



Athlete Representation Review Working Group

Review Report

NGB		US Sailing
<i>Working Group Personnel</i>		
USOPC AAC Designee		Mark Ladwig
NGBC Designee		Staciellen Mischel
NGB Representative to USOPC AAC		Maggie Shea
<i>Support Personnel</i>		
Executive Director, AAC		Elizabeth Ramsey
NGB Services Liaison		David Patterson
<i>Session Information</i>		
Date of NGB Submission		October 2021
Date of Report		November 2021

Overview of Submission and Discussion

US Sailing and its AAC agreed upon a set of competition recommendations for review by the panel. The NGB outlined in the course of its presentation that it had several competitions it would like to generate 10 Year eligibility for elite athletes. These competitions spanned multiple equipment classes as well as multiple competition types. The panel reviewed all of these competitions and shared the view of the NGB and its AAC that the competitors in these events are elite athletes and should be eligible as elite athletes.

Reviewed Competitions		
Competition	Finish Requirement	Effective Date
World Championship in Delegation Event Classes	Any	1985
Domestic Trials for Delegation Events	Top 50%	1985
Delegation Equipment Class Race Week Events	Top 25%	2001
Delegation Equipment Class Continental Championships	Top 25%	2001
Sailing in America's Cup	Any	1985
Circumnavigation Races	Any	1985
2,500+ Mile Races	Top 50%	2001
2000-2499 Mile Races	Top 25%	2001
600-1,999 Mile Races	Top 5%	2001
World Sailing Match or Team Race Worlds	Top 50%	1985
World Sailing International Equipment Class and Offshore Worlds	Top 25%	2001
World Sailing Designated Events	Top 25%	2001
US Sailing Adult Championship	Top 20%	2001

NGB Recommendation	Elite International Competition – 10 Year Eligibility	
NGB AAC Recommendation	Elite International Competition – 10 Year Eligibility	
Working Group Finding	Elite International Competition – 10 Year Eligibility	
<i>Finding Notes</i>		
<p>These events comprise Team USA events as well as other events. In the sport of Sailing there are multiple elite level sailing events that are not under the auspices of the International Federation. In the competitions above, “World Sailing” events are operated by the International Federation, but the IF allows for open entry and thus not all athletes may have qualified via an NGB led selection process.</p> <p>Some of the events are not sanctioned by the IF but are of high importance to the sport and denote elite competition in the context of sailing. Some of these events are not on the basis of a national teams or, in the case of America’s Cup, where the nationality of the entered boat does not connote the nationality of the sailors on that boat.</p> <p>The AAC and the NGB agreed that these athletes are elite and would be important representatives of the sport. The NGB also noted that they will be able to use their membership system to track participation in these events. Finally, the effective dates ensure as much gender equity as possible among the eligible pool of athletes.</p>		
Competition	Finish Requirement	Effective Date
World Sailing Continental, National or World Championship in Any Equipment Class	Any	Any
Any US National Championship Event	Any	Any
Any US Sailing Regional Championship Event (at which at least 5 LSOs Participate)	Any	Any
Competing in 20 or More Sanctioned Races in a Calendar Year	Any	Any
NGB Recommendation	Actively Engaged Eligible	
NGB AAC Recommendation	Actively Engaged Eligible	
Working Group Finding	Actively Engaged Eligible	
<i>Finding Notes</i>		
<p>The events above connote serious elite competition in the sport. As this will engender Actively Engaged status on the athletes participating, the effective date will be 2 years previous only.</p>		

Reviewed Committees	
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit • Bylaws • Compensation • Review Board • Nominating and Governance • Ethics • Budget • International Selections
NGB Recommendation	Designated
NGB AAC Recommendation	Designated
Working Group Finding	Designated
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
All of these committees are elemental to governance, finance and high-performance selection.	
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Sailing Delegation
NGB Recommendation	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
NGB AAC Recommendation	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
Working Group Finding	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
This committee is comprised of representatives on World Sailing Committees and thus athletes are not necessarily (though often will be) included.	
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Championships Committee • Race Administration Committee
NGB Recommendation	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
NGB AAC Recommendation	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
Working Group Finding	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
These two committees are comprised of Chairs of other committees are exist for coordination of activities only. Athletes may be included if they are Chairs of the composite committees but are not necessarily involved. Athlete leaders indicated that they had neither the inclination nor the implication in work to be involved in these committees.	
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeals Committee
NGB Recommendation	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
NGB AAC Recommendation	Other Committee, Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
Working Group Finding	Other Committee, NO Exemption from Athlete Representation Requirement
<i>Finding Notes</i>	

The NGB and the athlete leaders requested that the Board appoint the athletes to this committee due to the fact that this appeals group deals with highly technical field of play appeals and thus a strong technical background is required to serve effectively. The exemption request was limited to the mode of nomination of athletes to the committee.

In the course of conversation, it became clear that the Board could nominate eligible athletes, subject to approval of the AAC. This would ensure that the AAC would have final say on the athlete representation on this committee but would also allow the Board to nominate those it felt had the technical knowledge and acumen to serve in the role. The NGB representative and the Ms. Shea agreed this was a viable course of action. The NGB may need to update its Bylaws and/or other internal documents to reflect this process for nomination of athletes to this committee.