

USA Gymnastics Athletes' Council (AC) In-Person Meeting
Indianapolis, IN
September 8, 2023 - Start 9:30 am ET

Roll Call

AC Attendees:

Jessica Renteria	Chair, Acro Athlete Representative
Alex Renkert	Vice Chair, T&T Athlete Representative
Evita Griskenas	Rhythmic Athlete Representative
Akash Modi	Men's Athlete Representative
Emily Schild	Women's Athlete Representative
Logan Dooley	USOPC AAC Alternate Rep
Serena Lu	Rhythmic Athlete Representative and USOPC AAC Rep (via Zoom)
Grace Vonder Haar	Acro Athlete Representative (via Zoom)
Sam Philips	Men's Athlete Representative (via Zoom)

Absent:

Michael Devine	T&T Athlete Representative
Jessie DeZiel	Women's Athlete Representative

Guests:

Li Li Leung	President and CEO
Debbie Shon	Chief Legal Officer
Alex Birkhold	Ethics & Grievance Committee Chair (via Zoom)
Stefanie Korepin	Chief Programs Officer
Jill Geer	Chief Communications and Marketing Officer
Laurn Turner	Chief Operating Officer
Caryn Szyper	Safety and Compliance Counsel
Kacie Wallace	USOPC Athlete Ombuds (via Zoom)
Kathryn Carson	USAG Board Chair (via Zoom)
Rebecca Sereda	Athlete Director on the USAG Board

I. Welcome

- Jessica welcomed everyone to the in-person meeting.
- The AC reviewed the Commitment to Service pledge.

Li Li Leung, Debbie Shon, Laurn Turner, Jill Geer, Caryn Szyper joined the meeting at 9:55 am.

II. Organizational Update

- Li Li Leung gave an organizational update.

Alex Birkhold joined the meeting.

Li Li Leung left the meeting.

III. Governance 101

- Debbie Shon reviewed the USA Gymnastics Confidentiality Policy
- Alex Birkhold led a Conflict of Interest training

Alex Birkhold left the meeting.

Sam Philips joined the meeting.

IV. Organizational Update

- Lauryn Turner provided an update on partnerships and a high-level overview of the USA Gymnastics operating budget.

V. Safety and Response

- Caryn Szyper reviewed data from USAG Safety and Response Department.

Sam Philips left the meeting.

VI. Communications

- Jill Geer gave an update from the Communications Department
- Reviewed how events are tiered for social media, announcements, etc.

Jill Geer left the meeting.

VII. Discipline Reports

a. Men's Program

- Akash Modi gave a report on the Men's Program activities, areas of concern, and things that went well in 2023.

Akash Modi left the meeting.

Mary McDaniel and Jacqui Godfrey joined the meeting.

b. T&T

- Alex Renkert gave a report on the T&T Program activities, areas of concern, and things that went well in 2023.

Serena Lu joined the meeting.

c. Acro

- Jessica Renteria and Grace Vonder Haar gave a report on the Acro Program activities, areas of concern, and things that went well in 2023.

Jacqui Godfrey left the meeting.

Akash Modi re-joined the meeting.

Kacie Wallace joined the meeting.

VIII. USOPC Ombuds Office

- Kacie Wallace from the USOPC Ombuds Office gave a presentation on the role of the Ombuds Office and the resources available to athletes.
- Q&A

Kacie Wallace and Mary McDaniel left the meeting.

Kathryn Carson joined the meeting.

IX. Board Chair Report

- Kathryn Carson, USAG Board Chair, gave a brief update on the work of the Board.
- Open discussion.

Kathryn Carson left the meeting.

X. Discipline Reports - Continued

a. Rhythmic

- Evita and Serena gave a report on the Rhythmic Program activities, areas of concern, and things that went well in 2023.
- Discussion on the age of Senior athletes in Rhythmic.

Rebecca Sereda joined the meeting.

Grace Vonder Haar left the meeting.

Serena Lu left the meeting.

XI. State and Regional Athlete Reps

- a. Discussion around how to appoint athlete reps for State and Regional Committees – Tabled.
- b. Vote for interim procedure for 2023 T&T State and Regional Athlete Rep elections:

Motion to T&T will be allowed an interim Athlete Representative elections for State & Regional Committee's that will serve a maximum of 2 years on the current election cycle or until USA Gymnastics sets out a procedure for all disciplines.

State Athlete Representative

The State Athlete Representative is elected every two years (2021, 2023, 2025, etc.) by current athletes in each state. Only one athlete per team may vote.

- Min 18 years of age
- Must meet requirements in Leadership Eligibility and Service Policy
- **Must meet one of the Athlete Rep Definitions**
 - **"10 Year Athlete"** - Any athlete who has competed in the Elite National Championships for their discipline, or Olympic Games, World Championships, or Pan Am Games in the last ten years.

- **“10+ Year Athlete”** - Any athlete who has competed in the Elite National Championships for their discipline dating back to 2001 or any athlete who competed in Olympic Games, World Championships, or Pan Am Games at any point in time.
- **“Actively Engaged Athlete”** – Any Athlete who has competed in a USAG sanctioned event in the last two years at any level.
- 33% Athlete Representation on Committee

*Once a state representative is elected, their name must be submitted to a USA Gymnastics liaison (to be named) for final approval by the USA Gymnastics Athletes Council.

Regional Athlete Representative

The Regional Athlete Representative is a position elected every two years (2021, 2023, 2025, etc.) by the Region’s State Athletes Representatives.

- Min 18 years of age
- Must meet requirements in Leadership Eligibility and Service Policy
- **Must meet one of the Athlete Rep Definitions**
 - **“10 Year Athlete”** - Any athlete who has competed in the Elite National Championships for their discipline, or Olympic Games, World Championships, or Pan Am Games in the last ten years.
 - **“10+ Year Athlete”** - Any athlete who has competed in the Elite National Championships for their discipline dating back to 2001 or any athlete who competed in Olympic Games, World Championships, or Pan Am Games at any point in time.
 - **“Actively Engaged Athlete”** – Any Athlete who has competed in a USAG sanctioned event in the last two years at any level.
 - 33% Athlete Representation on Committee

*Once a Regional representative is elected, their name must be submitted to a USA Gymnastics liaison (to be named) for final approval by the USA Gymnastics Athletes Council.

Motion: Logan Dooley

Second: Akash Modi

PASSED

XII. Athlete Funding

- The AC reviewed the Athlete Funding Tiers and provided some feedback.
- Discussed prize money at domestic events.

XIII. Gymnastics for All Committee Athlete Rep Appointment

Motion to appoint Shea Colby and Jessica Self as athlete reps on the Gymnastics for All Committee.

Motion: Alex Renkert

Second: Evita Griskenas

PASSED

XIV. Other Topics

- a. Communication within Council
- b. USAG App
- c. Future meetings

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm ET.