCAN, and our interpretation of the data was reviewed by a third party. |



3. RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendations are based on the consultation processes identified in section 2. Additionally, the recommendations set out below have been prepared based on the following understandings:

- a. There are Canadian athletes who have views that fall at or within both ends of the spectrum, from maintaining Rule 50 in its current form, to those who believe that no rule should limit an athletes' ability to demonstrate and/or protest (or more specifically, restrict athletes' rights to freedom of expression). These recommendations have been prepared with the objective of (i) balancing the varying perspectives, (ii) communicating the dominant (majority) perspective, where this was evident from the data collected, and (iii) acknowledging and communicating which particular aspects Canadian athletes did not have strong collective perspectives.
- b. We acknowledge that the Olympic Games are not a public space and that athletes enter into contractual arrangements with their respective National Olympic Committees ("**NOC**") in order to participate in an international event governed by the Olympic Charter.
- c. The IOC Athletes' Commission and IOC are open to the possibility of making changes to Rule 50 beyond what was already introduced in January 2020. We encourage the IOC Athletes' Commission to continue exploring creative means that help to reinforce athletes' rights and freedoms in meaningful ways that are consistent with the Olympic values, while also acknowledging the need to protect those who believe that Rule 50, more specifically Rule 50.2, is appropriate in its current form.

The COC Athletes' Commission's recommendation to the IOC and the IOC's Athletes' Commission is to amend Rule 50 as follows:

Recommendation 1: Divide Rule 50 into two separate rules; (a) the first dealing with commercial matters, such as emblems, advertising, and commercial installations; (2) the second dealing with demonstration, protest, and propaganda.

Recommendation 2: Clearly define the terms used within Rule 50, including definitions of, but not limited to, "Demonstration", "Protest", and "Propaganda" in the Olympic Charter.

- While some Canadian athletes expressed that some forms of Demonstration and Protest should be permissible at the Olympic Games, based on their



understanding and perception of what constitutes “Propaganda,” (see *Appendix 1*), Propaganda should not be permitted.

Recommendation 3: Establish provisions for acceptable Demonstration based on the values and principles of Olympism. This would enable some forms of demonstration in support of peace, unity, mutual understanding, the preservation of human dignity, the celebration of rights and freedoms (in accordance with generally accepted principles of Human Rights), and athlete safety, while protecting from and restricting those that are contrary to Olympic values or are otherwise discriminatory, political, hate speech, or harmful in nature. (*Olympic Charter, pg. 11-12*).

- There was a clear delineation between Demonstrations dealing with matters relating to Human Rights, which garnered more support, and those that are considered Political Demonstration, which had little support.
- Actions, Demonstrations or language based on hate or discrimination are not to be tolerated.
- Ensure that athletes’ and participants’ physical and psychological safety and well-being are protected.
- Protect against coercion of athletes by Commercial, Political, governmental or other entities.
- Protect against the intensification of geopolitical tensions.

Recommendation 4: Parameters should be established for the forms of Demonstration that are permitted. Demonstrations should maintain respect for other athletes, countries and for the competition itself.

- When asked, Canadian athletes were often split in terms of what specific forms of Demonstration should be allowed and what should be prohibited (see *Appendix 1*).
- Canadian athletes value respectful Demonstrations and non-interference.
- There was a clear theme that forms of Demonstration should not interfere with competition and performance.
- It was also evident that Demonstrations should be peaceful and respectful of other countries and athletes. Demonstrations should have minimal external impact on other athletes.

Recommendation 5: Maintain neutral or protected spaces as they are an important component to the success of the Olympic Games (see *Appendix 1*).

- Demonstrations should not interfere with the competition itself. Thus, the Field of Play, exclusive of the Mixed Zone, should be protected space.
- Establish a designated space within the Olympic Village where athletes can peacefully Demonstrate, creating space for dialogue and opportunities to learn.



- With respect to other spaces, including the podium, Opening and Closing Ceremonies, there is no clear majority that supports whether or not to demonstrate in such places.

Recommendation 6: Clearly define and outline the consequences for violating rules around Demonstration, Protest and Propaganda with focus on being transparent and consistent. Establish a spectrum/ tiered approach that clearly delineates “degrees of violation” with the associated repercussions for that level of violation.

- Athletes acknowledge the necessity of a rule and the necessity for consequences in the case of rule violation but expressed that the clause outlining potential consequences (*Olympic Charter, p. 91*) contains vague language that is open to interpretation and the possibility of subjective implementation of consequences.
- As set out under recommendation 2 above, clear definitions are required, including of what is permitted and what is not.
- There must be a method to evaluate violations based on measures of interference, levels of disruption, potential and actual harm, and the degree of deviation from Olympic values that is clearly articulated and distributed.
- Establish fair and measured repercussions for each “tier” of violation that is clearly articulated and distributed. Athletes need to have well defined parameters to determine expected outcomes.
- Canadian athletes prefer measures and consequences that are individually applied to the athlete(s) that breached the rule (i.e. athlete sanctions, fines, disqualifications, etc.) as opposed to consequences and sanctions applied more broadly (i.e. to the NOC or delegation).

Recommendation 7: Explore other opportunities to meaningfully celebrate unity and inclusion, taking a stand against racism and discrimination. Possible examples include:

- during Opening or Closing Ceremonies.
- establishing a speaker’s corner and/or wall for messages from athletes for athletes to share their lived experiences.
- create space and opportunity for dialogue and education at the Olympic Games and beyond Games through the Olympic Channel and Athlete 360.
- a dedicated IOC campaign aimed at combating racism



Appendix 1: RESULTS/ DATA

A. Webinar

B. 1:1 Athlete Conversations and NSO Athlete Rep Consultation

C. Athlete Survey

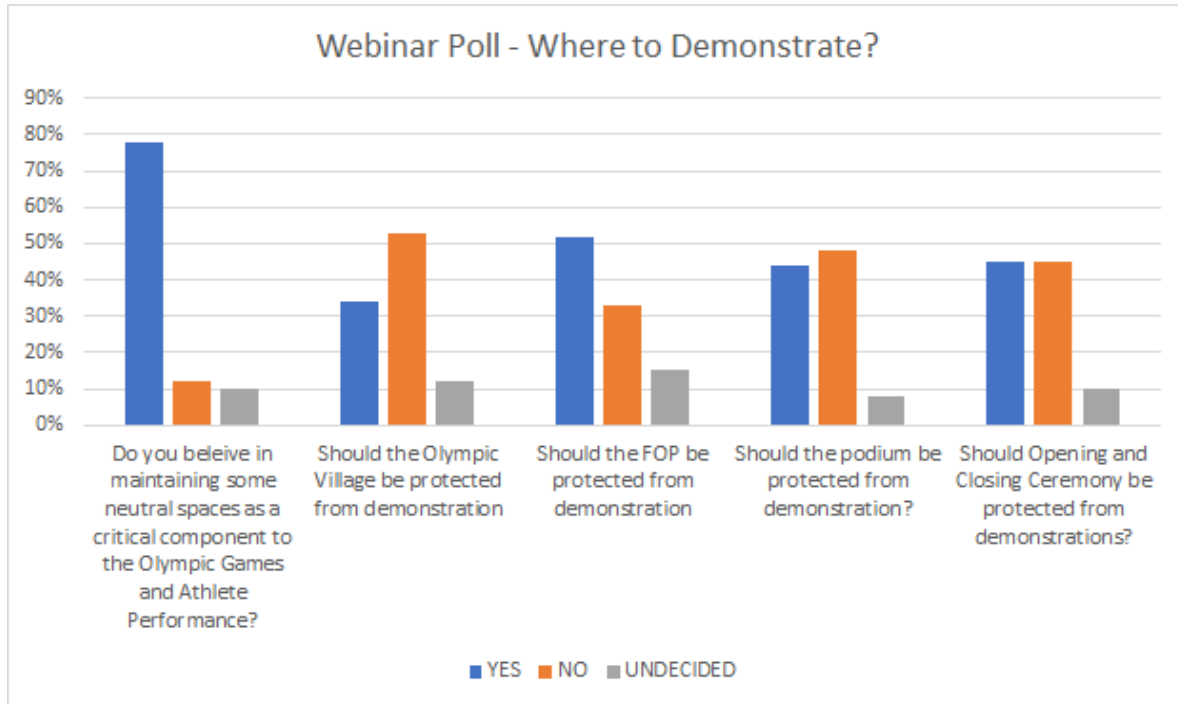
The following section includes select data summaries and overall impressions of the three methods used by the COC AC to collect athlete feedback on Rule 50.

Webinar

Main Conclusions:

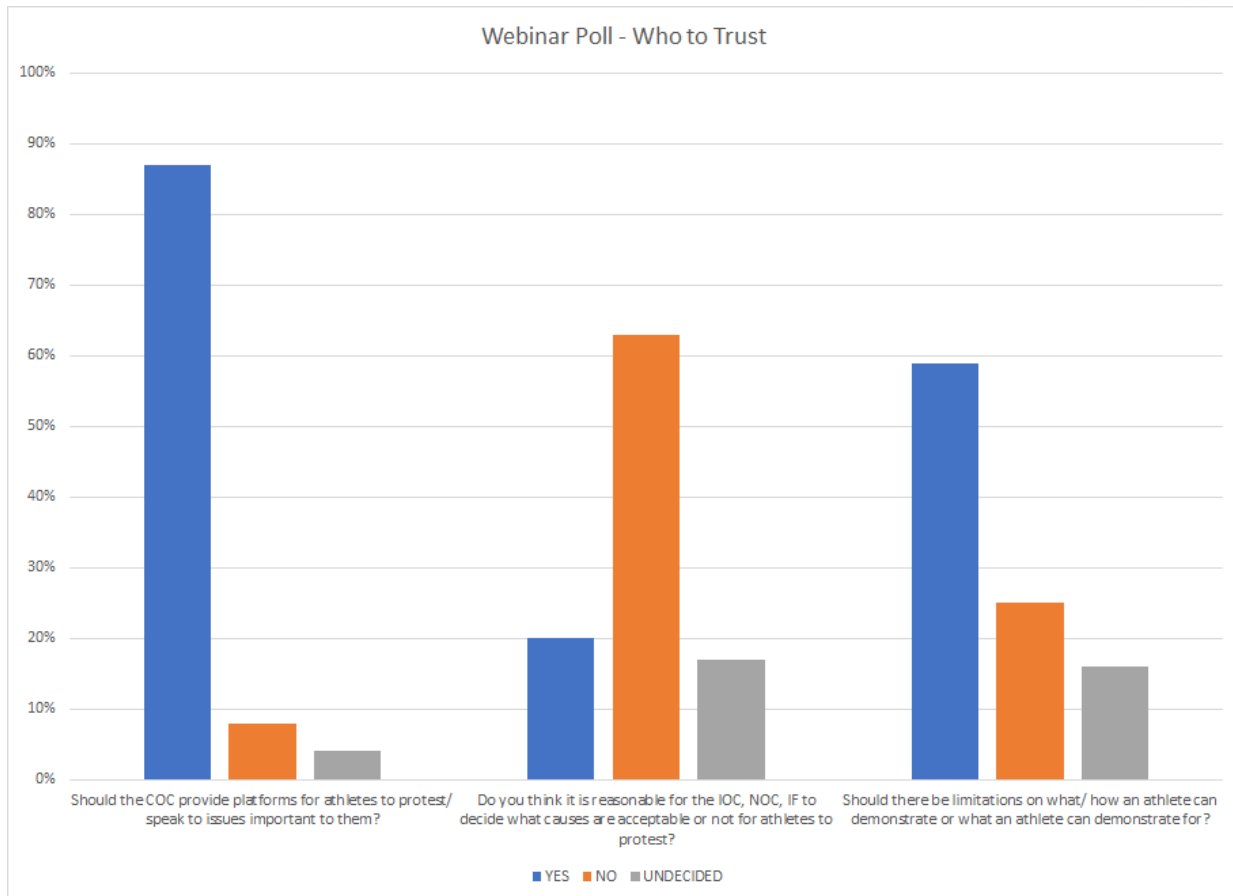
- There is a strong belief that the IOC should clearly articulate the consequences of protesting/demonstrating.
- There is a strong sentiment that there should be restrictions around hate speech and discriminatory demonstration.
- The majority of athletes believed that maintaining some neutral space is critical to the Olympic Games and athlete performance.
 - A majority of athletes who participated in the webinar believed that the field of Play and athlete performance should be protected, but other spaces rendered no clear majority. This can be seen in Figure 1, below.

Figure 1: Poll taken midway through the webinar, after pros/cons had been discussed



- There was a general sentiment that demonstrations should align with Olympic values, the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
- Athletes in attendance leaned towards the amendment of Rule 50 based primarily on their desire to communicate messages regarding Human Rights and social justice.

Figure 2: Athlete opinions demonstration topics, locations and limitations



1:1 Athlete & NSO Athlete Representative Conversations

Main Conclusions:

- Athletes were aware of the balance between the idealism of the Olympic Games and enhanced freedom of expression. They acknowledged the complexity of the conversation.
- There was broad support for the changes made in January but added that the amendments assume that all athletes have the same access to media and digital media. Athletes believe that further amendments should ensure equity among all athletes.
- There were athletes who expressed views and opinions across the spectrum of; maintain' to 'abolish', with most expressing support for moderate amendments to Rule 50.
- The majority believed that maintaining the status quo was insufficient, that there was opportunity for, and value in expanding these freedoms more broadly but less consensus on specifics.



- Most athletes expressed the need to develop a rule or a set of clear guidelines that informs athlete demonstrations and the consequences for breaching any parameters that may be instituted.
- The majority of athletes expressed that there is value in protecting competition, the Field of Play and performance.
- There was no clear majority with respect to views on allowing/prohibiting demonstration on the podium.
- Most athletes expressed that demonstrations should be respectful and align with Olympic and Canadian values, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of athletes and participants.
- Athletes expressed that there should be parameters to mitigate harm, discrimination, or those that would contribute to broader geopolitical tensions.
- Athletes expressed support for creative forms of expression that contribute to the values of Olympism.
- Athletes stated that it is possible, and important, to differentiate between political and Human Rights issues. The Olympic Charter stands up for Human Rights so it should be possible for the IOC to create a means through which athletes too can stand up for Human Rights.
- Athletes generally support more platforms to discuss ideas. Many felt that athletes are valued solely for their physical capital rather than as humans with lived experiences and believe there is value in creating means through which athletes can share stories and express their views.
- Some athletes expressed a desire to have the ability to protest or demonstrate issues specific to sport, for example unsafe conditions or sport technical errors that have not been remedied.



Athlete Survey

Demographics

104 Olympians/ Olympic Hopeful Respondents (self-selected from within the survey and filtered to Olympic sports)

- 66.35% Active Athletes
- 33.65% Retired Athletes
- 35+ Sports (Summer & Winter)
- 54.45% either Qualified for Tokyo 2020 or are a hopeful for Tokyo 2020; 9% Beijing 2022 hopeful

The following results represent the percentages of the respondents who answered the questions:

Survey questions on: Athlete Definitions of Demonstration, Protest & Propaganda

There is no clear consensus on what athletes view as **Demonstration**. A plurality views it as a broad term encompassing drawing attention to a cause, portraying or expressing opinions, ideologies, or thoughts; an outward, deliberate, clear act that supports (as opposed to be against) a particular cause.

Associated Actions:

Actions that are generally associated with the act of demonstration are:

- verbal statements
- messages on clothing
- gestures
- kneeling
- gathering of people
- signs
- symbolic displays

Associated actions can be specific to sport:

- refusal to compete
- refusing to stand on podiums

Demonstrations can be conducted in person or virtually, and they can be physical, verbal, overt or subtle.

Athletes expressed that **Protest** encompassed actions or statements expressing dissent, taking action or expressing a message in opposition to, or disapproval of a way of thinking, message, institution, organization, event, rule, circumstances, law, authority, or decision.



Encompasses both individual and group action. However, there was no clear consensus on what constitutes protest.

Associated Actions:

Actions that are generally associated with the act of protest are:

- Public demonstration
- gesture
- verbal or written statement
- virtual action to emphasize a point
- group gatherings in support of a particular cause/ message.

Sport specific examples include:

- refusal to compete/withdrawal
- refusal to participate in Medal Ceremonies
- demonstration during anthems to communicate a particular message.

Propaganda

Propaganda was predominantly perceived by athletes as communicating or disseminating information with the intention of advancing a particular narrative or agenda. There is a common perception that this involves perpetuating false, misleading, or incomplete information that intentionally or unintentionally misrepresents truths for political, personal, or economic gain. Propaganda was often associated with negative and discriminatory messaging elevating a particular viewpoint while rendering others invalid. Many respondents expressed that propaganda, as they understood it, had no place at the Olympic Games.

Associated Actions:

There was no clear indication of particular actions or means through which propaganda was disseminated.

COC AC Interpretation of Data

There are currently insufficient definitions provided for “Propaganda,” “Protest,” and “Demonstration.” While they may be related concepts, there is no clear differentiation or delineation provided. An athletes’ understanding and interpretation of each term can differ, and this informs their view of whether or not each should be permitted in a Games context. There need to be clear definitions provided for the terms used within the Olympic Charter with respect to protest, demonstration, and propaganda. It is unacceptable to



enforce any rules or infractions pertaining to protest, demonstration and propaganda, if these are not clearly defined to athletes, NSO and those who are responsible for administering infractions.

Survey questions on: *Consequences for breaching Rule 50:*

“Any violation of this Bylaw 1 and the guidelines adopted hereunder may result in disqualification of the person or delegation concerned, or withdrawal of accreditation of the person or delegation concerned, without prejudice to further measures and sanctions which may be pronounced by the IOC Executive Board or Session” (Olympic Charter, P.91)

- 70% of respondents felt that this clause was clear, however the language was vague and open to interpretation leaving room for subjective interpretation of what constitutes demonstration and what does not. It also leaves room for subjective implementation of repercussions.
- Respondents expressed the need for the Olympic Charter to more clearly define the parameters of what is permissible, and when breached, what the consequences for those actions will be.
- Respondents acknowledged that a range of consequences is needed depending on the extent of the violation.
- Respondents indicated that they favoured consequences that applied to the athlete(s) who breached the rule. They favoured athlete disqualification, withdrawal of athlete accreditation and athlete fines over sanctions or consequences that applied to a broader group (NOC or delegation).

Survey questions on: The need for a rule or set of guidelines pertaining to demonstration and propaganda

75% of respondents indicated that there is a need for a rule or a specific set of guidelines pertaining to demonstrations and propaganda at Games.

- Those who indicated the need for a rule provided the following reasons:
 - To allow a clear understanding of actions and consequences ensuring athletes are able to make informed decisions based on clear parameters.
 - To ensure the physical and psychological safety and wellbeing of participants.
 - To prevent hate speech and actions or statements that are discriminatory or divisive.
 - To prevent interference with competition.
 - To preserve the spirit and values of the Olympic Movement.



- To prevent coercion of athletes by commercial, political or governmental entities.

Survey questions on: What should be and shouldn't be allowed

Topics:

- 74% of respondents indicated that there needed to be rules in place to protect against discrimination during demonstrations at Games.
- It was clearly communicated by the respondents that hate speech, discrimination, and propaganda are unacceptable.
- There was general support to permit demonstrations in support of Human Rights, equality, solidarity, and fair play.
- Respondents also indicated that demonstrations should be in alignment with Olympic Values.
- A general theme around respecting your country and other athletes was also evident.

Survey questions on: Where to demonstrate/protest

- 77% of respondents indicated that there should be parameters on where athletes are permitted to demonstrate at Games.
- The majority of respondents believe that demonstrations should be prohibited on the Field of Play and that there should be a designated area within an Olympic Village where demonstration is permitted.

Table 1: Where should demonstrations and propaganda be allowed or prohibited? (56% response rate)

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Allowed</u> | <u>Prohibited</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| On the Field of Play | 21.05% | 78.95% |



| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| In the Stands | 49.12% | 50.88% |
| On the Podium | 39.29% | <u>60.71%</u> |
| Medal Ceremonies (Not on podium) | 41.07% | <u>58.93%</u> |
| Opening Ceremonies | 38.6% | <u>61.5%</u> |
| Closing Ceremonies | 45.61% | <u>54.39%</u> |
| Other Official Ceremonies | 48.21% | <u>51.79%</u> |
| Everywhere in Olympic Village | 36.31% | <u>63.79%</u> |
| Designated Areas of Olympic Village | <u>77.19%</u> | 22.81% |
| <i>Mixed Zones*</i> | <u>68.97%</u> | 31.03% |
| <i>Digital/ Traditional Media*</i> | <u>81.03%</u> | 18.97% |
| <i>Team Meetings*</i> | <u>69.94%</u> | 30.36% |
| <i>Press Conferences*</i> | <u>82.76%</u> | 17.24% |
| <i>Other Interviews*</i> | <u>89.66%</u> | 10.34% |

*Permitted as of January 2020

Survey questions on: Forms of Demonstration

- 77% of respondents answered that athletes should not be able to demonstrate in any form they would like at a Games, indicating the need parameters to guide acceptable forms of demonstration.
- Respondents indicated that all demonstrations should be peaceful and conducted with respect for competition and competitors.
- The majority of respondents believe that making a demonstration on the Field of Play should be prohibited.

Table 2: What forms of demonstration or propaganda should or shouldn't be allowed? (55% response rate)

| <u>Form of Demonstration</u> | <u>Allowed</u> | <u>Prohibited</u> |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| Kneeling during your own anthem | <u>63.64%</u> | 36.36% |
| Kneeling during another country's anthem | 33.93% | <u>66.07%</u> |
| Kneeling on the podium | 49.09% | 50.91% |



| | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Refusing to compete | <u>58.93%</u> | 41.07% |
| Refusing to stand on the podium | 46.43% | <u>53.57%</u> |
| Refusing to participate in Official Ceremonies | <u>57.14%</u> | 42.86% |
| Refusing to wear your country's flag on the podium | 47.37% | <u>52.63%</u> |
| Making a demonstration gesture on the podium | <u>52.63%</u> | 46.37% |
| Making a demonstration gesture on the field of play | 36.84% | <u>63.16%</u> |
| Making a demonstration gesture in the Olympic Village | <u>55.36%</u> | 44.64% |
| Making a demonstration gesture during team meetings | <u>76.79%</u> | 23.21% |
| Displaying propaganda on uniforms | 28.57% | <u>71.43%</u> |
| Displaying propaganda during interviews/ press conferences | <u>53.57%</u> | 46.43% |
| Displaying propaganda in the Olympic Village | 42.84% | <u>57.14%</u> |
| Displaying propaganda during team meetings | <u>61.82%</u> | 38.18% |
| Displaying propaganda in the stands | 42.86% | <u>57.14%</u> |

Survey questions on: Position on Rule 50:

- Those who want to keep Rule 50 in its current form state that Rule 50 provides avenues for athletes to express their views and support for particular causes while also maintaining the focus of the Games on sport, unity and creating a neutral space.
- Those who express a desire to amend Rule 50 state that, while there is a need for a rule, they desire more clarity around what constitutes a breach and room for more freedom of expression. Amendments would also permit for demonstrations in alignment with social movements and changes in other areas of sport.



- Those who express a desire to abolish Rule 50 cite that freedom of expression is a Human Right.

Table 3: Position on Rule 50 (56% response rate)

| <u>Answer Choice</u> | <u>Responses</u> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Keep in its current form | 32.76% |
| Amend the Rule | 29.31% |
| Abolish the Rule | 8.62% |
| Return the Rule to its original form (i.e. pre- January 2020 amendment) | 5.17% |
| I do not feel informed enough on the topic to provide my opinion | 20.69% |
| Other | 3.45% |