

USA Swimming Athletes' Advisory Council Minutes

November 21, 2025 / Virtual Meeting

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

Absent: Carson Foster, Katie Meili Playko

Guests: Greg Meehan, Stacy Michael-Miller, Ellery Parish, Michelle Steinfeld and Kim Williams

Call to Order: Lilly King called the November 21, 2025 meeting of the Athletes' Advisory Council (AAC) to order at 9:03am MST

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: none

Agenda:

- AEC and Zone Directors' Council appointments – *Lilly King*
 - AAC to officially appoint 2-year athletes to AEC and Zone Directors' Council (already elected by their peers)
 - AEC: Brady Hale, Audrey Cohen, Kiran Jayasinghe, Casey Bretz, Anakin Fischer
 - ZDC: Nicole Caruso, Hadley Wartner, Bridget McGann, Louis Roux
- Lilly King motion, Caitlin Leverenz Smith second
 - Approved: 6
 - Opposed: 0
- Athlete rep committee assignment updates – *Ellery Parish*
 - Lilly to follow up with athletes to confirm interest
- Meeting Minutes: *Stacy Michael-Miller*
 - Approve meeting minutes via email
- Government relations update – *Michelle Steinfeld*
 - A lot of work taking place now on the hill to protect Olympic sports (Bill moving out of House to go to Senate)
 - USOPC offered to come and speak to this group in December to provide an update
 - May ask for athletes to speak about this to their representatives in January
 - Michelle will be sending document to this group to get ideas
 - We will work to connect people to this opportunity
 - Caitlin and Katie to provide USOPC AAC update at next meeting
- National Team Update – *Greg Meehan*
 - New funding criteria
 - Communication comes out after US Open
 - Goes into effect January 1, 2026
 - World Aquatics Call
 - Discussed qualifying criteria for new events (50's of stroke)
 - National Team working on Selection Criteria
 - Will circle back with this group
 - Steering Committee update

Next Meeting: December 2025

Adjournment: Lilly King adjourned the November 21, 2025 meeting of the Athletes' Advisory Council at 9:38AM MST