

USA Swimming Open Water Committee Minutes

2/10/2026 - Virtual

Present: Taylor Abbott, Ron Aitken, Sid Cassidy, Cory Chitwood, Marissa DelGado, Bruce Gemmell, Brennan Gravley, Catherine Kase, Mohammad Khadembashi, John Payne, Mike Murphy, Adriana Quirke, Yuri Suguiyama

Absent: Brendan Casey

Guests: None

Call to Order: Mohammad Khadembashi called the 2/10 meeting of the Open Water Committee to order at 9:32 AM Mountain Time.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: None

Agenda:

1. Introduction of Committee Chair & New Committee Members
 - a. Mohammad Khadembashi – Chair
 - b. Taylor Abbott – Athlete
 - c. Mike Murphy – Official
2. Reaffirm the Committee's Goals and Intentions
3. Sanctions vs. Approvals of OW Events
4. National Team Qualification
5. National Junior Team Qualification
6. National Team Funding
7. Quad plan calendar
 - a. Selection Procedures
 - i. 2027 World Champs
 - ii. 2028 Olympic Qualifying Race - [OWS-LA28-Qualification-System](#)
 - b. OW Training Camp
8. Next Meeting?

Discussion:

- Marissa DelGado spoke on Sanctions vs. Approvals for OW Events and if Sanctions or just Approvals are necessary? Approved = Times // Sanction = Safety
- Discussion of Qualification for the National Team. Assuming six make the National Team, Committee was in favor of the Top 4 from the 10K and the sinner from the 3K knock-out and sinner from the 5K competition.
- Discussion of Qualification for the National Junior Team.
- Discussion of National Team Funding for two Males and two Females (Sept. 2026). Committee was in favor of using the World ranking scores.
- Introduction of the LA28 Qualifying Document – for a later discussion

Adjournment: Mohammad Khadembashi adjourned the 2/10 meeting of the Open Water Committee at 10:58 AM Mountain Time.