



April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Iowa Swimming Revised LSC Bylaws: Explanation and FAQs

In 2017, USA Swimming Board of Directors formed a Task Force to take an in-depth look at the current required LSC Bylaws with the goal of making the Bylaws template into a simple and flexible document. The task force took on the initiative with three goals.

- Simple and Flexible for LSCs
- Improved Structure for LSCs
- Clarity for LSCs

The required template was approved at the 2018 USA House of Delegates meeting. LSCs were given the deadline of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to ratify and submit changes to their Bylaws to reflect the required template.

### Bylaw Template

USA Swimming provided a template to LSCs that could be molded within the structure of each LSC by moving items from Bylaws to Policy and Procedures (Flexibility) yet still simplified the language and removed redundancy (simple) such as restating existing USA rules.

### Changes to the Iowa Swimming Bylaws FAQ:

You will find as you study the proposed changes from our current Bylaws that very little has actually changed within the governance and structure of Iowa Swimming. There is expansion of duties at the Committee Level along with an expansion of responsibilities to ISI. The number of Board members have decreased along with this expansion at the Committee level. No change as been made regarding the Duties from the HOD – BOD – Committee levels.

1. Article 4 – House of Delegates
  - a. Why the change from written notice of 20 days to 14 days?
    - i. Much of our communication within the LSC has changed from mail to email and postings on our website. Electronic communication allows for information to be quickly dissimilated and as a downside, quickly forgotten. It allows information to be distributed closer to the date of vote and gives more time for proposals to be submitted.
  - b. What is the Governance Committee?
    - i. The Governance Committee is a new and required committee by USA Swimming
    - ii. Why did ISI choose to combine this with the Nominating Committee?

1. It is the best use of our available resources, our volunteers. Rather than forming two independent chairs and committees, it is the best interest to pool our resources and work within the framework provided by combining these positions and committees.
    - c. What is the difference between a Committee Chair and Coordinator
      - i. A Committee Chair is responsible to fill and communicate with a committee of volunteers with the sole and shared purpose of the goals for the committee.
      - ii. A Coordinator is a stand alone position which is solely responsible to the Board and House with additional members.
  2. Article 5 – Board of Directors
    - a. Why are not all the current BOD positions listed?
      - i. Listed are only the Required board members as stated by USA Swimming.
      - ii. ISI may add BOD Members
    - b. USA Swimming has molded their Board on the premise of a Governing Board rather than an Operational Board. This allows for a more effective board while at the same time giving more voices within Iowa Swimming to be heard, not only those on the Board of Directors!
      - i. It is empowering Committees to focus on their individual goals. Then, after molding the goals into a definite plan, proposing to the Board and/or the House for ratification.
  3. Article 6 – Officers and Directors
    - a. The changes made to the required template upholds the long standing operation of Iowa Swimming within our current Bylaws.
      - i. Meeting notice change from 20 to 14 days.
    - b. Allows for the Officials Chair and Athlete Representatives to be directly elected by those individuals rather than appointment by General Chair and consent of Board.
  4. Article 7 – Divisions, Committees and Coordinators
    - a. Move Description of members, Duties, Powers and Responsibilities to Policy and Procedure
    - b. Committees will be required to be filled, meet regularly and submit reports to both the Board and House. These duties and requirements have been moved from the Bylaws to the Policy and Procedures of each LSC.
      - i. After ratification of these Bylaws, the Board will be tasked with writing and submitting a new Policy and Procedure Section that outlines the makeup, duties and responsibilities of each committee.
    - c. Establishment and creation of the combined Governance and Nominating Committee