



**Athletes' Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2023 8:30 PM ET**

Present: Juli Arzave (Chair), Davis Shelton (Program and Events Chair), Marco Greico (Leadership Chair), Matthew Rigsbee (Vice Chair), Zach Toothman, Josie Uerling, Noah Berryman, Savannah Gurley, Annie Kramer, Jackson Fouras, Simran Jayasinghe, Topher Bishop, Lauren Hurt, Gavin Formon, TJ Walsh, Ashley Twichell(AAC), Joel Shinofield (Staff), Ellery Parish (Staff)

Absent: Nicole Caruso, Jacks Mitchell, Megan Braman, Caitlin Leverenz-Smith (AAC)

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: N/A

I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 8:30PM ET by Juli Arzave (Chair) and the agenda was approved as submitted.

II. Approval of Minutes

The April Meeting Minutes will be approved at the June Meeting.

III. Chair Update

Juli Arzave provided the chair update to the committee. She informed the committee that she was contacted by a startup company about interviewing athletes at regional-level meets. They currently do this at the Pro series. Juli will work with ZARC to get the company in touch with different LSCs.

IV. Vice Chair Update

Matthew Rigsbee provided the Vice Chair update to the committee. He shared that the athlete track at the USA Swimming Workshop was a huge success. Matthew informed the committee that Ryan Gibbons will be replacing Aiden on the House of Delegates Working Group. Matthew informed the committee that he is working with the CAC on having a joint meeting at some point in the near future and will keep the committee updated.

V. Leadership Chair Update

Marco Greico provided the Leadership Chair update to the committee. He shared relevant updates from the Keeping Athletes First 2.0 Working Group as well as the Officials Advisory Group which Josie is serving on as well.

VI. Program and Events Chair Update

Davis Shelton provided the Program and Events Chair update to the committee. He provided his analysis of how the athlete track at the workshop went. He echoed Matthew's remarks that the athlete track was a huge success. There was a discussion about what changes would be beneficial for next year's athlete track at the workshop. Some of the suggestions included splitting the track into two (returning athlete reps and new athlete reps). There was unanimous agreement amongst the committee that there is a need for different curriculum for returning athletes. Davis shared that there are two things on the immediate horizon for the P&E subcommittee. Revisiting the Athlete Rep Guidebook and also the Universal P&P for Athlete Reps. Davis asked the committee to share potential names of task force members with him in the coming weeks. Joel shared feedback that he heard about the athlete track at the workshop. He echoed very similar comments regarding it being a success but also the need for a different curriculum for returning athletes. He shared that the returning athletes could be involved in the general chair track and tap into the leadership elements of it. Matthew suggested the idea of utilizing returning athlete representatives to help with some of the sessions for new athlete representatives. Zach shared feedback that there needs to be some sort of closure on Sunday. Whether that is formal office hours or something of that variety, there needs to be some kind of closing thing for athletes who are still there.

VII. ZARC Update

Zach Toothman provided the ZARC update to the committee. Zach informed the committee that Nicole is going to run the Check-in Task Force which is going to be a mixture of AEC members and ZARC members. The task force will develop a second round of check-in worksheets to present at the June meeting. Zach shared that the ZDC is exploring the idea of a Junior Official. ZARC is currently working on the logistics for selecting the 4 athletes from each zone for the USA Swimming House of Delegates. There are two long-term projects that ZARC is currently working on. One is creating an Athlete Summit Manual and the second is extending the Junior Zone Representative term to two years.

VIII. Staff Updates

Joel Shinofield provided a Staff update to the committee. Joel thanked the AEC and ZARC for all their help in making the workshop successful. He also shared some trials updates with the committee.

IX. AAC Updates

Ashley Twichell provided the AAC update to the committee. Ashley shared with the committee that the 10-year National Committee engagement has been a struggle and asked the committee for any recommendations on how to increase engagement.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Juli Arzave (Chair) at 9:15 PM ET.

Next Meeting: June 8th, 8:30 PM ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Marco Greico

Meeting Secretary