



Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) Meeting Minutes - July 1, 2026

Meeting Called to Order: Stacia Suttles, Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) Chairperson called the meeting to order at 3:13 pm MST. Suttles stated that in accordance with USOPC compliance at the beginning of each meeting attendees must disclose any perceived conflicts of interest. There were not any perceived conflicts of interest.

AAC Committee Members Present: Sa'Rai Brown-El, Lauren Migliacci, and Stacia Suttles. Absent: Danielle Perkins and Alex Love. A quorum was reached.

Staff Present: Stacy Arredondo, Program & Projects Specialist

Suttles welcomed all on the call and congratulated Sa'Rai Brown-El on her professional debut.

Team USA Athlete Commission Assembly

Suttles reported on the Team USA Athlete Commission Assembly that she attended in June in Atlanta. Highlights included:

- The USOPC will be starting a new way for athletes to obtain sponsorships in January 2027 through Venture Sponsorships.
- The differences of the USOPC Ombudsman versus the Team USA Athlete Commission were also outlined. The Athlete Commission addresses more ongoing issues while the Ombudsman is more for immediate advice on difficult situations. The Ombudsman also involves various attorneys.
- Course for Team USA Board Service Readiness – although the deadline had passed for this course, Suttles informed that she hopes to attend future trainings and hopes the other athlete reps will too.

Alumni Outreach

Suttles updated that she hasn't been able to connect with Alex Love about getting involved with alumni outreach, but it is still of interest to her.

She asked the others for ideas. Migliacci suggested having involvement incentives, especially to expand the officials pool and Brown-El thinks personal versus "form" emails would be more effective.

How to best represent the athletes?

There was discussion about how to best represent the athletes at the grassroots level in addition to the elite team. Group discussed options to get more participation including possibly a virtual meeting or open house for LBC athlete reps. If decided on a live meeting, team will discuss logistics and goals during a session before scheduling.

Suttles thanked all for their time and let the athlete reps know she would be meeting with Mike McAtee, Executive Director, the next week to fill him in on the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.