American Canoe Association (ACA) 
Competition Council 
Meeting Minutes

Date: June 19, 2018 
Location: Teleconference 

Attendance:

Voting Competition Council Board Members Present:
Athlete Advisory Council representative: Emily Wright
Canoe Sailing: Marilyn Vogel
At-large Director: Chris Norbury
At-large Director: Chris Hipgrave
Wildwater: Jeff Owen
FreeStyle Kayaking: Risa Shimoda
Paracanoe: Debby Page
Sprint: Marsh Jones
Ocean Racing (surf ski): Michele Eray
Canoe Poling: Scott Stepenuck
Canoe Polo: Nigel Graham (not the Chair, but on the committee)
Marathon: Donald Anderson (not the Chair, but on the committee)
Outrigger Advisory Committee: Mike Shandroff
Slalom: Adam Van Grack (arrived around 8:15pm)

Voting Competition Council Board Members Absent:
Dragon Boat: Jim O’Dell
Collegiate Race Series:
Whitewater Open Canoe Downriver: Nate Lord
Open Canoe Slalom: Michael Cook
FreeStyle Canoeing: Molly Gurien
ACA Board of Director representative: Kirk Havens

Non-voting attendees:

ACA Staff:
Morgan House, ACA Director of High Performance & Competition
Christopher Stec, ACA Chief Operating Officer
The meeting was called to order at 8:04 (EDT) by Morgan House.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Pro-Tem Christopher Stec and a quorum was established.

**Welcome and Introductions:**
Morgan House provided a brief overview and welcome and then commenced with the teleconference.

**Competition Council Overview:**
Morgan proceeded to review / read the relevant sections (Article III) of the Competition Council Operating Procedures that pertain to the Governance and makeup of the Competition Council. This is providing background information prior to the following discussion about electing the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary of the Competition Council.

Opened the call up for questions:

Mike Shandroff: Please explain the difference between Olympic and non-Olympic Disciplines on the Council
Morgan: Any discipline can be the Chair and represent the entire Competition Council
Stec: In addition, the two Olympic and 1 Paralympic Disciplines have an elite athlete rep to the ACA BoD

Risa requested a future review of the wording in Article III.F.1.d

**Election Discussion:**
Significant discussion revolved around the Elite Athlete composition on both the CC Board and the CC Executive Committee.

It was reaffirmed that at least 20% Elite Athlete representation was needed on both the CC Board and the CC Executive Committee.

Action Item: Morgan will review the Elite Athlete criteria in the appropriate ACA BoD Policy and cross reference to make sure both the CC Board and the CC Executive Committee will meet or exceed the 20% rule.

Morgan covered the timeframe for self-nominations (10 days), and the timeline for voting by members of the CC Board to elect the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Elite Athlete representative. Information will be emailed out to the CC Board and posted online.

The elite athlete representative needs to already be on CC Discipline Committee in order to self-nominate for the CC Executive Committee.

Mike Shandroff: asked about Board disposition for what type of discipline should be the Chair and represent the CC Board to the ACA Board of Directors
Stec: explained additional BoD responsibilities that CC Chair would need to be a part of (for example, Properties, Instruction Program, changes to Membership dues structure, etc); then explained pros/cons of Olympic vs non-Olympic Discipline representation

Adam Van Grack: gave a good overview of job responsibilities and types of topics the Chair would need to address
Staff’s roll in the election – fair and transparent nomination and election process, staff will then support the Chair, regardless of the discipline

Risa: what attributes does chair need?  
Morgan: leadership and knowledge  
Stec: thick skin and time

Scott: If you become CC Chair, do you still remain Committee Chair?  
Discussion ensued  
Morgan: to find definitive answer in CC Operating Procedures and include in email sent out to CC Board

**Competition Council Meeting at ACA Leadership Academy:**  
Information and schedule on ACA website: [www.americancanoe.org/LeadershipAcademy](http://www.americancanoe.org/LeadershipAcademy)  
Stec reviewed schedule for CC Council Meeting on Saturday, August 25th and paddling activities and a tour on Sunday morning August 26th.

If a Committee Chair can’t attend, they can send another representative from their committee.

ACA will reimburse up to $250 to attend. If you need additional funds, please contact Morgan and we’ll discuss on a case by case basis.

Nearby hotels may be cheaper than the meeting hotel.

**Open Discussion:**

No additional items were brought up for discussion.

**Upcoming Council Meetings:**
- Saturday, August 25, 2018 – Oklahoma City, OK

**Adjournment:**  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:57.

Submitted by,

Christopher Stec  
Secretary Pro-Tem  
ACA Competition Council