

Video 4.2 But, athletes are now making their voices heard. Sport Canada's athlete-centered policy was addressed by the NSOs with an athlete-peripheral position on NSO boards. So, an athlete-centered policy resulted in one peripheral position for athletes on each NSO board, and nothing else as far as we can tell. Athletes have gone now recently from one seat on the board to determining the postponement of the Tokyo Games in a very short time, and their voices being a key determinant of UCCMS and an independent mechanism. I should say as an aside here that my interest in athletes' rights began in 1968 with the Mexico City Olympics and the reaction and over-reaction by sport organizations to the salute on the medal stand by black athletes from the United States. And I can't tell you how gratifying it is, this late in my life, to see athletes finally coming out of the cage that was imposed on them following that Olympics and beginning to find their voice and make their voice heard again. Full application of the athlete-centered policy will give athletes the right to be involved in every decision that affects them. And a truly democratic system would see coaches and sport organizations working in the service of athletes.