



# Athlete Representation Review Working Group

## Review Report

<b>NGB</b>	<b>USA Swimming</b>
<i>Working Group Personnel</i>	
USOPC AAC Designee	Mark Ladwig
NGBC Designee	Staciellen Mischel
NGB Representative to USOPC AAC	Anthony Ervin, designee
<i>Support Personnel</i>	
Executive Director, AAC	Elizabeth Ramsey
NGB Services Liaison	David Patterson
<i>Session Information</i>	
Date of NGB Submission	13 September 2021
Date of Report	14 September 2021

<b>Reviewed Competitions</b>	
<b>Competition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>FINA Long Course World Championship</b></li> <li>• <b>Pan Pacific Swimming Championships</b></li> <li>• <b>World University Games</b></li> </ul>
NGB Recommendation	Approve
NGB AAC Recommendation	Approve
Working Group Finding	<b>Approve</b>
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
<p>All of these events are international, FINA sanctioned, events for which Team USA is chosen via an NGB led selection process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FINA Long Course World Championship is held biannually and is the premiere non-Olympic event. This is the senior world championship event of record in swimming.</li> <li>• The Pan Pacific Swimming Championship is an international meet jointly developed between Japan, Canada, Australia and United States. In addition to the four founding nations, other nations are invited to the quadrennial event. Given the strength of the competing nations this is the top regional/confederation event in the sport.</li> <li>• The World University Games are restricted to athletes aged 24 years of age or under. This event is a key development step towards the national team with a sizable portion of Olympic teams having competed at the WUG in the past.</li> </ul> <p>In all cases the panel agreed that the events suggested represent elite athletic competition in the swimming context and that these athletes should have 10 year status for the purpose of athlete representation.</p> <p>For the calculation of eligibility for 10+ Year athletes, this request was limited to these three events going back to 2011 so as to create an adequate pool of athletes for service in governance roles while ensuring strong record availability and that these three events go back the same amount of time. The panel encouraged USA Swimming and it's AAC to come back to the panel in the future</p>	

should an adjustment be desired, creating more eligibility for 10+ Year athletes, but the AAC and NGB agreed that for the present, this is the correct course of action.

## Reviewed Committees

Committee	• House of Delegates
NGB Recommendation	Designated, with Weighted Voting Allowance
NGB AAC Recommendation	Designated, with Weighted Voting Allowance
Working Group Finding	<b>Designated, with Weighted Voting Allowance</b>

### *Finding Notes*

The panel agreed that the purview of the House of Delegates, with the ability to change Bylaws as well as elect member of the Board of Directors fit the definition of a Designated Committee. Additionally, the panel accepted the NGB and AAC request that the votes of athlete representatives in the House of Delegates be weighted as needed. Given the extraordinary size of the House of Delegates (about 600) it was clear that weighting the vote of the athlete group would ensure that the athlete voice is maintained at the 33% level regardless of the number of athletes in attendance at House of Delegates meeting.

While this decision is not conditional, the panel was heartened to hear from USA Swimming athletes that they hope to not use the weighting option, but instead participate in the meeting with the full complement of athlete representatives.