



Athlete Representation Review Working Group

Review Report

NGB	American Canoe Association
<i>Working Group Personnel</i>	
USOPC AAC Designee	Mark Ladwig
NGBC Designee	Staciellen Mischel
NGB Representative to USOPC AAC	Kenny Kasperbauer
<i>Support Personnel</i>	
Executive Director, AAC	Elizabeth Ramsey
NGB Services Liaison	David Patterson
<i>Session Information</i>	
Date of NGB Submission	21 September 2021
Date of Report	1 October 2021

Reviewed Competitions	
Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICF World Championship Events • ICF World Cup Competitions • “A” Finalists in US Olympic/Paralympic Trials
NGB Recommendation	Approve
NGB AAC Recommendation	Approve
Working Group Finding	Approve
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
<p>Team USA competitors at the ICF world championship events are selected via an NGB-led selection process. The ICF has championship events in more than Olympic/Paralympic disciplines, and all such events will generate 10-year eligibility.</p> <p>Section 8 of the USOPC Bylaws requires that at least half of the athlete representatives on the NGB Board have generated their eligibility via a delegation event. This requirement remains in place, but athletes from non-Olympic/Paralympic disciplines will be able to serve within those limitations.</p>	

Reviewed Committees	
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Education and Instruction • Introduction to Paddling • Universal Paddling • Canoe Touring • Coastal Kayaking • Prone Paddling • Rafting • River Canoeing • River Kayaking • Safety and Rescue • Stand Up Paddleboarding • Surfski • Surf Kayaking • State Director Committee • Paddle America Club Committee • Medical Advisory Committee • Properties Committee
NGB Recommendation	Other, With Athlete Representation Exemption
NGB AAC Recommendation	Other, With Athlete Representation Exemption
Working Group Finding	Other, With Athlete Representation Exemption
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
<p>The NGB and its AAC agreed that the above committees are entirely related to the recreational canoeing mission of the organization. These committees work on the non-competitive elements of the sport and in areas that are not related to nor lead to competitive pathways in the sport.</p> <p>The AAC expressed specific concern about the volume of these committees and the ability of their athlete group to cover all of the required seats and that, given the content, there was little if any interest among the elite athlete group in service in these particular roles. Both the leaders of these committees and the elite athlete group agreed that these functions would be best served by having no designated elite athlete representation.</p> <p>The panel agreed with the assessment of the NGB and AAC and approved that the committees listed will have no elite athlete representation requirement.</p>	