

USA Swimming Athletes' Advisory Council Minutes

May 27, 2026 / Virtual Meeting

Present: Phoebe Bacon, Gunnar Bentz, Nic Fink, Lilly King, Caitlin Leverenz Smith, Allison Schmitt, Olivia Tighe, Josie Uerling, Alex Walsh

Absent: Topher Bishop, Carson Foster, Katie Meili Playko

Guests: Julissa Arzave, Paris Jacobs, Michael Lawrence, Corey Manley, Greg Meehan, Stacy Michael-Miller, Derek Paul, Mary Plant, Yuri Suguiyama, Kim Williams

Call to Order: Lilly King called the May 27, 2026, meeting of the Athletes' Advisory Council (AAC) to order at 11:05 MST

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: none

Agenda:

- Updates from the LSC Task force - *Paris Jacobs and Derek Paul*
 - Explained work of Task Force and provided updates
 - Meeting with all LSCs to review roles, responsibilities, variabilities between each
 - Conversations with LSCs, National Committees, members, attending town halls
 - Taking feedback from all groups
 - What do athletes need from local level
 - Smaller scale championship meet to make it more accessible to more people (distance to travel in LSCs may be prohibitive)
 - Discussion regarding
 - inconsistency of LSC fees
 - virtual championships hosted by 2-3 facilities
 - Reach out to Paris, Derek / Task Force members with ideas after reflection on your needs as you came up through the system.
- Funding philosophies – *Greg Meehan*
 - Athlete Performance Funding
 - Cost of Living increase annually (for example, 3%).
 - World Cup Support 2027
 - This is qualifying for LA28.
 - Most recent iteration of this is funding those athletes who qualify for LA 28.
 - Want to support athletes who qualify for Games after they qualify.
 - AAC will brainstorm and return to discussion on next call.

Next Meeting: June 10, 2026 in order to return to discussion sooner

Adjournment: Lilly King adjourned the May 27, 2026, meeting of the Athletes' Advisory Council at 12:05 PM MST