

Florida Swimming Athlete Committee

Governance & Project Update/Bulletin

Effective May 13, 2019

In the interest of promoting communication within FLAC, and in lieu of issuing memos or overly frequent individual emails, we are instead going to issue periodic updates regarding the individual projects and movements which are at hand. These are specifically made for FLAC members, but will be published for all athletes, FL members, and interested parties to view. Note that they will not be published on a scheduled basis, but rather as needed (likely approximately every 4-6 weeks). Please contact Ryan and Davis with any questions or concerns, or to add any committee-specific information to an upcoming newsletter. Some information in the bulletin sent to FLAC members was removed from this document, as it was either strictly for Committee members or regarding projects that have not been widely released yet.

Upcoming Committee Appointments: As you know, FLAC terms will end on 6/31, and the 2019-2020 Florida Swimming Athlete Committee will commence on 7/1. We are currently planning to open applications 5/24 and close them on 6/16, but these dates are subject to change (and no application has been posted yet). As soon as a date is finalized, we will post information for applications. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the Committee selection process. ***You will receive extensive additional information regarding this process in the near future, and the increased expectations for the 2019-2020 Committee.***

Championship Task Force: We are currently working with other members of the BOD to facilitate actions regarding our Championship meets and secure a long-term plan. Please let us know if you have any questions, comments, or opinions that you would like to be heard as part of this process.

Mental Health: Currently, Davis is leading a group to identify options at addressing mental health issues within our LSC. Jacob and Georgia are working with him on this, and the three of them will be working with Erin Crabtree and Cori Welbes as well. Please reach out to them if you have any suggestions, ideas, questions, etc.

Clean Sport/Safe Sport: As part of a program Ryan is currently undergoing with USA Swimming, he will be able to provide Clean Sport and Safe Sport discussions/trainings with teams for free. Please reach out to him if your team or another may be interested in requesting a presentation – these are great resources and provide valuable information for swimmers and coaches alike. (Please know that logistical issues may apply.)

Initiative: We are always open and welcome to members and outside athletes submitting ideas, requests, etc. for us and for the committee to explore. Please do not hesitate to ever reach out to us with an idea, or to do additional work on behalf of the LSC. Especially as committee reapplications become available, we place heavy emphasis on those who show true commitment!

Instagram: Most of you likely already follow @floridaswimming on Instagram – we would just like to ensure that all members (who have social media access) follow this account, as it is run by the Athlete Reps! Feel free to comment, repost, etc.

Athlete Protection Training: We are currently working on identifying which aspects of the USA Swimming Athlete Protection Training courses our Committee members should take. Regardless of which ones, please be prepared that you will be asked to fulfill these requirements likely by the middle of June. We won't make them overly extensive, but it is important for all of our members to undergo these trainings. (These are the same certification courses required by coaches on an annual basis.)

Safety: Talks are currently underway with a few members of the Board on how we can improve the safety of all of our meets, in light of current events. If you have suggestions, ideas, or comments, please **do not hesitate** to

contact us and let us know. We are all very committed to protecting our meets in a practical and comfortable way – no suggestion should stay unheard.

Programming: As FLAC members, every one of us constantly serves as a model of what Athlete Representatives – and all athletes, for that matter – should be. Part of this is acting with all three USA Swimming programming initiatives in mind: Safe Sport, Clean Sport, and Diversity & Inclusion. Please never hesitate to reach out to us or the Safe Spot and D&I reps with any questions or concerns – our goal is for the FLAC members to be bright spots within these programs at their clubs and committees.

Leadership Institute/FLAC Travel: As you probably know, Antonio just attended the USA Swimming Leadership Summit in Colorado Springs. He is very excited to look into options to host our own LSC event, and we are all currently working with a number of forces to make positive progress on this! We are committed to working over the next year to secure additional travel budgets and requests for our FLAC members. Please contact Antonio, Ryan or Davis regarding ideas/questions/etc. for a leadership summit in FL, and please contact Ryan and Davis with any questions/recommendations regarding **either travel or budget**.

FLAC Development: As previously said, our Athlete Committee has recently been receiving rave compliments for being among the strongest and most developed in the nation – with barely a year under our belts! Thank you all again for your help and commitment – it truly has been noticed at the national level. (We are also very excited to be working with Nick Smagula, Athlete Executive Committee chair for USA Swimming, in a “mentorship” program in the near future!)

Thank you all, and best regards,

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