Athlete Advisory Committee Call

May 27, 2026, at 3:00 pm, Mountain Time

AGENDA

Roll Call

Present: Macey Kilty, Erin Golston, Adeline Gray, Robby Smith, Joey McKenna, Mallory Velte, Xavier Johnson, Veronica Carlson, Nick Gwiazdowski, Claire DiCugno, Beau Bartlett, Mike Macchiavello,

Others: Bruce Baumgartner, Joan Fulp, Megan Ball, Cody Bickley, Jaimie McNab, Katie Kriebel, Stephanie Jezwinski, Nicole Deal, Rebecca Beard

Absent: John Stefanowicz

I. Welcome & Establish Quorum

Robby Smith welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm MT.

II. Conflict of Interest Disclosure & Oath of Confidentiality

Megan Ball read the conflict-of-interest statement and asked for any conflicts. There were no conflicts present.

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve previous meeting minutes: Macey Kilty
Second: Mallory Velte
The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously approved.

IV. EAHI & Benefits Changes for 2026-2027

The AAC welcomed Rebecca Beard and Nicole Deal from the USOPC to overview the EAHI and benefits changes for 2026. Nicole shared the changes to the Team USA Athlete definition and how the program changes have expanded benefits to more athletes, but recognized that wrestling has lost EAHI allotments in this process. Nicole is working on creating one-pagers for athletes with benefit details and will share those once they are available.

Roll-downs previously utilized have been paused for at least this year, but that may change in the future. Nicole also overviewed the potential changes to the pregnancy policy and the addition of the hardship policy.

Nicole went further in depth on the EAHI allocation process and how the program is continuing to develop. Rebecca added additional context on the Medical Network that benefits all Team USA athletes as well as the Team USA Athlete Recovery Program. Rebecca also recommended athletes connect with Athlete Healthcare Navigators if they have any questions.

Nicole overviewed how some NGBs are developing an internal evaluation process to determine who needs EAHI prior to submitting their funding request so that internal roll downs are possible. Nicole is reviewing if amending the funding agreement is possible so USA Wrestling can follow suit.

Veronica Carlson made a motion to recommend and support criteria that allows internal roll downs. Mallory Velte seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

V. USA Wrestling/USOPC/UWW Update

Cody Bickley provided the USA Wrestling and USOPC update. He overviewed adjustments made to the US Open and WTT Challenge Tournament and the positive feedback received so far. The Greco-Roman team is on the way back from Croatia and Hungary where they attended camps. The U20 Greco-Roman team is head to Croatia and Cody feels the changes made to the selection procedures and travel have allowed more training opportunities and have been positive overall.

Cody shared that Tonya Verbeek will officially start on June 1st as the National Women's Freestyle Assistant & Resident Coach and Nate Engel will onboard in an Independent Contractor role that will support all of the resident and development programs.

President Bruce Baumgartner provided the UWW Update. UWW officially announced that Senior World Championships will move to Astana, Kazakhstan. His next Bureau meeting is July 3, and he expects further conversations regarding professional leagues. Should he receive the agenda and need athlete feedback he will reach out to AAC leadership.

There were no questions for Cody or Bruce.

VI. 92kg Final X Update

Cody Bickley shared the date of June 13th in the Washington D.C. area was agreed upon by both parties and is in the planning stages while navigating graduation dates and options. There were no questions.

VII. Interim AAC Members

Mallory Velte and Megan Ball overviewed the open positions, their terms, and the nomination and election process. There are three positions available, one to backfill Dymond through August 2027 in her At-Large role, one to backfill Nate through August 2028 in his Greco-Roman style specific role, and one to fill Johnny's role through August while his work keeps him unavailable

Nominations were taken from the floor. Megan overviewed the process to confirm eligibility and willingness to serve. Once the nominees accept, a vote will be launched in the portal and Megan will follow up with the final list and vote details.

VIII. **Session Recommendations for AAC Summit**

Megan Ball overviewed the plans for an AAC Summit, August 6-8 in Colorado Springs, CO in conjunction with the State Leaders Summit and Board of Directors Meeting. One of the sessions will be presented by Dave Patterson to overview governance best practices. Megan asked committee members to consider topics that would be beneficial for them to have sessions on and provide that feedback. Further planning details will be sent to the committee soon.

IX. **New Business**

President Bruce Baumgartner overviewed the need for a replacement of Nate on the Executive Committee. Mallory Velte nominated Robby Smith. Xavier Johnson seconded. Robby was unanimously confirmed to fill the vacancy on the Executive Committee.

AAC Members asked for a follow up on the Section IX case from the US Open. Cody Bickley provided an update and confirmed the hearing would be June 9th.

X. **Adjournment/Executive Session**

Meeting entered Executive Session: 4:05 pm MT