

USA Swimming Coach Advisory Council Committee Minutes

August 10, 2026 / Virtual meeting

Present: Jamie Bloom, Michael Lawrence, Jennifer Gibson, Scott Goldblatt, Chrissy Gentry, Abi Liu, Alison Pick, Alexis Keto

Absent: Not recorded

Guests: Michael Hamann (Age Group Development Committee Chair), Mark Hesse (USA Swimming staff)

Call to Order

Jamie Bloom called the August 10, 2026 meeting of the Coach Advisory Council to order at 10:03 a.m. MT.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

No new conflicts of interest were disclosed.

Approval of Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Minutes
 - July 8, 2026
5. Reports
 - USA Swimming Staff Liaison Update
 - National Team Director Update
6. Age Group Excellence Presentation
 - Presenters: Rhi Jeffrey and/or Michael Hamann
7. Governance Initiatives
 - LSC Review Task Force Update
 - Fifth Coach Seat on Board of Directors
 - National Events Calendar Project
 - 2026 House of Delegates Legislation Review
8. Pillar Reports and Action Plans
 - Clubs
 - Coaches

- Communications
- Fast (Elite) Swimming
- 9. Annual Summit Planning
 - Coach Track Topic Selection
 - Delegate Registration and Participation Update
- 10. Meet Contracts and Meet Hosts follow up
- 11. New Business
 - Additional governance or legislative matters
- 12. Announcements
- 13. Next Meeting Confirmation
 - September 9, 2026
- 14. Adjournment

Motion: Approve the agenda as presented. Moved by: Michael Lawrence Seconded by: Alison Pick

Approval of Previous Minutes

- The committee reviewed the July 8, 2026 minutes.
- Jennifer Gibson noted that she was incorrectly listed as present and that her submitted report was omitted.
- Scott Goldblatt agreed to make the corrections.

Motion: Approve the July 8, 2026 minutes as corrected. Moved by: Michael Lawrence Seconded by: Not recorded

Reports

USA Swimming Staff Liaison Update

Presenter: Mark Hesse

- The CAC's seven House of Delegates voting delegates must be submitted to Michelle and Denise Thomas by August 15.
- USA Swimming staff provided broad coverage at sectional, Futures, Junior National, and National Championship meets.
- Coaches continued to raise concerns about Futures meet access and college-age participation; the 18-and-under final at Nationals was generally well received.

National Team Director Update

- No report was provided because a National Team representative was unavailable.

Discussion

Age Group Excellence Program

- Michael Hamann presented the new 14-and-under club recognition program, which measures exposure, meet participation, improvement, IMX/IMR participation, and retention.
- Clubs will be scored within four size categories; the top 10 percent in each category will be recognized, and the 50 highest-scoring clubs will receive equal annual grants.
- The committee discussed the program's potential to improve retention, access to competition, and recognition of successful smaller clubs.
- Hamann will confirm how athlete transfers are treated in the exposure metric and provide guidance on presentation materials and coach talking points.

Annual Summit and House of Delegates Preparation

- The committee reviewed delegate registration, coach-voter outreach, and CAC logistics for the Annual Summit in Denver.
- The committee did not identify a House of Delegates legislative item requiring CAC action at this time.
- Workshop topics include a joint session with general chairs, the new dashboard and reporting system, coach involvement in LSC governance, and a potential National Team presentation.

Action Items

- Jamie Bloom will submit the CAC's House of Delegates voting delegates to Michelle and Denise Thomas by August 15, 2026.
- Michael Hamann will provide follow-up guidance on use of Age Group Excellence presentation materials and coach talking points.
- Mark Hesse will ask Joel to confirm who will provide the delegate registration list and coordinate coach communications.
- CAC members will notify Jamie Bloom of their availability to support delegate-registration outreach and their Denver arrival schedules.

Other Business

- No additional business was raised.

Announcements

- The CAC will meet during the Annual Summit in Denver once the published schedule is available.

Adjournment

Jamie Bloom adjourned the August 10, 2026 meeting of the Coach Advisory Council at 10:59 a.m. MT.

Next Meeting

Date: September 9, 2026 Time: 10:00 a.m. MT Format: Virtual

These minutes were prepared in accordance with USA Swimming committee governance guidelines.