

# 2025 Open Water National Team

## 2025 Race Funding Program



Updated March 19, 2025

USA Swimming has established the following policy regarding race funding for the USA Swimming Open Water Quadrennial Plan. Events listed in this Race Funding Program are subject to change based on the World Aquatics calendar of events. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact USA Swimming Director, National Team Operations, Bryce Elser ([belser@usaswimming.org](mailto:belser@usaswimming.org)).

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### **General Criteria:**

- ❖ Athletes must be registered USA Swimming members in good standing at the time of the qualifying competition, at the time of selection, and throughout the duration of the competitions.
- ❖ Athletes must be eligible to represent the U.S. in international competition at the time of selection and at the time of the competition for which they receive funding.
- ❖ Athletes aged 18 and over must apply for a USA Swimming criminal background screen within 5 days of being offered funding for the events below (or of turning 18 if this occurs after the athlete qualifies for funding and before or during the applicable event).

### **World Aquatics Open Water Swimming World Cup – Ibiza, Spain (April 25-26, 2025)**

*Up to 4 men and 4 women will be funded.*

- ❖ Athletes who have been Selected to the 2025 USA Swimming World Aquatics Open Water World Championship Team will be fully funded\* to attend this race.

### **World Aquatics Open Water Swimming World Cup – Setubal, Portugal (June 14-15, 2025)**

*Up to 4 men and 4 women will be funded.*

- ❖ Athletes who have been Selected to the 2025 USA Swimming World Aquatics Open Water World Championship Team will be fully funded\* to attend this race.

### **World Aquatics Open Water Swimming World Cup – Golfo Aranci, Italy (October 10-11, 2025)**

*A minimum of 2 men and 2 women will be fully funded to attend this event.*

- ❖ Athletes who compete in the 10K Event at the 2025 World Aquatics Championships will be fully funded\* to attend this race.

### **World Aquatics Open Water Swimming World Cup – Neom, Saudi Arabia (TBD)**

*A maximum of 2 men and 2 women will be funded.*

- ❖ Athletes who compete in the 10K Event at the 2025 World Aquatics Championships will be fully funded\* to attend this race.

*Depending on utilization of race funding during the Ibiza and Setubal World Cups, and potential attendance at the Neom World Cup, USA Swimming may open additional funding for the Golfo Aranci and Neom World Cup stops using the following priority system. The amount of additional funded athletes, if any, will be determined by July 1, 2025, and this document will be updated accordingly.*

- ❖ Priority #1- Athletes who have been Selected to the 2025 USA Swimming World Aquatics Open Water World Championship Team will be fully funded\*.
- ❖ Priority #2- Remaining positions, if available, will be given to the best placed finisher from the 2025 USA Swimming 10K Open Water National Championships, who is not already fully funded\* to attend this event. Limitation: Under no circumstance will USA Swimming fund athletes who finish outside of the best 6 placing American finishers in the 2025 USA Swimming 10K Open Water National Championships.

*\*Fully funded means that USA Swimming will purchase the lowest logical airfare to the competition and cover 4 nights of room and board through the local organizing committee. Additional expenses, including flight upgrades, additional nights of hotel, and miscellaneous meals, will not be covered by USA Swimming. Athletes will be responsible for providing their own equipment, technical racing suits, and supplemental nutrition items. USA Swimming will provide staff support for the feed station, which may or may not include an athlete's personal coach.*

### **Single Use Event Reimbursement**

Athletes named to the 2025 USA Swimming Open Water National Team will be eligible to apply for a one-time meet reimbursement to cover participation at other international events (e.g., LEN OW Cup) or international training camps that take place before or after the competition. Funding amounts will be tiered by the following:

\$1,000 for 2025 World Championships 10K Participants

\$750 for all other 2025 Open Water World Championship athletes

\$500 for the remainder of the 2025 USA Swimming Open Water National Team

Athletes must apply for this use by sending an email to Bryce Elser ([belser@usaswimming.org](mailto:belser@usaswimming.org)) by June 1, 2025, stating how and when they would like to use their one-time reimbursement. Reimbursements will be paid 2 weeks after the completion of the camp or competition.

NCAA Eligible Athletes: All athletes with NCAA eligibility remaining are strongly encouraged to maintain a spreadsheet of all competition related expenses for each competition, in addition to all training expenses, throughout the entire 2025 calendar year.