

# USA Swimming Coach Advisory Council (CAC) Committee Minutes

April 8, 2026 / Virtual meeting

**Present:** Jamie Bloom, Alexis Keto, Abi Liu, Scott Goldblatt, Shawn Smith, Tim Bauer, Pete Raykovich, Jennifer Gibson, Christine Gentry, Marco Greico, Alison Pick, Jeremy Linn, Terry Stoddard

**Absent:** Anakin Fischer, Breeja Larson, Gregg Troy, Kristine Quance Julian, Michael Lawrence

**Guests:** Joel Shinofield (USA Swimming Staff), Adriana Quirke (USA Swimming Staff), Kim Williams (USA Swimming Staff), Mark Hesse (USA Swimming Staff), Greg Meehan (USA Swimming Staff), Brendan Hansen (USA Swimming Staff), Paul Donovan (Senior Development Committee), Topher Bishop (Athlete Executive Committee), Jennifer LaMont (ASCA), Thomas Ugast, Ellen Johnston

## Call to Order

Jamie Bloom called the April 8, 2026 meeting of the Coach Advisory Council (CAC) to order at 10:00 a.m. Mountain Time.

## Conflict of Interest Disclosure

No new conflicts of interest were disclosed.

## Approval of Agenda

Coach Advisory Council (CAC)

April 8, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. MT

1. Call to Order
2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure / Reminder
3. Approval of Agenda
  - April 8, 2026
4. Approval of Minutes
  - March 11, 2026
5. Reports
  - USA Swimming Staff Liaison Update
6. Governance Initiatives
  - Fifth coach seat on Board of Directors

- National events calendar
  - i. Guest: Paul Donovan (Sr. Development)
- New legislation (proposed)
  - i. Guest: Topher Bishop (AEC)
- 7. Pillar Reports and Action Plans
  - Clubs
  - Coaches
  - Communications
  - Fast (Elite) Swimming
- 8. New Business
  - The Right to Race with Dignity Project
  - Unattached athlete and coach governance considerations
- 9. Next Meeting Confirmation
- 10. Adjournment

The committee approved the agenda as presented.

## Approval of Previous Minutes

The March 11, 2026 CAC meeting minutes were reviewed.

**Motion:** Approve the March 11, 2026 minutes as written

**Moved by:** Shawn Smith

**Seconded by:** Scott Goldblatt

**Vote:** Approved unanimously

## Reports

### USA Swimming Staff Liaison Update

**Presenter:** Joel Shinofield

- Provided update on LSC Task Force progress and ongoing stakeholder outreach
- Noted April Board of Directors meeting and expected recommendation timeline
- Confirmed no formal recommendations have been finalized to date
- Encouraged CAC members to continue providing feedback through available channels

### National Team / National Junior Team Update

**Presenters:** Greg Meehan, Brendan Hansen

- Reported completion of Open Water Nationals and Open Water Junior Nationals in Sarasota

- Shared upcoming international competition opportunities for National Team and National Junior Team athletes
- Noted continued effort to expand international racing experience for developing athletes
- Provided update on National Team and National Junior Team Coaches Seminar in Denver
- Reviewed upcoming National Junior Team camp at the Olympic & Paralympic Training Center
- Noted revised camp structure separating women's and men's groups for evaluation purposes
- Highlighted athlete enthusiasm for national team opportunities and expanded use of performance video technology

## Governance Initiatives

### National Events Calendar

**Presenter:** Paul Donovan

- Presented Senior Development Committee initiative to expand domestic long course racing opportunities for senior-level athletes below the national team level
- Reviewed proposal for zone-based meets across the four zones leading into Olympic Trials 2028
- Emphasized goals of increasing competitive opportunities, reducing travel burden, and supporting more Olympic Trials qualifiers
- Noted intent to align qualifying standards, event structures, and communication across proposed meets
- Shared expectation that a formal proposal would be submitted to USA Swimming by the end of April

### New Legislation (Proposed)

**Presenter:** Christopher Warren Bishop

- Presented proposed legislation to allow waiver of the 60-day transfer period when an athlete's previous club is no longer operating
- Explained that the Registration and Membership Committee would review waiver requests on a case-by-case basis
- Discussion included athlete rights, club stability, operational fairness, and rulebook complexity
- Members raised questions regarding broader transfer situations, SafeSport-related circumstances, and speed of decision-making
- Proposal was generally viewed as a targeted step addressing situations outside the athlete's control

## **Fifth Coach Seat on Board of Directors**

- Jamie Bloom and Tim Bauer provided update on continued work regarding a fifth coach seat on the Board of Directors
- Discussion focused on board outreach strategy, timing, and possible legislative backup options
- Members emphasized need to assess board support prior to the May legislative deadline
- ASCA representatives indicated willingness to coordinate on strategy and advocacy

## **Pillar Reports and Action Plans**

- No formal pillar reports were submitted
- Members noted need for continued pillar meetings and development of action plans

## **New Business**

### **Right to Race with Dignity Project**

- Jamie Bloom shared an introductory update on a project exploring legislation related to an open membership category
- Matter was introduced for awareness and will return for future discussion as details develop

### **Unattached Athlete and Coach Governance Considerations**

- Brief reference made to ongoing governance considerations involving unattached athletes and coaches
- Topic remains under review for possible future CAC discussion

## **Announcements**

Marco Greico was welcomed as the sixth athlete representative serving with the committee

## **Adjournment**

Jamie Bloom adjourned the April 8, 2026 meeting of the Coach Advisory Council (CAC) at 11:19 a.m. Mountain Time.

## **Next Meeting**

Date: May 13, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. Mountain Time

Format: Virtual

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