

USA Swimming Coaches Advisory Council (CAC)

April 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes - Approved

The meeting was held on Zoom.

Tim Bauer ('24), Jamie Bloom ('26), Marcia Callan ('25), Adrian Damasko ('24), Jennifer Gibson ('25), Scott Goldblatt (Athlete-'25), Jessica Hardy (Athlete-'25), Kristine Julian (Athlete-'25), Chase Kalisz (Athlete-'24), Michael Lawrence ('25), Jeremy Linn (Athlete-'25), Mary Liston ('26), Jay Litherland (Athlete-'24), Alison Pick ('26), Pete Raykovich ('25), Shawn Smith ('26); Terry Stoddard ('24), Gregg Troy ('26).

USA-S Staff: Beth Winkowski, Terry Jones, Joel Shinofield

Guests: Jennifer Lamont, ASCA

Absent: Jessica Hardy, Chase Kalisz, Michael Lawrence, Jay Litherland

Note: In the minutes below, Summary Topics for Future Action are indicated in Bold and Italics.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. Mountain Time (MT)

- Tim welcomed everyone.
- Today's agenda was approved as presented.
- The Minutes from the March 13th meeting were approved as presented with unanimous consent.
- ***Proposed Legislation included:***
 - Pete Raykovich presented a change regarding Item A in the Operational Manual regarding who the CAC ***"... is reporting to..."***
 - Note: The CAC should report to more than one person on the USA Swimming BoD. The desire is to enable a broader group of stakeholders that are receiving notice of the CAC's agenda, work and finished tasks. The CAC's work should be widely known.
 - Perhaps this would need a change the structure of the ***"Standing Committee"***.
 - **Shawn Smith proposed legislation that would in principle, enable the CAC to have decision making authority for Coaches Assignment to all USA Swimming Committees.**
 - Note: The CAC would have more input on USA Swimming Committees.
 - The purpose is to preserve input for those who make a living in the Sport of Swimming.
 - Effort should focus on language and messaging.

- **Note: May 15th is the deadline for proposed legislation.**
 - **Legislation would be shared with the CAC before the next meeting.**
 - **Rules and Regulations will meet on April 23rd.**
 - **Scott Goldblatt presented concerns regarding focusing the CAC's Purpose today and tomorrow involving evaluating, developing and initiating a plan to have the CAC conduct Long Term Planning.**
- After robust conversation, the CAC agreed to continue this agenda item and process.
- LSC Coaches Representative's Forum and Communication was presented by Beth Winkowski, Marci Callan and Terry Stoddard
 - The Areas of Focus are
 - Create a way to communicate and sustain communication regularly by using:
 - A Teams Environment established for the committee by Staff at USA Swimming, and
 - The GroupMe App.
 - Note: Beth has sustained an active and vital role in getting this idea from idea to implementation.
 - The Four Zone Coaches Reps and the two Reps from CAC will lead the group.
 - Marci and Terry both felt this is the next step and the correct way to ensure Coach's Voice and Vote at every level but especially at the ABM. This is a long-term result of the short-term effort of the CAC in 2023 to improve from the 2022 participation and voting results at the ABM.
 - Note: This process is a *"living effort"* that does not initiate nor sustain itself but involves steady involvement, therefore, the three meetings per year are in place to create the mechanics necessary for leadership and member participation.
 - Note: The 2023 USA Swimming ABM had 346 HoD Representative logged into the meeting; 290 participated in voting; and 162 (62%) of these were Coaches.
- The CAC discussed the next Initiatives:
 - **Initiative #1: Michael Lawrence proposed that the CAC look at the unification of Staff and Membership where there has been divide in the past.**
 - We Are Better Together!
 - Volunteers to help Michael will be Allison Pick, Jennifer Gibson and Mary Liston.
 - **Initiative #2: USA Swimming is discussing Club Dues and Athlete's Dues on an April 11th Noon call with Coaches.**
 - The Idea is to review this each Quad and we are about to end and begin one.
 - Volunteers to help will be Marci Callan, Adrian Damasko, Mary Liston and Jennifer Gibson.
- Athletes First Committee – Marci Callan

- Use of the budget for Athlete's First initiatives, which places the Coach First together with the Athletes, especially in the Educational Camp setting.
- **Future Agenda Items:**
 - **Marci mentioned that the BCC is reviewing the Club Recognition and Club Excellence Programs.**
 - **Joel mentioned that the BCC publishing "Improvement Groups" such as retention of boys vs the national average.**
- Coach Membership was announced as
 - 17,700 Members
 - 271 are Provisional Coach Members
 - 382 are Junior Coach Members
 - Therefore, 500+ ahead of 2023!
- Jamie mentioned that the HoD Working Group has recommended that the current structure of the USA Swimming House of Delegates remain the same.
 - The CAC Membership unanimously supports the recommendation of the HoD Working Group III chaired by Mary T. Plant.
 - Jennifer LaMont stated that ASCA supports the recommendation of the HOD Working Group III chaired by Mary T. Plant to keep the HOD structure as is, with no changes. She said Mary T's email message, including her email and request for coach input, will be published in next week's ASCA e-newsletter.

Our next meeting is on June 12th at 10:00 A.M. Mountain Time.

The 2024 CAC Meeting Dates & Time:

Second Wednesday of each Month.

10:00 AM Mountain Time.

June 12; July 10; August 14; September 11; October 9; November 13; December 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 A.M. MST.

Respectfully Submitted, Terry Stoddard

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- ***Proposed Legislation May 15th Deadline: Shawn, Scott, Pete, Michael***
 - ***Legislation to place Coaches on Committees.***
 - ***Coach Advisory Council process for "Reporting Out".***
- ***Meet with Michelle and Joel: Jamie, Shawn, Michael & Scott.***
 - ***ABM Workshop - What does CAC want to be a part of the Fall Meeting?***
- ***Future Agenda Items:***

- Scott Goldblatt presented concerns regarding focusing the CAC's Purpose today and tomorrow involving evaluating, developing and initiating a plan to have the CAC conduct Long Term Planning.
- *Marci mentioned that the BCC is reviewing the Club Recognition and Club Excellence Programs.*
- *Joel mentioned that the BCC publishing "Improvement Groups" such as retention of Boys vs the national average.*
- **WIN – What Is Next?**
 - *Initiative #1: Michael Lawrence proposed that the CAC look at the unification of Staff and Membership where there has been a divide in the past.*
 - *Initiative #2: USA Swimming is discussing Club Dues and Athlete's Dues on a April 11th Noon call.*
 - *Postponed from March: College Early Signing Practice & It's Impact on Club Programs and their Coaches.*
 - *Senior Swimming Network Discussion Item.*
 - *ASCA Discussion Item.*
 - *Postponed from March: Club Recognition in the Media.*
 - *Senior Swimming Network Discussion Item.*
 - *ASCA Discussion Item.*