



**Athletes' Executive Committee  
March 3rd, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Juli Arzave (Chair), Annie Norris (Program and Events Chair), Jack Swanson (Leadership Chair), Robert Mitchell, Marco Greico, Matthew Rigsbee, Josie Uerling, Ryan Gibbons, Topher Bishop, Zach Toothman, Megan Braman, Ashley Twichell (10-year athlete), Sam Cyliax (Staff), Ellery Parish (Staff)

**Not Present:** Jake Simmons (Vice Chair) Lauren Hurt, Davis Shelton, Jackson Fouras, Annie Kramer, Joel Shinofield (Staff), Joan Choi, Aaron Zhu, Gavin Formon

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**I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda**

Meeting was called to order at 8:33pm ET by Juli Arzave (Chair) and Agenda (Attachment A) was approved as submitted.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Matthew Rigsbee moved and Marco Greico seconded to approve the minutes from the February 3rd, 2022 Business Meeting (Attachment B). **MOTION PASSES**

**III. Chair Update**

Juli provided an update to the committee. She had a meeting with Tim Hinchey where they discussed goals for the year. Tim mentioned a priority goal of retaining 12 and under athletes. Juli then had the new members of the committee to introduce themselves.

**IV. Vice Chair Update**

No Report

**V. Leadership Chair Update**

Jack provided an update to the committee. He will have the Leadership subcommittee in the near future look at the drop in national committee applications from athletes. He also provided an update on the keeping athletes first task force and the educational resources that USA Swimming is putting together in that area.

Ellery then provided an update on the new learning management platform that will be launched in the fall, in particular regarding coach education.

## **VI. Programming and Events Chair Update**

Annie provided an update to the committee. She spoke about the athlete track for the USA Swimming workshop. There is a plan to schedule a one time meeting where we go through the content for the workshop so that the AEC is prepared and ready to go before it starts. There will be an athlete/non athlete workshop with the intention of building stronger relationships and hopefully leaving with a project idea in mind. There will not be an outside activity but there will be a trivia event and an athlete suite.

Ellery asked the committee to register for the workshop if you haven't done so already. She also discussed being conscientious of athletes going to other sessions during the workshop, goal of collaboration between non-athletes and athletes.

Ryan provided an update on the workshop as well, he spoke in particular about the legislative session on Saturday morning. The point of that session is for those who are submitting legislation for HOD to introduce their legislation to get feedback. This will provide athletes an opportunity for voice on legislation without having a vote.

## **VII. AEC Election Task Force**

Josie provided an update to the committee. The task force met for the first time on Monday and discussed initial ideas. The LSC reps emphasized losing voice at the national level and saw the opportunity of voting for the AEC as really important. The task force supports at the minimum one vote per LSC so every LSC has a voice in the election. Josie expressed the concern over national committee athletes and the potential conflict of interest issue.

Marco asked the committee for their stance on whether AEC members should have a vote or not in the election. Various members of the committee provided their feedback on it, several expressed support for AEC members having a vote.

Josie will follow up with Michelle Steinfeld to discuss any conflict of interest issues.

A discussion occurred over when to hold the AEC election going forward due to the changes in which events on the calendar are in-person.

## **VIII. New Business**

Marco provided a brief update on the LSC Athlete Rep Survey.

Topher provided an update on the LSC Athlete Rep Awards. 29 LSC's submitted responses for the LSC Athlete Awards. Working group has met three times in the past few weeks, the group is currently compiling the data to determine winners for the awards.

Annie said that the awards will be presented on the first day of the workshop.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM ET.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 7th.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Marco Greico

Meeting Secretary

## Attachment A



**Athletes' Executive Committee Meeting**  
**March 3, 2022**  
**5:30pm PST**

**USA Swimming Mission:** USA Swimming is the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming. We administer competitive swimming in accordance with the Olympic & Amateur Sports Act. We provide programs and services for our members, supporters, affiliates and the interested public. We value these members of the swimming community, and the staff and volunteers who serve them. We are committed to excellence and the improvement of our sport. We are committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all members.

**Committee Mission:** The AEC aims to ensure that all athletes of USA Swimming are represented and have their voices heard in the USA Swimming governance process. The AEC aims to ensure that the athlete voice is strong on the Board of Directors, on all USA Swimming National Committees, in all Zones, and in all LSCs.

**USA Swimming Priority Results:**

1. USA Swimmers achieve sustained competitive success at the Olympic Games and other high-level international competitions.
2. Members have and use resources for sustainable success.
3. There is growth in swimming participation and interest.
4. USA Swimming is recognized as the "Best in Class" National Governing Body.

### **AGENDA**

- 1.) Welcome
- 2.) Approval of February 3rd minutes
- 3.) Chair Updates
  - a. Chair – Juli
  - b. Vice Chair – Jake
  - c. Leadership Chair - Jack
  - d. Programming and Events Chair – Annie
- 4.) Update from AEC Election TF- Josie
- 5.) New Business
- 6.) Adjournment



**Athletes' Executive Committee Monthly Business Meeting  
February 3rd, 2022 Meeting Minutes **DRAFT****

**Present:** Juli Arzave (Chair), Annie Norris (Program and Events Chair), Jack Swanson (Leadership Chair), Joel Shinofield (Staff), Ellery Parish (Staff), Robert Mitchell, Marco Greico, Aaron Zhu, Matthew Rigsbee, Josie Uerling, Ryan Gibbons, Gavin Formon, Joan Choi

**Not Present:** Jake Simmons (Vice Chair) Lauren Hurt, Davis Shelton, Jackson Fouras, Zach Toothman, Megan Braman, Annie Kramer, Maya Andrews

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**I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda**

Meeting was called to order at 8:33pm ET by Juli Arzave (Chair) and Agenda (Attachment A) was approved as submitted.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Matthew Rigsbee moved and Jack Swanson seconded to approve the minutes from the January 20th, 2022 Business Meeting (Attachment B). **MOTION PASSES**

**III. Chair Update**

Juli provided an update that she had a debrief with Ellery over the weekend and is working on transfer of information for the transition.

**IV. Vice Chair Update**

No Report

**V. Leadership Chair Update**

Jack provided an update to the committee that the national committee appointments with the AAC have been finalized and completed. There was a significant decrease in engaged athlete applications to national committees this year. He plans to put together a working group in the near future to look at this drop in applications and how we can boost interest.

**VI. Programming and Events Chair Update**

Annie provided an update on the programming for the USA Swimming Workshop. Collaboration will be the main focal point of the athlete track. Annie currently has a slight draft of the programming put together and hopes to have a meeting in the short term with the P&E subcommittee to be able to finalize it and distribute. She spoke about the mini banquet that will occur at it which will highlight athlete rep excellence. Information about award(s) will go out soon.

**VII. LSC Athlete Rep Survey**

Marco provided an update on the LSC Athlete Rep survey. A pdf of the comprehensive survey feedback was distributed to the whole committee for review prior to the next meeting. The survey had full participation from the Eastern Zone. Nearly full completion from the Central and Southern Zones. The LSC's who did not respond in those two zones we did not have contact information for. There was a large gap in responses from the Western Zone. Joan and Jackson will follow up with their athletes in their next zone meeting. Joel provided some feedback about the survey, he thought it was a good opportunity to empower athlete reps. Some of the information obtained from the survey will be used to help with program planning for the Athlete Program at the USA Swimming Workshop.

**VIII. Athlete Inclusion, Competitive Equity, and Eligibility Policy**

Juli provided an update on the Athlete Inclusion, Competitive Equity, and Eligibility policy. The committee then went into a question and answer session with Joel regarding the policy.

**IX. Appointment of AEC Member**

Juli informed the committee that we are searching for an Athlete Representative to fill the vacant seat on the AEC.

**X. Review of AEC Election Procedures**

Juli and Ellery provided an update that the committee needs to revisit the AEC election procedure in the near future. More specifically, who is eligible to vote in the AEC election due to the changes in the composition of the HOD. A subcommittee/working group will be put together to tackle this issue and bring a proposal back to the full committee. The working group will include AEC members, a few national committee athletes, and a few LSC athlete reps.

**XI. New Business**

No New Business

**XII. Adjournment**

Jack Swanson moved and Matthew Rigsbee seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 ET

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 3rd.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Marco Greico

Meeting Secretary