

## USA Swimming Open Water Committee Minutes

6/2/2026 - Virtual

**Present:** Taylor Abbott, Ron Aitken, Sid Cassidy, Bruce Gemmell, Catherine Kase, Mohammad Khadembashi, John Payne, Mike Murphy, Adriana Quirke, Yuri Suguiyama

**Absent:** Brendan Casey, Cory Chitwood, Marissa DelGado, Brennan Gravley

**Guests:** Erin Cameron, Derek Paul

**Call to Order:** Yuri Suguiyama called the 6/2 meeting of the Open Water Committee to order at 11:02 AM Mountain Time.

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** None

### Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
3. Proposed Open Water Rules Changes
4. Nationals & Junior Nationals Review
5. World Cup Review
6. Direct Pathway Documentation
7. 2027 Event Calendar & Qualification Discussion
8. Open Water Club Excellence Criteria
9. Next Meeting
10. Adjournment

### Discussion:

- Derek Paul joined to discuss the process of suggesting edits to USAS rules re: open water. Asked the committee if any proposals stood out or were worth discussion.
- Nationals and Junior Nationals (April 2026) – Successful event, good numbers at the Junior National level, keep the momentum.
  - o Goal of having meet information out this fall – earlier is better for everyone.
  - o Committee will reexamine and decide on time standards at next meeting.
  - o Streamlined the Direct Pathway Qualification document given the new meet format.
- Positive remarks and takeaways on Open Water World Cup trip
  - o Successful trip: Swimmers gained confidence and experience.
- 2027 Event Calendar
  - o Long Beach test event is under consideration.
  - o Task force to find / create another domestic event
- 2027 Open Water World Championships Selection Procedure
  - o Options for qualifications were introduced
- Club Excellence Criteria
  - o Tabled due to meeting length

**Adjournment:** Yuri Suguiyama adjourned the 6/2 meeting of the Open Water Committee at 12:29 PM Mountain Time.