

USA Swimming Club Development Committee Draft Minutes

April 27, 2026, Virtual Meeting

Agenda:

Club Development Committee exists to *support the growth and success of USA Swimming clubs by promoting resources, programs and educational opportunities that foster sustainable organizational development to positively impact the athlete experience.*

- Call to Order
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- Old Business
- New Business
 - a. Review of Renata Pellino-Porter's Competitive Landscape and Club Recognition Framework
 - b. Athlete Committee Request – are there items from the Club Recognition Framework we would like the Athlete Summit to address
- Next Meeting
 - a. Monday, May 25, 2026, Noon Eastern
- Adjournment

Present: Jamie Platt (chair), Mike Switalski, Paul Coleman, Zach Nerwinski, Olivia Tighe, Collin Magnus, Emily Melina, Shelly Rawding, Mark Hesse (staff liaison)

Absent: (all excused)

Guests: Beth Winkowski (staff)

Call to Order: Chairman Jamie Platt called the April 26 meeting of the Club Development Committee to order at 8:03pm eastern

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: N/A

Minutes:

- **Approval of Agenda** M/S/P
- **Approval of Previous Minutes**
 - March 29, 2026 M/S/P
- **New Business**
 - Review of the comments on the Club Recognition Program Redesign Framework
 - Discussion around Club Tier Sizes and whether the context (characteristics) of the club should be included. The group reviewed club-size tiering and generally accepted the use of USA Swimming reporting breakpoints, while noting that any explanatory context should be carefully written for public-facing materials.

- Members discussed separating **team growth** from **athlete development/performance**, with interest in recognizing both changes in team size and measurable athlete/team performance improvements.
 - The committee emphasized the importance of distinguishing **new athletes entering USA Swimming** from swimmers transferring between clubs, so clubs are rewarded for true sport growth rather than simple roster shifts.
- On coach and club education, members supported including learning beyond USA Swimming University, but acknowledged that allowing outside coursework creates significant verification and administrative challenges.
- A major discussion point was implementation: the committee does not want to recreate a labor-intensive manual review process. Members stressed that the framework must be lean, mostly automated, and realistic for staff to manage. We want something that is meaningful and helpful to teams both in assessing success but identifying areas of need for clubs and identifying resources and programming to meet those needs.
 - Goal would be to have no more than one item at each level that would have to be submitted.
- Jamie raised concern about spending volunteer time building a program without internal commitment to support and implement it. Beth agreed to discuss internal support, ownership, and feasibility with leadership.
- Due to the Memorial Day holiday the next meeting is rescheduled to Monday June 1 at 8:00pm EDT.
- **Adjournment:** Jamie Platt adjourned the April 27, 2026 meeting of the Club Development Committee at 1:29pm EDT.