



## ATHLETE ADVISORY GROUP CHARTER

Effective April 1, 2023

**Section 1. U.S. Paralympics Cycling Athlete Advisory Group.** The U.S. Paralympics Cycling Athlete Advisory Group [referred to herein as “AAG”] shall be comprised in accordance with, governed pursuant to and perform those duties as contained in those sections set forth below.

**Section 2. Appointment and Composition.** The AAG shall consist of at least four (4) and not more than seven (7) members:

- a) One (1) member of the AAG shall be the current elected Team USA Athletes’ Commission “AC” representative for Para-cycling. The AC representative for Para-cycling shall serve as Chair of the AAG. The Chair shall be a voting member of the AAG.
- b) One (1) member of the AAG shall be the current elected [if applicable] USOPC AC alternate representative for Para-cycling. The AC alternate for Para-cycling shall serve as Vice Chair of the AAG. The Vice Chair shall be a voting member of the AAG.
  - i. If the current elected Team USA AC alternate representative position for Para-cycling is vacant, the Vice Chair position shall be elected from the eligible athlete pool by the eligible athlete pool.
- c) At least two (2) members of the AAG, not including the Chair and Vice-chair, shall be elected from the eligible athlete pool by the eligible athlete pool. All elected representatives shall be voting members of the AAG.
- d) Up to three (3) additional at-large members may be appointed to the AAG upon mutual agreement of the AAG Nominating Committee. Appointed members must be from the eligible athlete pool and meet all eligibility criteria for AAG membership. These at-large members shall be athletes who are well-versed in Para-cycling and represent diverse impairment and/or discipline groups within Para-cycling. At-large members to the AAG shall have voice, but no vote.

**Section 3. Eligibility Criteria.** The eligible athlete pool shall be comprised of those athletes who meet all of the following criteria:

- a) Athlete has represented the United States at the Paralympic Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships or at another event that has been approved by the USOPC Athlete Representation Review Working Group within the ten (10) years preceding election or appointment.
- b) Athlete currently holds or retired from Para-cycling holding a Paralympic eligible international sport class in Para-cycling.
- c) Athlete was credentialed as Aa (‘Athlete’) or Ab (‘Guide’) at the event(s) in 3.a. above in which they participated.
- d) Athlete is at least 16 years of age.

An individual is ineligible to serve on the AAG for Para-cycling if they have:

- a) A felony conviction involving harm to a member of a vulnerable population such as children, elderly or individuals with a disability;
- b) A felony conviction for sexual abuse or assault of any kind;



- c) A felony conviction for a hate crime;
- d) Served a period of ineligibility for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) as determined by the World Anti-Doping Code;
- e) Served a period of ineligibility for a SafeSport Code violation as defined by the USCSS or a National Governing Body; or
- f) Served a period of ineligibility for classification Intentional Misrepresentation as determined by the IPC Athlete Classification Code.
- g) Been formally sanctioned or served any period of suspension for a U.S. Paralympics Code of Conduct violation.

**Section 4. AAG Nominating Committee.** The AAG Nominating Committee shall be made up of three (3) members. These members shall be the Director of U.S. Paralympics Cycling, the Chair of the AAG [2.a.], and the Vice-chair of the AAG [2.b.].

**Section 5. Compliance and Requirements.** Each member of the AAG shall comply with the following USOPC policies: code of conduct, conflict of interest, background check, and athlete safety including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP).

- a) An individual elected or appointed to the AAG, acknowledges and agrees that it is considered a “Participant” of the USOPC, as defined in the USOPC’s Athlete Safety Policy (available at <http://teamusa.org/USOPCAthleteSafetyPolicy>). As a Participant, the AAG member agrees and acknowledges that it is familiar with and will abide by the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement (available at [www.uscenterforsafesport.org](http://www.uscenterforsafesport.org)), the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy, and the USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (“MAAPP”). Additionally, the AAG member agrees to complete and stay current with the mandatory training requirements described in the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy.
- b) An individual elected or appointed to the AAG is required to undergo a background check utilizing the National Center for Safety Initiatives as further described in the USOPC’s Background Check Policy & Procedures (which can be viewed on the Team USA Athlete Safety Page at <https://www.teamusa.org/team-usa-athlete-services/safe-sport>). Full background checks will be completed prior to the commencement of an individual taking office and must be rechecked every two years during their term. Any individual receiving a “Red Light” may be precluded by the USOPC from participating on the AAG.

**Section 6. Term; Term Limits.** The Team USA AC Representative/AAG Chair and AC Alternate/AAG Vice-chair shall serve until their terms expire. The elected members of the AAG [2.b.i if applicable, and 2.c.] shall serve an initial term of four (4) years and may run for a second four-year term, provided that all eligibility criteria in Section 3 above are met at the time of election. Elected members shall not serve more than two (2) terms. The appointed members of the AAG [2.d.] shall serve one four-year term. Appointed members shall not serve more than one (1) term.

**Section 7. Responsibilities.** The responsibility of the AAG shall be to serve as the collective voice for the athlete population. The members of the AAG will liaise with the professional staff at U.S. Paralympics Cycling to foster collaboration between program staff and athletes. Additional responsibilities of AAG members may also include:



- a) Participation in the development of selection procedures for protected competition;
- b) Participation on selection committees;
- c) Participation in U.S. Paralympics Cycling working groups or committees for high performance, sport development, or other subject matter areas as determined by program needs.

**Section 8. Meetings.** The AAG shall meet in-person at least one (1) time annually and shall meet quarterly via video conference and/or tele-conference. The Chair and/or Vice Chair of the AAG shall:

- a) Organize, schedule and preside over meetings of the AAG.
- b) Oversee election and/or appointment processes for members of the AAG in collaboration and with support from U.S. Paralympics Cycling professional staff.
- c) Support transitions of Chair, Vice Chair and other elected or appointed members of the AAG.

**Section 9. Removal.** Any member of the AAG may be removed for cause. Any member subject to removal shall be given fair notice and the right to a hearing. Petitions for removal shall adhere to the U.S. Paralympics Complaint Procedures.