

USA Swimming Athletes' Advisory Council Minutes

June 14, 2023 / Virtual Meeting

Present: Nicolas Fink, Michael Klueh, Melanie Margalis, Caitlin Leverenz Smith, Ashley Twichell Wall, Amanda Weir, Andrew Wilson, Julissa Arzave, Matthew Rigsbee and Katie Meili

Absent: Anthony Ervin, Jack Nowacek, Tom Shields

Guests: Michelle Steinfeld, Stacy Michael-Miller, Ellery Parish, Emily Jensen (USOPC); Emily Lloyd (USOPC); Kendall Spencer (USOPC Collegiate Advisory Council)

Call to Order: Caitlin Leverenz Smith called the June 14 meeting of the Athletes' Advisory Council to order at 10:03am MST.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: none

Agenda:

- AAC Elections (Michelle)
- Annual Business Meeting/ Nat'l team onboarding (Caitlin)
- Discussion with USOPC College Partnerships regarding CA Assembly Bill 252 and Federal NIL

Discussion: Emily Jensen gave a USOPC Collegiate Partnerships update on the work they do. She addressed the Team USA Collegiate sport footprint. Partnerships team is assembling statistics and will work with USA Swimming on data compilation. Kendall Spencer addressed the NCAA Transformation Recommendations (Elevating Athlete Support, Enhancing D1 Championships, and Building a faster, fairer, and more equitable D1).

Kendall led a discussion around Federal and State legislation:

- CA Bill 252
- Federal NIL Legislation
- NCAA vs Johnson
- NCAA vs Alston

Discussion around the role of the AAC and their willingness to lobby and reach out to elected officials. Athletes can write letters and get involved. Also discussed what plans are in place if this passes and moves throughout the country. Discussion next meeting will include update from Michelle and guests Tony, Summer and Maya.

Ellery Parish provided an update on the AAC elections. 4 spots with 2 year terms coming open – athletes may run for re-election. Information will go out with details on time commitment, responsibilities, etc. July 24-August 21 - Open time period for self nominations and letter of intent. Reminders to go out after the athletes return from Worlds.

September 12 – list of eligible nominees and short bio including most recent qualifying event.

September 12- 22: voting period open

September 23: announcement of four elected athletes.

Discussion about bringing a smaller team for Doha 2024. Keep focus on Olympic Games. Does bringing a small team diminish World Championships. Discussion regarding a reduced team but not so small. Caitlin will connect with Lindsay and reconvene discussion with AAC.

HOD: make sure all athletes in good standing prior to meeting. Education on any topics being voted on. Group will be sent proposed AAC changes. Andrew and Nic will both be in attendance and have involvement in NT Onboarding.

Need to fill a senior development spot on committee.

Zone Director's Council would like to send a letter to Michelle asking to move back start time of HOD (12pm MST) – people still in practice at current time. Group agreed they would like to co-author that and move start time back.

Adjournment: Caitlin Leverenz Smith adjourned the June 14 meeting of the Athletes' Advisory Council at 11:18am MST.