



Abigail Irozuru – Long Jump

What matters to you as an athlete? I'd love to know and champion your ideas!

I am passionate about advocating for others and ensuring fairness. That's why 'to help people get justice' was my core motivation listed in my 2007 university application to study law and become a barrister. And with athletics becoming my primary focus over the subsequent fifteen years, that passion for advocacy hasn't changed – only shifted towards wanting to promote the interests of my athlete community, which I would love to do as a member of the UKA Athletes' Commission.

Another reason I'm interested in this role is because I want to be a part of facilitating our sport's positive evolution: more fans in the stands, increased coverage, and commercial agreements benefiting athletes directly.

I know this is possible from my experience serving on the BOA Athletes' Commission, where I have seen the importance of using effective communication and collaboration with key stakeholders to make big wins possible for you, the athlete - whether you run, jump, throw or walk!

Ultimately, I have jumped into a sandpit for half of my life, but I've also jumped into this welcoming competitive community, and I don't want to leave it right now! Being a part of the UKA Athletes' Commission will allow me to stay involved with a sport I love and the people within it, and to make a positive difference, even after I officially hang up my spikes this year.

So, if you want to be heard and see positive change, please vote for me. Thanks for reading!





Amelia Campbell (née Strickler)

I am Amelia Campbell, formerly Strickler. I am, and always have been, very passionate about athletics and women's sport. In 2023, I was one of the only athletes willing to publicly fight for biological women's only sport. It is so important to protect the women's category in sport for fairness. As a thrower, being a voice for field event athletes, who are often overlooked, is also very important to me. Athletics needs to make some serious changes to stay relevant and elevate its popularity, which I would like to contribute to. Fighting for athletes' rights, places on teams when qualified, and wanting what is truly best for athletes are top priority for me. A vote for me is a vote for women's sport, fairness, and a voice of change for the better.





Eloise Eccles – Ultra-Runner

My name is Ellie. I'm an Ultra Runner. I've represented Great Britain at the most recent 24HR European and World Championships.

At the start of the year, I set myself the intention of becoming more active in the athletics community and I have since been seeking the right opportunity to outwork this desire, which brings me here.

We all know that sports performance is a product of so much more than simply talent and training alone. And I strongly believe that for an athlete to truly thrive, we must focus on addressing the holistic person.

The opportunity to support athletes from all backgrounds and across all disciplines, on their journey to reaching their best performance, be it at an individual or team level, is of great importance to me. If selected, I will actively work to explore ideas, influence improvements, resolve issues and bring clarity, therefore enabling increased focus on the realisation of full potential. I will listen. I will work with integrity, and I will be a true voice.

I have experience of team sport both at a regional and international level. In addition, I believe that the leadership and interpersonal skills I've gained throughout my lengthy profession, coupled with my role as a mother of two children who are both very active in sport, would make me an ideal candidate for this influential role.





Ethan Kirby – 400m

As an accomplished athlete with a rich history in athletics, I am excited to apply for a position on the UK Athletics Commission. My name is Ethan Kirby, a dedicated member of the Newton Abbot and Loughborough Students Athletics Clubs. My journey in athletics, under the guidance of esteemed coaches like Joseph McDonnell and Sonya Ellis, has been marked by significant milestones, particularly in international competitions.

My proudest achievements include representing Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the World Para Athletics Junior Championships in Nottwil, Switzerland, in 2017 and 2019. Here, I showcased my dedication and skill, securing a bronze medal in the 400m T20 category. These experiences not only honed my athletic abilities but also deepened my understanding of the sport's intricacies and the importance of athlete representation in decision-making bodies.

I am passionate about contributing to UK Athletics, leveraging my international experience to ensure that athletes' perspectives are integral in shaping the future of athletics in the UK. My commitment to the sport, combined with my first-hand experience at the elite level, positions me uniquely to offer valuable insights and advocate effectively for athletes' interests.

I am eager to bring my expertise and perspective to the UK Athletics Commission, contributing to the growth and success of athletics in our nation.





George Seery – 400m Hurdles

As a 20 year-old, age-group GB athlete, I am aware that I may not have the same level of experience in elite athletics as many of the other candidates. However, for a Commission comprising 12 athletes, I believe it is essential for younger voices to be heard, as these are the athletes that will be shaping the sport in the years to come, and it is the responsibility of both the governing body and the Athletes' Commission to make their impact a positive one. I believe that the Commission would benefit from the perspective of an athlete who is new to the space, and has been a keen observer from outside the sphere of elite sport for the past 4 years. Bringing this to the table, I would be a spokesperson for the younger generation, and provide a clear insight into their interests and perspectives.

Some of my main concerns that I would be keen to address as a Commission member are: the challenge of keeping young athletes in the sport, providing opportunities for developing athletes on the big stage, and the lack of support for the more difficult selection policies for major championships. I believe that the best environment for our country to tackle these issues is an environment in which the relationship between the athletes and the governing body is one of complete trust and transparency. This is the value I see in becoming a member of the UKA Athletes' Commission and, as a member of this Commission, I will aim to help develop the trust and communication between all athletes and the Performance Oversight Committee, and the Board as a whole.





Jess Piasecki - Marathon

Having competed internationally over the past 18 years I have continued to develop my passion for athletics. Evolving as an athlete has broadened my knowledge and understanding of the demands of high performance sport and the dedication required from both athletes and their support teams in order to make it to the highest level within their discipline.

Whilst progressing my sporting career I have also established myself within Sport Science research, achieving my PhD in 2018 I have gone on to conduct research projects, specifically in relation to musculoskeletal health and female physiology. Using my scientific background I have previously applied this to work with athletes on a 1-2-1 basis supporting their development from junior to senior level athletes.

In particular, I am extremely passionate about female health within sport and have developed my own education platforms to help bridge the lack of knowledge between athletes, coaches and support staff in this area. I am well versed in working groups and public speaking and feel I have the appropriate skill set to become an integral member of the athletes commission. If elected, one of the key aspects I intend to build upon would be to reaffirm gender equality and build further opportunities for development within this sport at both its highest level all the way through to the grass roots. In particular I would intend to address the disparity within the governing body between male and female leaders, along with providing ample support and understanding for all athletes beginning families and taking maternity leave within their athletic careers.





Poppy Tank – 3000m Steeplechase and Cross Country

I believe I would be a strong contributor to the Athletes' Commission; I am open-minded, reliable and excellent at working with others toward a common goal.

I have a passion for advocating for athletes' wellbeing and success, in that order, because a happy athlete is a successful one. My experience as a woman in sport, competing at all levels from club to international, has allowed me to see firsthand where we are currently struggling to bring the most success and happiness to, in particular, our female athletes. From a lack of media coverage and accurate information on female athletics, I believe that there is so much more we can learn and put to constructive use moving forwards.

There are many things I would like to help improve but a few ideas that are of priority to me would include: more quality race opportunities in the UK, increased media visibility, a better connection to the wider running community and more earning opportunities to support athletes financially.

I believe in equal opportunity for all and would embrace the challenge of bringing about positive change so that our sport can stand a chance of thriving, not just surviving, for years to come.





Robert Britton – Ultra-Runner

As a member of the Athletes Commission I would work to ensure that athletes' interests were integral to the work of the commission and that fairness and transparency were part of decision making, selection policies and our sport's governance as a whole.

For the past 10 years I have either represented GB&NI myself, or worked as part of team management for the 24hr team, so I have an understanding as an athlete, but also from the management and coaching side of the table as well.

Additionally I have helped secure funding and sponsorship for British teams and have assisted UKA and England Athletics with regards to health and safety policy, coach education and athlete development. In selection meetings I have been a selector, technical advisor and independent overseer for UKA, and a technical advisor for England Athletics, as well as being on the other side as an athlete and a coach.

As a former member of the inaugural UKA Athletes Commission on a two year term I understand the responsibilities and work involved and have the time and energy to be a productive and useful member of the Commission going forward.

Additional relevant qualifications include UKA Athletics Coach (Event group Endurance), MSc Performance Coaching and PgDip in Sports Nutrition from the IOC.





Steph Twell – Endurance

As a consummate contributor and team player to the inner workings and delivery of the Athlete Commission, I am re-applying for an additional term to act on athlete's behalf and continue to shape the AC's direction of travel.

Athletes and their coaches are the life blood of the sport. At multiple stages across the year, they need understanding, support and advocacy in relation to how top down decisions influence athlete engagement or opportunity, whilst the community's insight offers valuable feedback to help develop the NGB's future.

I am engaged in a wide athletic community from track, road, XC, to mountain running and I remain present within club, development & WCP environments (most recently also even training and understanding Masters athletics). Therefore, I understand the pressures and hot spots various pathways present and can demonstrate an understanding across a wide audience which makes me a reliable candidate to turn to.

I am passionate about listening, resolving and finding solutions for others, which is founded on my guiding principles to be procedurally fair, transparent and ensure individuals views are reflected accurately. As such, I carry this in my role currently and always believe high performance sport should reflect and promote healthier cultures from the athlete lens and that at all the stages of the sport, there should be opportunities athletes can reach.

As current Vice Chair of the AC, I enjoy serving our athlete and coach community. I am pro-active and have been often told athletes have and would want to have me in their corner. Additionally, I connect with all past and present members of the AC, act with integrity and professionalism to reflect the athlete community and AC. I am therefore a steady pair of hands, whilst never not moving with athlete viewpoints.

I would like to continue sharing my experience developed in my first term on the Commission, whilst adopting and working with an exciting new meeting of minds to further develop the Commission's potential to promote a fair, inclusive and positive sport for all.





Zac Shaw – T12 100m and Relay

When I was in school a teacher came up to me and mentioned that I should try out Para sport. Being visually impaired, I didn't realise what I had was a disability as it wasn't visible to other people. Eventually I did take up athletics in 2013 and I could've never dreamed that I'd have been able to represent Great Britain once, let alone be part of the set up. I've been lucky enough to have so many amazing experiences within this sport and meet some incredible people along the way. I've seen what equality can look like within sport, and I've also unfortunately felt what inequality feels like. I'd love to use my experiences as a current GB Para-Athlete to help increase participation levels in disability sport across all levels and competitions.

As I've spent the past decade training within an integrated group setup, I have a unique perspective from training alongside elite Olympic and Paralympic athletes at that same time. I love athletics and I'm so passionate about helping to ensure our countries Para athletes are given the platform they need to succeed.

