

BYLAWS OF LOUISIANA SWIMMING, INC.



A Local Swimming Committee of USA Swimming, Inc.

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ARTICLE 601
NAME, OBJECTIVES, TERRITORY, AND JURISDICTION

601.1 Name

The name of the corporation shall be Louisiana Swimming, Inc. (hereafter referred to as “Louisiana Swimming”).

601.2 Objectives

The objectives and primary purpose of Louisiana Swimming shall be the education, instruction and training of individuals to develop and improve their capabilities in the sport of swimming. Louisiana Swimming for the benefit of swimmers of all ages and abilities, in accordance with the standards, rules, regulations, policies and procedures of FINA, USA Swimming, and Louisiana Swimming and its Articles of Incorporation.

601.3 Geographic Territory

The geographic territory of Louisiana Swimming is the State of Louisiana.

601.4 Jurisdiction

Louisiana Swimming shall have jurisdiction over the sport of swimming as delegated to it as a Local Swimming Committee by USA Swimming to conduct swimming programs consistent with Louisiana Swimming objectives and those of USA Swimming and to sanction, approve, observe and oversee competitive swimming events within the Territory and to conduct competitive swimming events within the Territory, its Region, and its Zone (as those terms are defined in Part Six of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations). Louisiana Swimming shall discharge faithfully its duties and obligations as a Local Swimming Committee of USA Swimming in accordance with these Bylaws, the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations and all applicable policies and procedures.

ARTICLE 602
MEMBERSHIP

602.1 MEMBERS

The membership of Louisiana Swimming shall consist of the following:

.1 Group Members

Group members are organizations operating in the Territory which have, upon application, been granted membership in USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming and paid the fees established by USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming pursuant to Article 603. An organization may be denied membership by the Membership/Registration Chair or the Board of Directors for failure to satisfy the criteria for membership or for any reason for which a Group membership could be terminated. Any denial of membership may be appealed to the Board of Review. An organization’s status as a Group Member is subject to its continued satisfaction of the criteria for membership and compliance with its responsibilities under these Bylaws, the USA Swimming Code, the rules, regulation, policies, procedures, and codes of conduct and

ethics of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming and may be terminated by a decision of the Board of Review or the National Board of Review. Except for Affiliated Group Members, Group Members in good standing and credentialed, shall be entitled to participate in the program of swimming conducted by Louisiana Swimming and competitions sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, in accordance with Section 609.2.

A. Club Members

A Club Member is an organization which is in good standing as a Group Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, has athletes and coaches and participates in the sport of swimming. All athletes and coaches of the organization must be Individual Members in good standing of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

B. Affiliated Group Members

An Affiliated Group Member is an organization which supports the sport of swimming and the objectives and programs of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, which is in good standing as a Group Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, but which does not have athletes and coaches who all are Individual Members of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

C. Seasonal Club Members

A Seasonal Club Member is an organization which has joined Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming for one or two periods not longer than 150 days each in a registration year and is in good standing as a Group Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. All Seasonal Club Member coaches must be Coach Members in good standing of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. All athlete members of seasonal clubs must be Seasonal Athlete or Athlete Members in good standing of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

.2 Individual Members

Individual Members are individuals involved in the sport of swimming in the Territory who have, upon registration, been granted membership in USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming and paid the dues established by USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming pursuant to Article 603. An individual may be denied membership by the Membership/Registration Chair or by the Board of Directors for failure to satisfy the criteria for membership or for any reason for which an Individual Membership could be terminated. Any denial of membership may be appealed to the Board of Review. An individual's status as an Individual Member is subject to the Individual Member's continued satisfaction of the criteria for membership and compliance with the individual's responsibilities under these Bylaws, the USA Swimming code, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and codes of conduct and ethics of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming and may be terminated by a decision of the Board of Review or the National Board of Review. Except for Life Members, Individual Members in good standing shall be entitled to participate in the program of swimming conducted by Louisiana Swimming and competitions sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, in accordance with Section 609.1.

A. Athlete Members

An Athlete Member is an individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and is in good standing as an Individual Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

B. Coach Members

A Coach Member is an individual, whether or not affiliated with a Group Member, who has satisfactorily completed all safety and other training required by Louisiana Swimming and/or USA Swimming and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. Any individual desiring to act in any coaching capacity at any competition sanctioned by USA Swimming must be a Coach Member in good standing of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

C. Active Individual Members

An Active Individual Member is an individual other than a Coach Member or an Athlete Member who is a trainer, manager, official, meet director, marshal, Board Member, At-Large House Member, officer, coordinator, or committee chair or committee member of Louisiana Swimming or a Group Member Representative or alternate and any other individual desiring to participate in the sport of swimming and who is in good standing as a Individual Member of USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming.

D. Seasonal Athlete Members

A Seasonal Athlete Member is an individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for one or two periods of time not longer than 150 days each in a registration year and is in good standing as an Individual Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

E. Life Members

A Life Member is an individual who is a live member of USA Swimming and who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory and who is in good standing as a member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming.

.3 Membership a Privilege, not a Right

Membership in Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming is a privilege and shall not be interpreted as a right. Membership (including a Life Membership) may be terminated by the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of Review for any violation of a member's responsibilities under Section 602.2, for any of the reasons set forth in Article 404.1.3 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or for any other reason determined by the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or National Board of Review to be in the best interests of the sport of swimming, USA Swimming, or Louisiana Swimming.

602.2 Members' Responsibilities

.1 Compliance

Each Group or Individual Member shall abide by the codes of conduct and ethics, policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by the USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming including its obligations and responsibilities set forth in these Bylaws. Each Group and Individual Member shall not take or allow to be taken, any action, or conspire with or instigate any other person to take or allow to be taken, any action which could bring the sport of swimming, Louisiana Swimming, Inc, or USA Swimming into disrepute. By applying for accepting membership in Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, each Individual Member

agrees to so abide and represents, except to the extent disclosed to Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, that he or she has never been convicted of a crime involving sexual misconduct, child abuse, violation of a law specifically designed to protect minors, or similar offenses, or to have been found by a Board of Review or the National Board of Review to have committed actions which would be the basis for a conviction and that she or he has never acted in a manner which might bring into disrepute Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming, or the sport of swimming.

.2 Responsibility for Infractions

A Group Member may be held responsible for infractions of the policies, procedures, rules, regulations or codes of conduct or ethics adopted by USA Swimming or Louisiana Swimming, including its responsibilities as set forth in these Bylaws. Infractions of a Group Member include those committed or allowed to happen by its members, representatives, officials or coaches or by athletes who are competing as representatives of the Group Member or who are competing with the Group Member as unattached swimmers. Also included are infractions committed or allowed to happen by a person instigated by the Group Member or with whom the Group Member though any of those individuals conspired. Any Individual Member may be held responsible for any infractions committed or that were allowed to happen by the Individual Member. Also included are infractions committed or allowed to happen by a person instigated by the Individual Member or with whom the Individual Member conspired.

ARTICLE 603 DUES AND FEES

603.1 Club Members

Every Club Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national club fee established by USA Swimming and a local club fee established by Louisiana Swimming together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by Louisiana Swimming.

603.2 Affiliated Group Members

The Board of Directors shall establish the annual membership fees and any other charges, fees, etc., for Affiliated Group Members.

603.3 Athletes

Each Athlete Member and Seasonal Athlete Member shall pay an annual or seasonal fee, respectively, consisting of a national fee established by USA Swimming and a local fee established by Louisiana Swimming.

603.4 Coaches

Each Coach Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USA Swimming and a local fee established by Louisiana Swimming together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by Louisiana Swimming.

603.5 Active Individual Members

Each Active Individual Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USA Swimming and a local fee established by Louisiana Swimming together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by Louisiana Swimming.

603.6 Life Members

The Board of Directors shall establish the annual or other membership fees, if any, and any other charges, fees, etc., for Life Members.

603.7 Sanction, Approval, and Other Fees

.1 Sanction and Approval Fees

The Board of Directors shall establish reasonable fees, procedures, and documentation required of an applicant for a sanction or approval for, or observation of, a swimming competition to be conducted within the Territory.

.2 Service Charges

In addition to, or in place of, a sanction or approval fee, the Board of Directors may establish a reasonable service charge consistent with the nature of the event. For example, the service charge may be a flat amount, an amount related to the number of events swim, the number of individual swims, the number of athletes entered, the cost of equipment and pool time provided, a percentage of receipts or profits or a combination of one or more of those or other bases.

.3 Payment

Each applicant for a sanction, approval or observation shall submit with its application the fees and any service charges specified by Louisiana Swimming. If any of the sanction or approval fees or service charges are due at a time following the submission for sanction or approval, the applicant shall promptly pay those fees or service charges to Louisiana Swimming when due in accordance with Louisiana Swimming fee schedule.

603.8 Failure to Pay

.1 Group, Coach, and Active Individual Member Obligations

The failure of a Group Member, Coach Member, or Active Individual Member to pay dues, fees, service charges, fines or penalties imposed by Louisiana Swimming or USA Swimming, within the time prescribed, as evidenced by a final decision of the (i) a court of law, and/or (ii) the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of Review, shall preclude the delinquent member from (a) participating in events sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, Louisiana Swimming, Inc, or any other LSC or (c) serving as a Group Member Representative, coach, manager, official, trainer or in any other capacity with any Club Member or with any group member of any other LSC until the debt is satisfied.

.2 Athlete Membership Obligations

The failure of an Athlete Member or Seasonal Athlete Member to satisfy any financial obligations to USA Swimming, Louisiana Swimming, or their former LSCs, within the time

prescribed, as evidenced by a final decision of (i) a court of law, and/or (ii) the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review, the National Board of Review, shall preclude the delinquent member from (a) competing in any competition sanctioned by USA Swimming, (b) obtaining a reportable time achieved in events swum at any USA Swimming sanctioned, approved or observed meet, (c) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming,, Louisiana Swimming or any other LSC or (d) practicing, exercising, or otherwise participating in the activities of any Group Member of any group member of any other LSC until the debt is satisfied.

.3 Club / Individual Obligations

If a Club Member or a Seasonal Club Member has secured (i) a final court judgment against an Individual Member for non-payment of financial obligations owed to the Club Member, and (ii) a final decision of the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of Review suspending such Individual Member’s membership rights as set forth below, then until the court judgment is satisfied, the Individual Member shall not (a) compete in any competition sanctioned by USA Swimming, (b) obtain a reportable time in events swum at any USA Swimming approved or observed meet, (c) participate in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, Louisiana Swimming or any other LSC or (d) practice, exercise or otherwise participate in the activities of any Group Member or any group member of any other LSC.

.4 Individual / Club Obligations

If an Individual Member has secured a final decision of (i) a court of law and/or (ii) the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or National Board of Review against a Club Member for non-payment of financial obligations (such as a refund of training fees) to the Individual Member, then until the decision or judgment is satisfied, the delinquent or offending Club Member shall be precluded from (a) participating in events sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming and (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, Louisiana Swimming or any other LSC, including being represented in the House of Delegates by its Group Member Representative.

.5 Continued Failure to Pay; Termination of Membership

Continued failure to pay, within a reasonable period of time, after a final decision of a court of law, the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of review, as determined by the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of Review, shall be cause for termination of membership.

ARTICLE 604
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

604.1 Members

The House of Delegates of Louisiana Swimming shall consist of the Group Member Representatives, the voting Board of Members designated in Section 605.1 and the At-Large House Members.

.1 Group Member Representatives

Each Group Member in good standing shall appoint from its membership a Group Member Representative and one or more alternates. The appointment shall be in writing, addressed to the Secretary of Louisiana Swimming and duly certified by the chief executive officer or secretary of the appointing Group Member. The appointing Group Member may withdraw one or more of its Group Member Representatives or one or more of its alternates and substitute a new Group Member Representative or new alternates by written notice, addressed to the Secretary of Louisiana Swimming and signed by the chief executive officer or secretary of the appointing Group Member.

.2 At-Large House Members

Up to ten (10) at-large members of the House of Delegates may be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The At-Large House Members shall hold office from the date of appointment through the conclusion of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates following such appointment or until their successors are appointed to the House of Delegates.

.3 Athlete Representatives

Three (3) Athlete Representatives shall be elected, one each year for a two-year term, or until their respective successors are elected. At the time of election, the Athlete Representative must (a) be an Athlete Member in good standing, (b) be at least sixteen (16) years of age or at least a sophomore in high school; (c) be currently competing or have competed during the three (3) immediately preceding years, in the program of swimming conducted by Louisiana Swimming or another LSC; and (d) reside in the Territory and expect to reside therein, throughout at least the first half of the term. The election of the Athlete Representatives shall be conducted annually during the Louisiana Swimming Long Course Championship. The balloting shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose by the Senior Athlete Representative, or failing that, at a time and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors. The Athlete Representative elected shall be determined by a majority of the Athlete Members in good standing present and voting who are thirteen (13) years of age or older. Prior to the election, the current Athlete Representatives shall be asked to nominate one or more Athlete members for consideration.

.4 Coach Representative

One Coach Representative shall be elected, in even numbered years for a two-year term, or until a successor is elected. The election of the Coach Representative shall be conducted during the Louisiana Swimming House of Delegates Annual Meeting, by a majority of Coach Members in good standing and voting or, failing that, at a time and place and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors.

604.2 Eligibility

Only Individual Members in good standing shall be eligible to be elected or appointed members of, to be heard at or to vote at the House of Delegates in any capacity. Members of the House of Delegates must maintain their status as Individual Members in good standing throughout their terms of office.

604.3 Voice and Voting Rights of Members

The voice and voting rights of members of the House of Delegates and of Individual Members shall be as follows:

.1 Group Member Representatives, Board Members, Athlete Representatives, Coach Representative and At-Large House Members

Each of the Group Member Representatives, the Board Members, the Athlete Representatives, the Coach Representative and the At-Large House Members shall have both voice and one vote each in meetings of the House of Delegates.

.2 Affiliated Group Member Representatives

Group Member Representatives of Affiliated Group Members, unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the House of Delegates and its committees.

.3 Individual Members

Individual Members who are not members of the House of Delegates may attend open meetings of the House of Delegates and its committees and be heard in the discretion of the presiding officer. Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, Individual Members shall have no vote in meetings of the House of Delegates.

.4 Double Vote Prohibited

An Individual Member entitled to vote in the House of Delegates by virtue of holding a position in Louisiana Swimming may not also vote as a Group Member Representative in the House of Delegates.

604.4 Duties and Powers

The House of Delegates shall oversee the management of the affairs of Louisiana Swimming and the establishment of policies, procedures, and programs. In addition to the duties and powers prescribed in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the House of Delegates shall:

- .1 Elect the officers and the committee chairs and coordinators listed in Section 606.1 in accordance with Sections 606.2 through 606.6 and elect the regular and alternate members of the Board of Review.
- .2 Elect alternates to the USA Swimming House of Delegates in accordance with section 502.2 of the USA Swimming Code (see also Section 606.7.13.B);
- .3 Elect the members of the Nominating Committee;
- .4 Review, modify and adopt the annual budget of Louisiana Swimming recommended by the Board of Directors;
- .5 Call regular and special meetings of the House of Delegates;
- .6 Ratify or prospectively modify or rescind policy and program established by the Board of Directors, except any action or authorization by the Board of Directors with respect to contracts or upon which any person may have relied shall not be modified or rescinded;
- .7 Establish joint administrative committees, or undertake joint activities with other sports organizations where deemed helpful or necessary by Louisiana Swimming

- .8 Establish by resolution or the Louisiana Swimming Policies and Procedures Manual one or more committees of its members. The committees shall have the powers and duties specified in the resolution or the Louisiana Swimming Policies and Procedures Manual, which may include delegation of one or more of the powers and duties of the House of Delegates other than the powers to amend these Bylaws or remove Board Members and other elected officers;
- .9 Amend the Bylaws of Louisiana Swimming in accordance with Section 611.3; and
- .10 Remove from office any Board Members, members of the Board of Review, or committee chairs or members or coordinators who have failed to attend to their official duties or member responsibilities or have done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty by the Board of Review for any of the reasons set forth in Section 610.4.7C. However, no Board Member, Board of Review Member, elected Committee Chair or Coordinator, may be removed, except upon not less than thirty (30) days written notice by the Secretary or other officer designated by the House of Delegates, specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of member responsibilities or specific official duties or other reason. All notices and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Section 610.6.1 to the extent applicable. Should the Board Member, Board of Review member or elected committee chair or coordinator contest the alleged deficiency or other reason alleged in the notice, the House of Delegates shall hold a hearing at which the defendant shall have the same rights as if the hearing were to be conducted by the Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

604.5 Annual and Regular Meetings

The annual meeting of the House of Delegates of Louisiana Swimming shall be held the weekend following the USA Swimming Convention each year. Regular meetings of the House of Delegates shall be held during the Long and Short Course State Championships each year.

604.6 Special Meetings

Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be called by the Board of Directors or the General Chair. Should the Board of Directors or the General Chair fail to call the annual or scheduled regular meetings or should a special meeting be appropriate or helpful, a meeting of the House of Delegates may be called by a petition signed by at least fifteen (15) members of the House of Delegates or by at least three (3) Board members.

604.7 Meeting Location and Time

All meetings of the House of Delegates shall take place at a site within the Territory. The House of Delegates or the Board of Directors shall determine the location and time of all meetings of the House of Delegates.

604.8 Nominating Committee

.1 Members of Nominating Committee; Election

The Nominating Committee shall comprise the Immediate Past General Chair and not fewer than four (4) Individual Members. The Nominating Committee shall be elected annually by the House of Delegates. If the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion, the Board of Directors shall elect a Nominating Committee to serve until their successors are elected. A number greater than four may be designated from time to time by either the House of

Delegates or the Nominating Committee. Each Nominating Committee member shall be a member of the House of Delegates and no more than two members of the Nominating Committee shall be Board Members. Section 606.6.3 shall apply to members of the Nominating Committee, but service as the immediate Past General Chair shall not be counted for that purpose. If any member of the Nominating Committee resigns or otherwise becomes unable to participate in its affairs, the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a successor to serve until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. In No case shall the General Chair serve on the Nominating Committee.

.2 Chair

The Immediate Past General Chair shall serve as chair of the Nominating Committee.

.3 Duties of Nominating Committee

A slate of candidates for election as the officers, or committee chairs as specified in Section 606.1 and the regular and alternate members of the Board of Review to be elected at the next annual meeting shall be prepared by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee may in its discretion nominate a slate of one person for each position to be filled or may nominate more than one candidate for one or more of the positions. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate a slate of candidates for the Nominating Committee to be elected at the last regularly scheduled meeting before the next annual meeting of the House of Delegates.

.4 Publication of Nominations

Nominations by the Nominating Committee shall be published by distributing a slate of candidates together with the positions for which they have been nominated to each member of the House of Delegates and to each Group Member not less than twenty (20) calendar days prior to the election. This notice may be combined with the notice of the meeting pursuant to Section 604.15.1 where convenient. See Section 616.1.5 for the methods which may be used for the distribution.

.5 Additional Nominations

Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the House of Delegates by any member of the House of Delegates eligible to vote.

.6 Meetings and Notices

Meetings of the Nominating Committee shall take place at a site within the Territory when called by the Chair or any three members of the Committee with a minimum of six (6) days notice required. Pertinent provisions of Sections 607.5 through 607.11 and Section 616.1.5 also shall apply to the Nominating Committee's meetings and notices.

.7 Quorum

A quorum for any meeting of the Nominating Committee shall consist of not fewer than four (4) members. The committee shall act by a majority vote by its members voting in any meeting at which a quorum is present.

604.9 Meetings Open; Executive Sessions

.1 House of Delegates

House of Delegates meetings shall be open to all members of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. Issues pertaining to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, tax or similar affairs of Louisiana Swimming shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session which only House of Delegate members may attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege, the House of Delegates may decide to go into executive session on any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the House.

.2 House of Delegates Committees

All meetings and deliberations of the Nominating Committee shall be conducted in executive (closed) session. Meetings of all other committees established by the House of Delegates shall be open to all members of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming unless otherwise provided by the House of Delegates resolution creating the committee or by a vote of the committee as provided by the rules of the Parliamentary Authority.

604.10 Quorum

A quorum of the House of Delegates shall consist of those members present and voting.

604.11 Voting

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the Parliamentary Authority, all motions, orders and other propositions coming before the House of Delegates shall be determined by a majority vote. A motion or order calling for the removal of a member of the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review pursuant to Section 604.4.10 shall be determined by a two-thirds vote after at least thirty (30) days notice. See also Section 611.3 regarding amendment of these Bylaws.

604.12 Proxy Vote

Voting by proxy in any meeting of the House of Delegates shall not be permitted.

604.13 Mail Vote

Any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of the House of Delegates, except elections, removals of Board Members, members of the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review, elected committee chairs or coordinators and amendments of these Bylaws, may be taken by Mail Vote without a meeting. If an action is taken Mail Vote without a meeting, the Secretary, by first class mail, postage prepaid, shall distribute a written ballot to every member of the House of Delegates entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval, and provide a reasonable time (but in no event less than the period specified in Section 604.15.1) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary. Action by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast.

604.14 Order of Business

At all meetings of the House of Delegates, the following shall be included in the order of business to the extent possible. The order in which the various subjects are taken up may be varied.

- Roll call

- Reading, correction and adoption of minutes of previous meeting
- Reports of officers
- Reports of committees and coordinators
- Presentation and approval of the annual budget
- Presentation and approval of the annual audit pursuant to Section 608.5, when applicable
- Unfinished (old) business
- Elections
- New business
- Resolutions and orders
- Adjournment

604.15 Notices

.1 Time

Not less than twenty (20) days written notice shall be given to each member of the House of Delegates and each Group Member for any annual, regular, or special meeting of the House of Delegates. See Section 616.1.5 for the various permitted forms of notice.

.2 Information

The notice of a meeting shall contain the time, date and site. For special meetings of the House of Delegates, the expected purpose (which may be general) of the meeting shall be stated. If an expected purpose is the amendment of the Bylaws, a copy of the proposed amendment shall be included in the notice. Failure to have included in the notice any germane amendments subsequently adopted by the House of Delegates at the noticed meeting shall not be the basis for any claim that the amendments as so adopted are invalid.

ARTICLE 605

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

605.1 Members

The Board of Directors shall consist of the following officers, committee chairs, coordinators and representatives of Louisiana Swimming:

- A. General Chair
- B. Administrative Vice-Chair
- C. Senior Vice-Chair
- D. Age Group Vice-Chair
- E. Finance Vice-Chair
- F. Secretary
- G. Treasurer
- H. Coach Representative
- I. Three (3) Athlete Representatives
- J. Officials Chair
- K. Registration/Membership Chair
- L. Safety Chair

- M. Technical Planning Chair
- N. At-Large Board Members

605.2 At-Large Board Members

The Board of Directors will consist of five (5) At-Large Board Members, if necessary that are elected at the House of Delegates meeting. At-Large Board Members have both voice and vote.

605.3 Ex-Officio Members

The following persons shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors during the time period in which they meet the defined status: The Immediate Past General Chair of Louisiana Swimming, if an Individual Member in good standing.

605.4 Limitations

.1 Club Member Limitations

No more than three (3) members or coaches of any Club Member or Affiliated Group Member shall serve on the Board of Directors at any time. This limitation shall be applied separately as to Athlete Members and other Individual Members.

.2 Term of Office

The terms of office of all elected officers, committee chairs, and coordinators of the Board of Directors shall be two (2) years.

.3 Commencement of Term

Each person elected to a position as officers, committee chairs and coordinators shall assume the office or position upon election and shall serve until a success is chosen.

.4 Consecutive Terms

Except for the Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership/Registration Chair, no Individual Member who has been elected by the House of Delegates and served four successive years shall be eligible for re-election to the same position until a lapse of two (2) years. A portion of any term served to fill a vacancy in the position shall not be considered in the computation of this successive term limitation.

605.5 Voice and Voting Rights of Board Members

The voice and voting rights of Board Members and Individual Members shall be as follows:

.1 Board Members

Each Board Member listed in Section 605.1 shall have both voice and vote in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees.

.2 Individual Members

Individual Members who are not Board Members may attend open meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees and be heard in the discretion of the presiding officer. Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, Individual Members shall have no vote in meetings of the Board of Directors or its committees.

605.6 Duties and Powers

The Board of Directors shall act for Louisiana Swimming and the House of Delegates during the intervals between meetings of the House of Delegates, subject to the exercise by the House of Delegates of its powers of ratification or prospective modification or rescission, except that it shall not remove a Board Member, a Louisiana Swimming Board of Review member or other person elected by the House of Delegates or amend these Bylaws. In addition to the powers and duties prescribed in the USA Swimming Code or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to:

- .1 Establish and direct policies, procedures and programs for Louisiana Swimming;
- .2 Oversee the conduct by the officers and staff of Louisiana Swimming of the day-to-day management of the affairs of Louisiana Swimming;
- .3 Elect At-Large Board Members when the House of Delegates does not do so in a timely fashion;
- .4 Provide advice and consent to appointments proposed by the General Chair that require advice and consent under these Bylaws or the Louisiana Swimming Policies and Procedures Manual;
- .5 Cause the preparation and presentation to the House of Delegates of the annual budget of Louisiana Swimming and make a recommendation to the House of Delegates concerning the approval or disapproval thereof;
- .6 Receive presentation of the annual audit report pursuant to Section 608.5 and make a recommendation to the House of Delegates concerning the approval or disapproval thereof;
- .7 Call regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates;
- .8 Admit eligible prospective Group Members and Affiliated Individual Members;
- .9 Retain such independent contractors and employ such persons as the Board shall determine are necessary or appropriate to conduct the affairs of Louisiana Swimming;
- .10 Appoint other officers, agents, or committees or coordinators, to hold office for the terms specified. These appointees shall have the authority and perform the duties as provided in these Bylaws, the Louisiana Swimming Policies and Procedures Manual or as may be provided in the resolutions appointing them, including any powers of the Board of Directors as may be specified, except as may be inconsistent with any other provision of these Bylaws. To the extent not provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may delegate to any officer, agent, or committee or coordinator the power to appoint any such subordinate officers, agents, or committees or coordinators and to prescribe their respective terms of office, authorities and duties; and
- .11 Remove from office any officers, At-Large Board Members, committee chairs, or committee members or coordinators of Louisiana Swimming who were not elected by the House of Delegates and who have failed to attend to their official duties or member responsibilities or have done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty by the Board of Review for any of the reasons set forth in Article 404.1.3 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. No officer, At-Large Board Member, or committee chair or coordinator may be removed without receiving

the thirty (30) days written notice specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of the member's responsibilities under these Bylaws, the member's official duties or other reasons. All notices and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Article 406 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations to the extent applicable. Should the officer, At-Large Board Member, committee chair, or committee member or coordinator contest the alleged deficiency or other reason set forth in the notice, the Board of Directors shall hold a hearing at which the member shall have the same procedural rights as if the hearing were to be conducted by the Board of Review pursuant to Part Four of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

605.7 Executive Committee

.1 Authority and Power

The Executive Committee shall have the authority and power to act for the Board of Directors and Louisiana Swimming between meetings of the Board and the House of Delegates.

.2 Members

The members of the Executive Committee shall be the General Chair, who shall act as presiding officer, Administrative Vice-Chair, Senior Vice-Chair, Age Group Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Senior Athlete Representative and Coach Representative. The presiding officer shall appoint an Individual Member to serve as the secretary of the meeting.

.3 Meetings and Notice

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at any time or place within the Territory when called by the General Chair or any three (3) members of the Executive Committee with a minimum of three (3) days' notice required. Pertinent provisions of Sections 607.5 through 607.11 and Section 616.1.5 shall apply to the Executive Committee meetings and notices.

.4 Quorum

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of a majority of members of the Committee.

.5 Report of Action to Board of Directors

At the next regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall make a report of its activities since the last Board of Director's meeting for ratification or prospective modification or rescission; provided, however, any action of the Executive Committee upon which a third party may have relied (e.g., by signing or authorizing the signing of a contract) may not be modified or rescinded by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

605.8 Meetings Open; Executive (Closed) Sessions

Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings shall be open to all members of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. Matters relating to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, taxation or similar affairs shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session which only Board Members or Executive Committee members, respectively, are entitled to attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may decide to go into

executive session on any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

605.9 Participation Through Communications Equipment

Members of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may participate in meetings of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee through conference telephone or similar equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

605.10 Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in accordance with a schedule adopted by the Board of Directors.

605.11 Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the General Chair. Should the Board of Directors or the General Chair fail to call regular meetings or should a special meeting be appropriate or helpful, a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be called at the written request of any three (3) Board Members.

605.12 Quorum

A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the members.

605.13 Voting

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the Parliamentary Authority, all motions, orders and other propositions coming before the Board of Directors shall be determined by a majority vote. A motion, order or other proposal the affect of which is to override policy or program established by the House of Delegates shall be determined by a two-thirds vote after at least fourteen (14) days' notice.

605.14 Proxy Vote

Voting by proxy in any meeting of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall not be permitted.

605.15 Action by Written Consent

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may be taken without a meeting if all the Board Members or Executive Committee members entitled to vote consent to the action in writing and the written consents are filed with the records of the respective meetings. These consents shall be treated for all purposes as votes taken at a meeting.

605.16 Mail Vote

Any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, except elections, advice and consent to the General Chair's appointments, or removals of officers, committee chairs and members, may be taken without a meeting. If an action is to be taken without a meeting, the Secretary, by first class mail, postage prepaid, shall disburse a written ballot to every Board member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval, and provide a reasonable time (but in no event less than the period specified in Section 605.17) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary. Action by

written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast.

605.17 Notices

.1 Time

Not less than six (6) days notice shall be given to each Board Member for any annual, regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors. Separate notices need not be given for regular meetings that are designated in these Bylaws or otherwise scheduled and noticed well in advance. (See Section 616.1.5 for the various permitted forms of notice and the consequences thereof.)

.2 Information

The notice of a meeting shall contain the time, date and site and in the case of special meetings, the expected purpose, which may be general.

605.18 Order of Business

At all meetings of the Board of Directors the following shall be included in the order of business to the extent applicable. The order in which subjects are taken up may be varied.

- Roll call
- Reading, correction and adoption of minutes
- Report of Executive Committee
- Reports of officers
- Reports of committees and coordinators
- Presentation and approval of the annual budget and adoption of recommendation to the House of Delegates
- Presentation and approval of the annual audit pursuant to Section 608.5 and adoption of its recommendation to the House of Delegates
- Advice and Consent to Appointments
- Unfinished (old) business
- New business
- Approval of applications for Group Membership and Affiliated Individual Membership
- Elections
- Resolutions and orders
- Adjournment

ARTICLE 606 OFFICERS

606.1 Elected Officers, Non-Officers and Committee Chairs

.1 Elected Officers

The elected officers, committee chairs and coordinators and their year of election who shall be elected by the House of Delegates at its annual meeting are:

- General Chair (elected in even numbered years)
- Administrative Vice-Chair (elected in even numbered years)
- Senior Vice-Chair (elected in even numbered years)
- Age Group Vice-Chair (elected in odd numbered years)
- Coaches Representative (elected in even numbered years)

.2 Elected Non- Officers

The elected Non-Officers, committee chairs and coordinators and their year of election who shall be elected by the House of Delegates at its annual meeting are:

- Finance Vice-Chair (elected in even numbered years)
- Secretary (elected in even numbered years)
- Treasurer (elected in odd numbered years)
- Membership/Registration Chair (elected in odd numbered years)
- Officials Chair (elected in odd numbered years)
- Safety Chair (elected in odd numbered years)
- Technical Planning Chair (elected in odd numbered years)
- At Large Board Members (elected in odd numbered years)

606.2 Elections

The Officers listed in Section 606.1 shall be elected to two (2) year terms by the House of Delegates, at its annual meeting, with elections staggered between even and odd years as specified in Section 606.1.

606.3 Eligibility

Only Individual Members in good standing shall be eligible to hold offices listed in Section 606.1 and must maintain their eligibility throughout their term of office.

606.4 Double Vote Prohibited

See Section 604.3.4.

606.5 Offices Combined or Split

.1 Office Held by Two Persons

Any office other than General Chair, Finance Vice-Chair and Treasurer, may be held jointly by two Individual Members. This may be accomplished by the Nominating Committee nominating two Individual Members to serve as co-officers or by the House of Delegates electing two at the time of election. In the case of the Administrative Vice-Chair, the House of Delegates at the time of election shall designate one to be the successor to the General Chair; if no such designation is made, then the person with the longer tenure in such office or as a Board Member shall serve as the successor.

.2 Offices Combined

Any office other than General Chair may be combined with any other single office except that the offices of Finance Vice-Chair and Treasurer may not be combined. This may be accomplished by the Nominating Committee nominating single Individual Member to serve simultaneously as two officers or by the House of Delegates so electing at the time of election.

606.6 Terms of Office

.1 Term of Office

The terms of office of all elected members of the Board of Directors shall be two (2) years with the exception of the Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership/Registration Chair which shall be four (4) years.

.2 Commencement of Term

Each person elected as officers, committee chairs and coordinators shall assume the office or position upon election and shall serve until a successor is chosen.

.3 Consecutive Terms Limitation

See Section 605.4.4

606.7 Duties and Powers

The duties and powers of the Officers and Non-Officers and other Board Members shall be to attend and participate in all meetings of the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors and as follows:

.1 General Chair

The General Chair shall oversee and have general charge of the management, business, operations, affairs, and property of Louisiana Swimming, and general supervision over its officers and agents; shall call meetings when and where deemed necessary, shall preside at all meetings; and, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws and with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint committee chairs and members for standing and special committees as may be necessary to permit Louisiana Swimming to effectively, efficiently and economically conduct its affairs. The General Chair shall report to the Board of Directors all matters within the General Chair's knowledge that the Board of Directors should consider in the best interests of Louisiana Swimming.

.2 Administrative Vice-Chair

The Administrative Vice-Chair shall conduct meetings in the absence of the General Chair and, at the request of the General Chair or in the event of the disability of the General Chair, shall perform all of the duties of the General Chair, and when so acting shall have all of the powers of the General Chair (See Section 606.9). The Administrative Vice-Chair shall chair, and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the division that administers Louisiana Swimming business and affairs. The Administrative Vice-Chair shall aid in the development of policy and the coordination of the activities of the officers and committees within the division internally and with other divisions, and committees.

.3 Senior Vice-Chair

The Senior Vice-Chair shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the Committee that develops and conducts the senior swimming program of Louisiana Swimming. The Senior Vice-Chair or Administrative Vice-Chair develops long-range plans for swimming programs and serves as liaison to the Athlete Representatives and the Athletes Committee, and shall be responsible to see that the Athlete Representative election is held in accordance with Section 605.3.

.4 Age Group Vice-Chair

The Age Group Vice-Chair shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the Committee that develops and conducts the age group swimming program of Louisiana Swimming and is responsible for Championship Time Standards.

.5 Finance Vice-Chair

The Finance Vice-Chair is the chief financial officer of Louisiana Swimming. The Finance Vice-Chair shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the division that includes the Treasury function, the development and implementation of an investment program for Louisiana Swimming's working capital, funded reserves and endowment funds and the development and implementation of a marketing and fund-raising plan for Louisiana Swimming. The Finance Vice-Chair, with the assistance of the Budget Committee, shall prepare an annual budget for Louisiana Swimming's operations and present the budget for approval by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates. In addition, the Finance Vice-Chair shall cause to be conducted the audit required pursuant to Section 608.5 and shall review, or shall cause the Audit Committee to review, the annual audit report and recommend acceptance and appropriate action, if any, with regard thereto by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates. The Finance Vice-Chair is responsible for the adequacy of Louisiana Swimming's system of internal financial and accounting controls. The Finance Vice-Chair is the chair of the Finance and Budget Committees. Together with the Treasurer, the Finance Vice-Chair is ultimately responsible for Louisiana Swimming compliance's with Section 608.4.

.6 Secretary

The Secretary, or a delegate, shall be responsible for keeping a record of all meetings of the House of Delegates and Board of Directors, conducting official correspondence, issuing meeting and other notices and making such reports to USA Swimming as are required by Article 608 of these Bylaws and shall perform the other duties incidental to the office of Secretary. The Secretary or the Louisiana Swimming's permanent office, shall be custodian of the records and the seal of Louisiana Swimming, and attest the execution of, and cause the seal to be affixed to, all duly authorized instruments. The Secretary shall cause to be kept at Louisiana Swimming's permanent office copies of all minutes, official correspondence, meeting and other notices, and any other records of Louisiana Swimming and the Louisiana Swimming corporate seal.

.7 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be the principal receiving and disbursing officer of Louisiana Swimming. Except as otherwise directed by the Finance Vice-Chair, or the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall receive all moneys, incomes, fees, and other receipts of Louisiana Swimming and pay all bills, salaries, expenses and other disbursements approved by an authorized officer, committee chair, the Finance Vice-Chair, the Board of Directors, or the House of Delegates, or required to be paid pursuant to Section 610.3.12. When authorized by the Board of Directors, income and expenses may be received and paid by a division, officer, or committee provided that the division, officer or committee promptly submits to the Treasurer an itemized report, duly attested by the division, officer, or committee chair and either within the approved budget of such division, officer, or committee, or authorized by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. The Treasurer shall issue a quarterly report via email listing the current budget variances by line item, all receipts, all expenditures, and the current fund and account balances for the preceding quarter and for the fiscal year to date, together with such other items as the

Finance Vice-Chair, the General Chair, or the Board of Directors may direct. The Treasurer shall:

- A. have charge of and supervision over and be responsible for the funds, moneys, securities, and other financial instruments of Louisiana Swimming
- B. cause the moneys, securities, and other financial instruments of Louisiana Swimming to be deposited in the name and to the credit of Louisiana Swimming in such institutions as shall be designated in accordance with Section 606.11 or to be otherwise invested as the Finance Vice-Chair or the Board of Directors may direct;
- C. cause to be appropriately segregated and accounted for any endowment funds, scholarship, or award funds and any similar special purpose funds or accounts;
- D. cause the funds of Louisiana Swimming to be disbursed by checks or drafts, automated debits, or wire transfers upon the authorized depositories of Louisiana Swimming, and obtain and preserve proper vouchers for all moneys disbursed;
- E. cause to be kept at Louisiana Swimming's permanent office, correct books of account and other financial records of all its affairs and transactions and such duplicate books of account as the Board of Directors, the Finance Vice-Chair, or the Treasurer shall determine;
- F. upon request and at reasonable hours, cause such books or duplicates thereof to be exhibited by any member of the Board of Directors and upon application and at reasonable hours cause the quarterly financial reports; and the annual audited financial statement to be exhibited to any member of Louisiana Swimming or USA Swimming;
- G. cause Louisiana Swimming to be in compliance with the requirement of Section 608.4;
- H. have the power to require from the officers, committee chairs, or agents of Louisiana Swimming reports or statements giving such information as the Treasurer may determine to be appropriate or helpful with respect to any and all financial transactions of Louisiana Swimming;
- I. cause the annual audit of accounts of Louisiana Swimming to be performed and cause the preparation and timely filing of all required federal, state, and local tax returns, and other financial and tax reports with the applicable government official, and forward a copy of the annual financial statement and audit report and any federal tax return to the Secretary for submission to the Board of Directors and USA Swimming national headquarters in accordance with Sections 608.2 and 608.3;
- J. have the power to appoint one or more assistant treasurers and delegate to them one or more of the Treasury functions, or parts thereof; and
- K. in general, perform all the other duties incident to the corporate treasury function.

.8 Athlete Representatives

The Athlete Representatives shall serve as the liaison between the athletes who are members of Louisiana Swimming and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates.

.9 Coach Representative

The Coach Representative shall serve as a liaison between the coaches who are members of Louisiana Swimming and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates.

.10 At-Large Board Members

In addition to their inherent powers and duties as members of the Board of Directors, the At-Large Board Members shall have such powers and duties as may be delegated to them by the General Chair, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

.11 Louisiana Swimming Delegates to USA Swimming House of Delegates

A. Officer and Representative Delegates

It shall be the duty and privilege of the General Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, the Age Group Vice-Chair, the Senior Vice-Chair, the Senior Athlete Representative and the Coach Representative to attend the USA Swimming annual meeting as representatives of Louisiana Swimming and voting delegates to the USA Swimming House of Delegates.

B. Officer Delegate Alternates

If any of the officer delegates is unable to attend, their elected alternates, if any, shall attend in their places. In the event that there are no elected alternates or the elected alternates are unable to attend, then the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint alternates who shall attend the USA Swimming annual meeting as delegates representing Louisiana Swimming.

C. Athlete Representative Alternates

If an athlete delegate is unable to attend, the Athlete Representative next most senior in term of office shall attend. If seniority cannot be established or there remain no additional Athlete Representatives or alternates able to attend, then the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall designate one or more Athlete Members to attend as a representative of Louisiana Swimming.

D. Coach Representative Alternates

If the Coach Representative is unable to attend the USA Swimming annual meeting, then the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall designate another Coach Member to attend as a representative of Louisiana Swimming.

606.8 Resignations

Any officer may resign by orally advising the General Chair or by submitting a written resignation to the Board of Directors specifying an effective date of the resignation. In the absence of a specified effective date, any such resignation shall take effect upon the appointment or election of a successor.

606.9 Vacancies and Incapacities

.1 Office of General Chair

In the event of a vacancy in the office of General Chair, or of the General Chair's temporary or permanent incapacity, the Administrative Vice-Chair shall become the Acting General Chair until an election can be held at the next meeting of the House of Delegates to fill the remaining term, if any, of the former General Chair, or until the General Chair ceases to suffer from any temporary incapacity. While serving as Acting General Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair shall vacate the office of Administrative Vice-Chair, except in the case of the General Chair's temporary incapacity. If the General Chair is to be absent from the Territory, the General Chair may, but is not obligated to, designate the Administrative Vice-Chair as Acting General Chair for the duration of the absence.

.2 Offices of Athlete or Coach Representatives

In the event of a vacancy in the office of Athlete Representative or Coach Representative, or of the permanent incapacity of a person holding the office of Athlete Representative or Coach Representative, the General Chair may appoint, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, an Athlete Member or a Coach Member, as the case may be, to serve the remainder of the term of office or until the Board of Directors or Athletes Committee or the Coaches Committee, as the case may be, shall elect a successor.

.3 Other Offices

In the event of a vacancy in, or permanent incapacity of the person holding, any office other than General Chair, Athlete Representative, Coach Representative or member of the Board of Review, the General Chair shall appoint a successor, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, to serve until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Delegates. In the event of a temporary incapacity, the General Chair may designate, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, an Individual Member to act for the incapacitated officer for the duration of the incapacity.

.4 Determination of Vacancy or Incapacity

The determination of when an office becomes vacant or an officer becomes incapacitated shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates with, in the case of an Athlete Representative or a Coach Representative, the advice and consent of the Athletes Committee or the Coaches Committee, respectively. The determination as to when the General Chair is temporarily incapacitated shall be made, where the circumstances permit, by the General Chair and otherwise shall be within the reasonable discretion of the Board of Directors, subject to any subsequent action by the House of Delegates.

606.10 Officers' Powers Generally

.1 Authority to Execute Contracts, Etc.

The General Chair, Administrative Vice-Chair, and Finance Vice-Chair each may sign and execute in the name of Louisiana Swimming deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, agreements or other instruments duly authorized by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to another officer or agent, expressly requires two or more signatures or is

required by law to be otherwise executed. Additional signing authority may be provided by standing resolutions of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

.2 Additional Powers and Duties

Each officer shall have other powers and perform other duties as may be prescribed in Louisiana Swimming's Policies and Procedures Manual or by the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chair, the respective division Vice-Chairs, the delegating officer or these Bylaws. The division Vice-Chair shall have the additional duties and powers set forth in Section 607.4 and 607.5.

.3 Delegation

Officers of Louisiana Swimming may delegate any portion of their powers or duties to another Individual Member or to a committee composed of Individual Members, except that neither the Finance Vice-Chair nor the Treasurer may delegate duties to the other without the consent of the Board of Directors. In addition, the authority to sign checks, drafts, orders of withdrawal, or wire transfers shall not be delegated other than by the Board of Directors. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws and with the consent of the Board of Directors or, any officer may delegate any portion of that officer's powers or duties to the paid staff of Louisiana Swimming. A delegation of powers or duties shall not relieve the delegating officer of the ultimate responsibility to see that these duties and obligations are properly executed or fulfilled.

.4 Assistant and Deputy Officers

The House of Delegates or the Board of Directors may by resolution create the office of deputy to one or more of the elected officers. The resolution or the method of election or appointment and define the duties and powers of the respective deputies, which may include the power to act for the officer when the officer is out of the Territory or temporarily incapacitated. The elected officers may appoint one or more assistant officers and define their respective duties.

606.11 Depositories and Banking Authority

.1 Depositories, Etc.

All receipts, income, charges and fees of Louisiana Swimming shall be deposited to its credit in the banks, trust companies, other depositories or custodians, investment companies or investment management companies as the Board of Directors may select, or as may be selected by the Finance Vice-Chair or any officer or officers or agent authorized to do so by the Board of Directors. Endorsements for deposit to the credit of Louisiana Swimming in any of its duly authorized depositories shall be made in the manner determined by the Board of Directors. All funds of Louisiana Swimming not otherwise employed shall be maintained in the banks, trust companies, other depositories or custodians, investment companies or investment management companies designated by the Finance Vice-Chair, the Board of Directors or any officer or officers or agent or agents authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.

.2 Signature Authority

All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment or transfer for money, and all notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of Louisiana Swimming shall be signed by the General Chair, the Treasurer or other officer or officers or agent or agents of Louisiana

Swimming, and in the manner, as shall be determined by the Finance Vice-Chair or the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 607

DIVISION, COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

607.1 Divisional Organization and Jurisdictions, Standing Committees, and Coordinators

The six divisions of Louisiana Swimming shall each be chaired by elected officers, except for the Officials Division and Coaches Division. The Officials Division shall be chaired by the Officials Chair who shall be appointed by the General Chair, with the Advice and consent of the Board of Directors (see Section 607.3I). The Coaches Division shall be chaired by the Coaches Representative. Under each division, there are officers, committees, coordinators and direct responsibilities as follows:

.1 Administrative Division

- Chair: Administrative Vice-Chair
- Bylaws/Legislation/Rules
 - Elections
 - Equipment
 - Insurance
 - Legal
 - Membership/Registration
 - Times
 - Personnel
 - Public Relations
 - Publications/Newsletter
 - Policies
 - Records/Top 16 Tabulation
 - Swim Guide/Parents manual
 - Secretary
 - Special Events

.2 Age Group Division

- Chair: Age Group Vice-Chair
- Adaptive Swimming
 - Age Group
 - Camps/Clinics
 - Open water
 - Awards
 - Program Development
 - Technical Planning
 - Time Standards
 - Zone Team

.3 Senior Division

- Chair: Senior Vice-Chair

- Awards
- Camps/Clinics
- Meet Evaluation
- Meet Management
- Meet Sanctions
- Meet Sponsorship
- Open Water
- Safety

.4 Finance Division

Chair: Finance Vice-Chair

- Audit
- Budget
- Finance
- Marketing/Sponsorship
- Swim-a-thon
- Tax
- Treasurer

.5 Coaches Division

Chair: Coach Representative

- Coaches Committee
- Safety Coordinator or Committee
- Coaches Education

.6 Officials Division

Chair: Officials Chair

- Officials
- Officials Committee
- Officials Clinics

.7 Technical Planning Division

Chair: Technical Planning Chair

- Bylaws Administration
- Meet Schedule

.9 Athlete Division

Chair: Senior Athlete Representative

- Athlete Committee

607.2 Non-Officer Chairs and Their Committees

.1 Elected, Ex-Officio and Appointed Non-Officer Chairs

A. Elected Chairs

As provided in Section 606.1.2, certain non-officer committee chairs and coordinators shall be elected by the House of Delegates. Their eligibility, terms of office, etc. shall be

as provided in Sections 606.2, 606.3 and 606.6. These elected non-officer committee chairs and coordinators of Louisiana Swimming are:

- Membership / Registration Chair
- Officials Chair
- Safety Chair
- Technical Planning Chair

B. Ex-officio Chair

Pursuant to Section 607.3, certain other committee chairs are designated ex-officio by virtue of an office currently held.

C. Appointed Chairs or Coordinators

The chairs or coordinators of all other standing committees shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors and the respective division Vice-Chair. The appointed standing committee chairs shall assume office upon appointment on the date designated by the General Chair, and shall serve until sixty (60) days after the next election of a General Chair or until a successor is appointed and assumes office.

.2 Duties and Powers of Non-Officer Chairs and Coordinators

A. Membership / Registration Chair

The Membership/Registration Chair shall be responsible for the registration of Group and Individual Members and supervising the transmission of registration information to USA Swimming and assisting in the preparation of the reports required by Section 608.6, together with such additional reports as may be required by USA Swimming, the Board of Directors, the Administrative Vice-Chair or the Finance Vice-Chair.

B. Officials Chair

The Officials Chair shall chair the Officials Committee which is responsible for recruiting, training, certifying and supervising officials for Louisiana Swimming. The Officials Chair shall be a referee certified by Louisiana Swimming and each member of the Officials Committee shall be a certified official of Louisiana Swimming.

C. Safety Chair

The Safety Chair shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancement and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USA Swimming safety education information to all Group Members, athletes, coaches and officials of Louisiana Swimming. The Safety Chair shall develop safety education programs and policies for Louisiana Swimming, and make recommendations regarding same, and the implementation thereof, to the division Vice-Chair and the Board of Directors. When approved by the Board of Directors, shall be responsible for the coordination of the implementation of safety programs and policies by the Club Members. The Safety Chair shall prepare and transmits the reports required pursuant to Section 608.7. The Safety Chair shall oversee all the water safety training opportunities as needed and chairs the Safety Committee, if one exists.

D. Technical Planning Chair

The Technical Chair shall chair and have general charge of the property and operations of the Technical Committee that, in addition to such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors, is responsible for Technical Rules, Bylaws Administration, Long Range Planning, and State Meet Evaluations.

E. Athletes Committee Chair

Senior Athlete Representative shall chair and have general charge of the business of the Athletes Committee, which shall be responsible for the publication of an athletes' newsletter and shall undertake such other activities (a) delegated to it by the Board of Directors or the General Chair, or (b) undertaken by the Committee as being in the best interests of the Athlete Members, Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming and the sport of swimming.

F. Coaches Committee Chair

The Coach Representative shall chair and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of, the Coaches Committee which shall undertake such activities (a) delegated to it by the Board of Directors or the General Chair, or (b) undertaken by the committee as being in the best interests of the Coach Members, Louisiana Swimming and the sport of swimming.

607.3 Members and Ex-Officio Members of Standing Committees

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors, members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the respective division Vice-Chair and the chair of the committee. The division Vice-Chair shall be an ex-officio member (with voice and vote) of each standing committee within the respective division. The ex-officio members and other designated members of certain standing committees shall be as follows:

.1 Athletes Committee

The Senior Athlete Representative shall chair the Athletes Committee which shall consist of the Athlete Representatives identified in Section 605.3 and at least three other Athlete Members or Seasonal Athlete Members. The Senior Athlete Representative or the Athletes Committee shall determine the number of additional Athlete members.

.2 Audit Committee

The Finance Vice-Chair shall chair the Audit Committee, which shall consist of the Finance Vice-Chair, Administrative Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Coach Representative and such other members as the Board of Directors or General Chair may appoint.

.3 Budget Committee

The Finance Vice-Chair shall chair the Budget Committee which shall consist of the General Chair, Administrative Vice-Chair, Finance Vice-Chair, Treasurer and such other members as the Board of Directors or General Chair may appoint.

.4 Coaches Committee

The Coach Representative shall be the chair of the Coaches Committee, which shall consist of the Coach Representatives and such additional Coach Members and other Individual Members as may be determined by the Board of Directors, Coach Representatives or Coaches Committee.

.5 Finance Committee

The Finance Vice-Chair shall chair the Finance Committee, which shall consist of the General Chair, the Finance Vice-Chair, Administrative Vice-Chair, the Treasurer, and such other members as the Board of Directors or General Chair may appoint.

.6 Officials Committee

The Officials Chair shall chair the Officials Committee, which shall consist of the Officials Chair and at least four (4) other designated Individual Members who shall be certified officials of Louisiana Swimming.

.7 Safety Committee

The Safety Chair shall serve as the chair of the Safety Committee which shall consist of the Safety Chair and five (5) additional members; one shall be a Louisiana Swimming certified official, one shall be a Coach Member, one shall be an Athlete Member and two shall be Club Safety Coordinators.

.8 Technical Planning Committee

The Technical Planning Chair shall chair the Technical Planning Committee, which shall consist of the Technical Planning Chair, General Chair, Administrative Vice-Chair, Coaches Representative, Senior Athlete Representative, Finance Vice-Chair, Officials Chair, and such other members as the Board of Directors or General Chair may appoint. The Technical Planning Committee is expected to form and operate through sub-committees for, among other things, Technical Rules, Bylaws Administration, and Long Range Planning. Members of the Technical Planning Committee may serve on only one, or on more than one sub-committee.

The General Chair or the respective division Vice-Chair may appoint the specified additional members and any other members deemed appropriate or necessary for any of the foregoing standing committees, except the Athletes and Coaches Committee. Committee members appointed pursuant to the preceding sentence shall hold their appointments at the pleasure of the appointing officer or successor.

607.4 Duties and Powers of Standing Committees and Coordinators

.1 Athletes Committee

The Athletes Committee shall act as an information resource as well as a sounding board for ideas and issues important in Louisiana Swimming. Under the leadership of the Senior Athlete Representative, the Athletes' committee attempts to improve all aspects of Louisiana Swimming from communication to the running of swim meets. Committee members coordinate and facilitate the identification of an athlete representative from each Club Member with whom to establish and maintain effective lines of communication.

.2 Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is authorized to, and it shall be its duty to, conduct the annual audit of the books of Louisiana Swimming pursuant to Section 608.5 and present the results thereof to the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates or (a) annually recommend an independent auditor to the Board of Directors, (b) review and negotiate the services to be performed by the

independent auditor, (c) receive and review the audit and other reports submitted by the independent auditor and (d) submit the audit and other reports and make recommendations to the Board of Directors with regard thereto.

.3 Budget Committee

The Budget Committee is authorized and obligated to consult with the officers, committee chair and coordinators and prepare and present a proposed budget for consideration and approval by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates. The officers, committee chairs and coordinators shall provide promptly such financial information (current and projected) and budget proposals as the Budget Committee may request. The proposed budget may contain alternatives.

.4 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is authorized and obligated to develop, establish where so authorized or recommend to the Board of Directors and supervise the execution of policy regarding the investment of Louisiana Swimming working capital, funded reserves and endowment funds, within the guidelines, if any, established by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. The Finance Committee shall also regularly review Louisiana Swimming equipment needs (both operational and office) and the various methods available to finance the acquisition of any needed equipment, make a determination of the best financing method for Louisiana Swimming and make recommendations to the Budget Committee and the Board of Directors.

.5 Membership / Registration Chair

The Membership/Registration Chair is authorized and obligated to conduct the registration of Group and Individual Members and supervise the transmission of registration information to USA Swimming and assist in the preparation of the reports required by Section 608.6, together with such additional reports as may be requested by USA Swimming, the Board of Directors, the Administrative Vice-Chair or the Finance Vice-Chair.

.6 Officials Committee

The Officials Committee is authorized and obligated to recruit, trade, test, certify, evaluate, retest, recertify and supervise officials for Louisiana Swimming and such other activities as may be necessary or helpful in maintaining a roster of qualified, well-trained and experienced officials of the highest caliber.

.7 Safety Committee

The Safety Committee shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancement and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USA Swimming safety education information to all Group members, athletes, coaches and officials of Louisiana Swimming. The Safety Committee shall develop safety education programs and policy for Louisiana Swimming and make recommendations regarding those programs and policies and their implantation to the applicable division Vice-Chair and the Board of Directors. When approved by the Board of Directors, the Safety Committee shall be responsible for the coordination of their implementation by the Club members. The Safety Chair with the assistance of the Committee members shall prepare and transmit the reports required pursuant to Section 608.7.

.8 Technical Planning Committee

Technical Planning Committee shall be responsible for long-range planning for the swimming programs conducted by Louisiana Swimming and for advice regarding the technical aspects of those programs and of the sport of swimming generally.

607.5 Duties and Powers of Chairs and Coordinators Generally

The duties and powers of the General Chair, the division Vice-Chairs, committees or subcommittees (in addition to those provided elsewhere in these Bylaws) and, when applicable, coordinators shall be as follows:

- .1 Preside at all meetings of the respective division, committee or subcommittee;
- .2 Assure that all duties and responsibilities of the respective division, committee or subcommittee in his/her charge are properly and promptly carried out;
- .3 Appoint such committee or sub-committee as may be necessary to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the division or committee, respectively;
- .4 Communicate with the respective division, committee or subcommittee members to keep them fully informed;
- .5 Keep the General Chair, the respective division Vice-Chair or committee chair and the staff of Louisiana Swimming office informed of the respective coordinator, division, committee or subcommittee actions and recommendations;
- .6 Appoint a member as secretary of the division, committee or sub-committee charged with taking minutes and forward reports or minutes of all meetings to the Louisiana Swimming Secretary;
- .7 Refer to the Board of Directors any recommendation for action which would establish or change policies or programs for Louisiana Swimming , except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors; and
- .8 Perform the other specific duties as may be delegated by the General Chair, the respective division Vice-Chair or committee chair, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

607.6 Duties and Powers of Committees Generally

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the duties and powers of the standing committees shall be prescribed by Louisiana Swimming, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chair or the respective division Vice-Chair. Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws, the duties and powers of any other committees and subcommittees shall be prescribed by Louisiana Swimming, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or the officer, chair pursuant to whose powers such committee or subcommittee was created.

607.7 Regular and Special Meetings

Regular and special meetings of divisions, committees or sub-committees of Louisiana Swimming shall be held as determined by the respective Vice-Chairs or committee or sub-committee chairs. In

addition, meetings may be called where applicable by the division Vice-Chair, or committee chair pursuant to whose authority a committee or sub-committee was established.

607.8 Meetings Open; Executive (Closed) Sessions

Meetings of divisions, committees and sub-committees shall be open to all members of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. Matters relating to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, taxation and similar affairs shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session which only the respective members are entitled to attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege a division, committee or sub-committee may decide to go into executive session on any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the division, committee or sub-committee.

607.9 Voice and Voting Rights Division, Committee, and Sub-Committee Members

The voice and voting rights of Board Members and Individual Members shall be as follows:

.1 Members

Each division, committee and sub-committee member shall have both voice and vote in the respective meetings.

.2 Non-Voting Committee or Sub-Committee Members

Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, the General Chair shall have voice but no vote in meetings of divisions, committees, and sub-committees.

.3 Individual Members

Individual Members who are not members of the division, committee, or sub-committee may attend open meetings of the division, committee or sub-committee and be heard in the discretion of the presiding officer. Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, Individual Members shall have no vote in those meetings.

607.10 Action by Written Consent

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of a division, committee or sub-committee may be taken without a meeting if all the division, committee or sub-committee members entitled to vote consent to the action in writing and the written consents are filed with the records of the meetings. These consents shall be treated for all purposes as a vote taken at a meeting.

607.11 Participation Through Communications Equipment

Members of any division, committee or sub-committee may participate in a meeting of the division, committee or sub-committee through conference telephone or similar equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

607.12 Quorum

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or in the resolution or other action establishing a committee or subcommittee, a quorum of any committee or subcommittee shall consist of a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee.

607.13 Voting

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the Parliamentary Authority, all motions orders and other propositions coming before a division, committee or subcommittee shall be determined by a majority vote.

607.14 Proxy Vote

Voting by proxy in any meeting of a division, committee or Louisiana Swimming sub-committee of shall not be permitted.

607.15 Notices

.1 Time

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the resolution or other action establishing a committee or sub-committee, not less than forty-eight (48) hours' notice in the case of notice given by telephone, and six (6) days' notice in all other cases, shall be given for any meeting of a division, committee or sub-committee of Louisiana Swimming. Separate notices need not be given for regular meetings that are scheduled well in advance. (See Section 616.1.5 for the various forms of notice.)

.2 Information

The notice of a meeting shall contain the time, date and site.

607.16 Order of Business

At all meetings conducted under the authority of this Article, the following shall be included in the order of business to the extent applicable; the order in which subjects are taken up may be varied:

- Roll call
- Reading, correction and adoption of minutes
- Reports of coordinators, committees and subcommittees
- Unfinished (old) business
- New business
- Resolutions and orders
- Adjournment

607.17 Resignations

Any committee or subcommittee chair or member may resign by orally advising the General Chair or by submitting a written resignation to the Board of Directors specifying an effective date of the resignation. If such date is not specified, the resignation shall take effect upon the appointment of a successor.

607.18 Vacancies

The determination of when the position of an appointed committee or subcommittee chair, committee member becomes vacant or the person becomes incapacitated, if not made by the person, shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors. (See Section 606.9 for provisions applicable to elected committee chairs). In the event of a vacancy or permanent incapacity the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors and the respective division Vice-Chair, shall appoint a

successor to serve until the conclusion of the incumbent's term. A temporary incapacity may be left unfulfilled at the discretion of the General Chair or an appointment may be made for the duration of the temporary incapacity.

607.19 Delegation

With the consent of the Board of Directors or the respective division Vice-Chair, a committee or subcommittee chair may delegate a portion of their powers or duties to another officer of Louisiana Swimming, or to another committee, subcommittee or coordinator, or not withstanding any delegation, the ultimate responsibility for the delegated duties and obligations shall remain with the delegator.

607.20 Application to Executive and Nominating Committees and Board of Review

Sections 607.5 through 607.16 shall apply to the Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee and any other committee of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws. These provisions shall also apply to Board of Review meetings, but shall not apply to its hearings or deliberations.

ARTICLE 608

ANNUAL AUDIT, REPORTS AND REMITTANCES

608.1 Minutes

The Secretary shall, within thirty (30) days after each meeting of the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates, transmit a copy of the minutes of the meeting to the respective members and to USA Swimming national headquarters.

608.2 Financial and Federal Tax Reports

The Secretary shall forward to USA Swimming national headquarters a copy of the annual closing Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expense for the preceding fiscal year following completion of the audit of the accounts and internal financial controls and procedures of Louisiana Swimming and the report thereon prepared in accordance with Section 608.5, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the audit report and shall advise USA Swimming national headquarters within thirty (30) days following acceptance by the House of Delegates. Copies of any corresponding federal income tax return required to be filed by Louisiana Swimming under the Internal Revenue Code shall be included with the annual audit report sent to USA Swimming national headquarters.

608.3 State and Local Reports and Filings

The Secretary shall cause to be made all reports and non-tax filings and shall requisition from the Treasurer checks with which to pay an applicable fees required by its state of incorporation and by any other state or municipality in which it operates.

608.4 Public Availability of Certain Information

Louisiana Swimming shall cause to be made available at Louisiana Swimming's permanent office during regular business hours or at a reasonable location and time determined by Louisiana Swimming to anyone requesting to see a copy of Louisiana Swimming federal income tax and information returns for each of the last three years, and a copy of the materials submitted by USA Swimming to include

Louisiana Swimming in USA Swimming's group exemption ruling as required pursuant Internal Revenue Code Section 6104 and any similar requirements of applicable state or local taxes.

608.5 Annual Audit

An annual audit of the accounts, books and records of Louisiana Swimming shall be completed no later than the end of the third month following the end of its fiscal year. The audit, or review, shall be conducted by an independent auditor who shall be a certified public accountant or by the Audit Committee. The audit shall cover any federal, state or local income tax return that Louisiana Swimming is required to file under the Internal Revenue Code or applicable provisions of state or local law, rules or regulations, the balance sheet, the statement of income and expenses, check register and bank statements and other records as is deemed appropriate. If the audit, or review, is conducted by the Audit Committee or the Finance Committee, the committee shall issue a report signed by all of its members and stating that the financial records and reports of Louisiana Swimming have been reviewed and fairly present the financial condition of Louisiana Swimming as of the date of the balance sheet and for the fiscal period of the statement of income and expenses and the report is true and correct to the best of the Committee's knowledge, information and belief. If the audit, or review, is conducted by an independent auditor, the report shall be in accord with generally accepted auditing practices applicable to the audit or review, as the case may be.

608.6 Membership and Registration Reports

The Membership/Registration Chair, shall forward in a timely manner all required reports to the Executive Director of USA Swimming. This report shall be accompanied by a remittance of the appropriate membership and registration fees due to USA Swimming. The Membership/Registration Chair shall make periodic summary reports to the Administrative Vice-Chair, the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates.

608.7 Safety Reports

.1 Incident/Occurrence Reports

An occurrence report providing all of the information requested by applicable USA Swimming form should be completed at the time of the occurrence by the meet director, officer, coach or club officer with copies to USA Swimming national headquarters, the Safety Committee Chair, Administrative Vice-Chair and the Louisiana Swimming office.

.2 Reports of Injuries

The Safety Committee Chair shall present a report concerning swimming-related injuries within the Territory at each House of Delegates and Board of Directors meeting.

A. House of Delegates Reports

The report to the House of Delegates shall be written and shall provide in summary form the pertinent information including where the injured party is a member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, the location of the occurrence and a brief description of the incident, the resulting injury and the emergency-care steps taken, together with any recommendation for action by Louisiana Swimming and its members to reduce the likelihood of a re-occurrence and the status of that recommendation. The written report shall include a review of the pertinent statistical information provided by USA Swimming national headquarters. The Safety Committee Chair is responsible for distribution of this report to each Club Safety Coordinator. A copy of

each House of Delegates report shall also be sent to the USA Swimming national headquarters.

B. Board of Directors Reports

The regular report to the Board of Directors may be a summary addressing primarily any recommendation for action by Louisiana Swimming and its members.

.3 Safety Education

The Safety Committee Chair shall be responsible for disseminating safety information flowing from USA Swimming Headquarters, and exploring safety education opportunities and developing a safety education program tailored to Louisiana Swimming and its members and Territory.

608.8 Mailing Address

Louisiana Swimming shall notify in writing USA Swimming national headquarters of any change in its regular mailing address within 14 days of the change.

608.9 Reports Generally

Louisiana Swimming shall make all reports and remittances to USA Swimming as specified in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or by the USA Swimming Board of Directors or House of Delegates, in such a manner and on such written forms as may be requested by USA Swimming national headquarters. The General Chair, the Membership/Registration Chair, the Secretary, the Finance Vice-Chair and the Treasurer shall be collectively responsible to seeing that all required reports and remittances are made.

ARTICLE 609

MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

609.1 Individual Members' Bill of Rights

Louisiana Swimming, in furtherance of Article 301 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, shall respect and protect the right of every Individual Member who is eligible under Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming, and FINA rules and regulations, to participate in any competition as an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, meet director or other official, so long as the competition is conducted in compliance with Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming and FINA requirements. Before any Individual Member is denied the right to participate in a competition, the individual shall have the right to request and have a hearing before, and a determination of, the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of Review. If the Individual Member is permitted to participate subject to a protest, a hearing and determination may take place after the competition is concluded.

609.2 Club Members' Bill of Rights

Louisiana Swimming shall respect and protect the right of every Club Member which is eligible under Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming and FINA rules and regulations, to participate in any competition through its athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, meet director and other officials, so long as the competition is conducted in compliance with Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming and FINA requirements. Before any Club Member is denied the right to participate in a competition, the Club

Member shall have the right to request and have a hearing before, and a determination of, the Board of Review or the National Board of Review. If the Club Member is permitted to participate subject to a protest, a hearing and determination may take place after the competition is concluded.

ARTICLE 610

BOARD OF REVIEW, HEARINGS AND RIGHT OF APPEAL

610.1 Introduction

USA Swimming was organized as the National Governing Body for the sport of Swimming under the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, as amended by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act of 1998, both federal laws. These laws require USA Swimming to establish and maintain provisions for the swift and equitable resolution of all disputes involving any of its members. This Article 610, together with Section 602.2 and Article 609 of these Bylaws, the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations are intended to provide a clear statement of member responsibilities, liabilities for infractions thereof and a mechanism for resolving in an orderly and fair way all manner and kinds of disputes that may arise among its members in connection with the sport of swimming. Accordingly, Louisiana Swimming has established the Board of Review (the "Board") to hear complaints, protests and appeals regarding the administration and conduct (including acts and failures to act) of the sport of swimming in the Territory, conduct that may violate the USA Swimming Code of Conduct or otherwise violate the policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USA Swimming or Louisiana Swimming, or conduct that may bring USA Swimming, Louisiana Swimming, or the sport of swimming, into disrepute. This Article 610, together with Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, is intended to provide a uniform method of appeal from any decision, act or failure to act to which a member of Louisiana Swimming or, where the conduct occurred in the Territory, another LSC takes exception, and to provide an opportunity for a fair hearing before a group of independent and impartial people. This Article 610 and Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations shall be construed accordingly.

610.2 Board of Review Organization

.1 Establishment

The Board of Review of Louisiana Swimming shall be independent and impartial.

.2 Members

The Board of Review shall have at least five (5) regular members and at least three (3) alternate members. The Board of Review, and any panel hearing a case, shall have a sufficient number of athlete members to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of its membership. The House of Delegates may increase the number of regular or alternate members by resolution but subsequent to the adoption of these Bylaws may only decrease the number of regular or alternate members upon the expiration of the term of office of any incumbent members. When a matter is being heard by less than the full Board of Review, the panel hearing the case shall include a sufficient number of athlete members so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the hearing panel. No hearing shall proceed without the required athlete representation.

.3 Election; Term of Office; Eligibility

A. Election

The House of Delegates shall annually elect regular and alternate members of the Board of Review: Two (2) regular and two (2) alternate members shall be elected in even-numbered years and three (3) regular members and one alternate member in odd-numbered years.

B. Term of Office

The term of office shall be two (2) years. Each member and alternate member shall assume office upon election and shall serve until a successor is chosen.

C. Eligibility

Each regular and alternate member of the Board of Review shall be an Individual Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. In no case shall the General Chair serve on the Board of Review or elected members of the Board of Directors constitute a majority of the Board of Review.

.4 Chair Elected by Board; Other Officers

The Chair of the Board of Review (the "Chair"), who must be a regular member, shall be elected biennially by a majority vote of the regular members of the Board of Review. The Chair shall biennially appoint a Vice-Chair and a Secretary of the Board of Review, each of whom must be regular members. The Chair may appoint a Presiding Officer, who must be a regular member of the Board, to preside over one or more pending cases.

.5 Meetings

The Board of Review shall meet for administrative purposes as necessary, to elect the Chair, to adopt rules and procedures and to conduct other business as may be helpful, or necessary, to achieve the purposes of the Board of Review and efficiently exercise its duties and powers. Other meetings may be called by the Chair or any three regular members. When meeting for administrative purposes, those provisions of Article 0 that are specified in Section 0 shall apply to the Board of Review.

.6 Participation Through Communications Equipment

Members of the Board of Review may participate in a meeting or hearing of the Board of Review and any hearing may be conducted, in whole or in part, through conference telephone or similar equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by these means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting or hearing.

.7 Quorum

A quorum for any administrative meeting of the Board of Review shall be fifty percent (50%) of its regular members, including athlete members.

.8 Resignations

Any regular or alternate member of the Board of Review may resign by orally advising the Chair or by submitting a written resignation to the Chair, the General Chair or the Board of Directors specifying an effective date of the resignation. In the absence of a specified effective date, any such resignation shall take effect upon the appointment or election of a successor.

.9 Incapacities and Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chair, a Presiding Officer of any panel or other members of the Board of Review, the LSC shall have in place reasonable written and published rules consistent with the laws of the state of incorporation of the LSC to determine when such membership on the Board of Review becomes vacant or a Chair, Presiding Officer or member becomes incapacitated. The determination as to when the Chair is temporarily incapacitated shall be made, where the circumstances permit, by the Chair and otherwise shall be within the reasonable discretion of the Board of Review, subject to any subsequent action of the House of Delegates.

.10 Substitutions for Members

In the event that a member of the Board of Review or a Presiding Officer is unable or unwilling to promptly act for any reason, recuses herself or himself or is disqualified in any particular circumstance, the Chair (or, if the person so unable or unwilling to act or recused or disqualified is the Chair, the Vice-Chair; or failing that, the General Chair) shall appoint another regular member or one of the alternate members or, if none of the alternate or regular members is available, a disinterested Individual Member to act in the member's place and stead in respect of that circumstance.

.11 Advice; Attorney as Presiding Officer

A. Legal and Other Advice

Where appropriate or helpful, the Chair or Presiding Officer may consult the USA Swimming General Counsel, the Chair of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or Officials Committees or of the Bylaws Subcommittee or an attorney (who need not be a member of Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming or the Board of Review) retained by the Board of Review or the Chair regarding any issue raised by a proceeding.

B. Attorney as Presiding Officer

The Board of Review or the Chair may retain an attorney (who need not be a member of Louisiana Swimming, USA Swimming or the Board of Review) to act as Presiding Officer at any hearing where it is appropriate or helpful. A Presiding Officer who is not a Board of Review member may not participate in the deliberations of the Board of Review or the designated panel or have a vote.

C. Attorney's Fees and Expenses

Prior to retaining an attorney on any basis requiring the payment of fees to the attorney (the payment of expenses to an attorney providing services at no charge [pro bono publico] shall not be considered as a payment of fees for this purpose), the Chair or the Presiding Officer shall consult with the General Chair and the USA Swimming General Counsel. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to pay any fee and expenses charged by the attorney and approved by the Chair.

610.3 General

.1 Administrative Powers

The Board of Review shall have the powers and the duty to:

- A. Administer and conduct the affairs and achieve the purposes of the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review;
- B. Establish policies, procedures and guidelines;
- C. Elect the Chair in accordance with Section 610.2.4;
- D. Elect or provide for the appointment of other officers, agents, committees or coordinators to hold office for terms, and to have the powers and duties, specified;
- E. Call regular or special meetings of the Board of Review;
- F. Retain attorneys, agents and independent contractors and employ those persons which the Board of Review may determine are appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs (see 610.2.11); and
- G. Take such action as may otherwise be appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs, the achievement of its purposes and the efficient exercise of its duties and powers.

.2 Rule Making Powers

The Board of Review shall have the power and the duty to promulgate reasonable rules and procedures consistent with the corporation laws of the State of Louisiana with respect to any matter within its jurisdiction or appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs. Such rules and procedures shall have the same force and effect as if they had been adopted as part of these Bylaws.

.3 Exercise of Powers and Decisions

Except for authority and power granted to the Chair or the Presiding Officer, the exercise of the authority and powers of the Board of Review and the decision of matters which are the subject of a hearing shall be decided by a majority vote of the panel, the rehearing panel or the regular membership of the Board of Review. The views of any dissenters shall be included in the record of the proceeding if requested by the dissenters. The exercise of the Board of Review's authority and power shall lye solely in its discretion and the interests of justice and the sport of swimming. However, the Board of Review shall exercise its power in response to a timely Petition filed with it, subject, in appropriate circumstances, to the power and discretion of the Chair or Presiding Officer to dismiss a Petition with permission to re-file for a stated period. In connection with any preliminary investigation, the Chair or Presiding Officer may offer the services of a Board of Review member to act as a mediator or similar positions under other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

.4 Timeliness of Petition

The Board of Review need not exercise its jurisdiction with respect to a Petition the subject matter of which occurred, or concerns or is founded on events which occurred, more than ninety (90) days prior to the date the Petition is received (as determined under 406.1 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations). A determination not to exercise its jurisdiction as a result of the untimeliness of a Petition may be made by the Chair alone and may be the subject

of a request for rehearing and, thereafter, appeal to the National Board of Review pursuant to Article 408 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

.5 Filing Fees

The Board of Directors or the House of Delegates may impose a schedule of generally applicable fees to be collected at the time a Petition, Request for a Rehearing or Request for Formal Hearing following an Emergency Hearing is filed with the Board of Review. If, on its own initiative or upon written request, the Board of Review determines it to be in the interest of justice and the sport of swimming, the filing fee may be waived on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE 611

ORGANIZATION, AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND DISSOLUTION

611.1 Non-Profit and Charitable Purposes

As stated in Section 601.2, Louisiana Swimming is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and for the purpose of fostering national or international amateur sports competition within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, Louisiana Swimming shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, (1) engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes and objectives of Louisiana Swimming, or (2) engage in any activities not permitted to be carried on by: (A) a corporation exempt from federal income tax under such section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (B) a corporation to which contributions, gifts and bequests are deductible under sections 170(c)(2), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

611.2 Dedication of Assets, Etc.

The revenues, properties and assets of Louisiana Swimming are irrevocably dedicated to the purposes set forth in Sections 601.2 and 611.1 of these Bylaws. No part of the net earnings, properties or assets of Louisiana Swimming shall inure to the benefit of any private person, or any member, officer or director of Louisiana Swimming

611.3 Amendments

Any provision of these Bylaws not mandated by USA Swimming may be amended at any meeting of the House of Delegates by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the members present and voting. Amendments so approved shall not take effect until reviewed and approved by the USA Swimming Bylaws Subcommittee.

611.4 Dissolution

Louisiana Swimming may be dissolved only upon a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote of all the voting members of the House of Delegates. Upon dissolution, the net assets of Louisiana Swimming shall not inure to the benefit of any private individual, unincorporated organization or corporation, including any member, officer or director of Louisiana Swimming, but shall be distributed to USA Swimming, to be used exclusively for educational or charitable purposes. If USA Swimming is not then in existence, or is not then a corporation which is exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and to which contributions, bequests and gifts are deductible under sections 170(c)(2), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, the net assets of Louisiana Swimming shall be distributed to a

corporation or other organization meeting those criteria and designated by the House of Delegates at the time of dissolution, to be used exclusively for educational or charitable purposes.

ARTICLE 612

INDEMNIFICATION

612.1 Indemnity

Louisiana Swimming shall indemnify, protect and defend, in the manner and to the full extent permitted by law, any Indemnified Person in respect of any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether or not by or in the right of Louisiana Swimming, and whether civil, criminal, administrative, investigative or otherwise, by reason of the fact that the Indemnified Person bears or bore one or more of the relationships to Louisiana Swimming specified in Section 612.3 and was acting or failing to act in one or more of those capacities or reasonably believed that to be the case. Where specifically required by law, this indemnification shall be made only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination, in the manner provided by law, that indemnification of the Indemnified Person is proper in the circumstances. Louisiana Swimming may, to the full extent permitted by law, purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any Indemnified Person against any liability that could be asserted against the Indemnified Person.

612.2 Exclusion

The indemnification provided by this Article 612, shall not apply to any Indemnified Party whose otherwise indemnified conduct is finally determined to have been in bad faith, self-dealing, gross negligence, wanton and willful disregard of applicable laws, rules and regulations, the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, the USA Swimming Code of Conduct or these Bylaws or who is convicted of a crime (including felony, misdemeanor, and lesser crimes) involving sexual misconduct, child abuse, violation of a law specifically designed to protect minors or similar offenses, or who is found by the Louisiana Swimming Board of Review or the National Board of Review to have committed actions which would be the basis for a conviction and, in each case, the otherwise identifiable conduct (or failure to act) was, or was directly related to, the predicate acts of the conviction or finding.

612.3 Indemnified Persons

As used in this Article 612, "Indemnified Person" shall mean any person who is or was a Board Member, Board of Review Chair, Vice-Chair, Presiding Officer or member, Group Member Representative, officer, official, coach, committee chair or member, coordinator, volunteer, employee or agent of the Louisiana Swimming, or is or was serving at the direct request of Louisiana Swimming as a director, officer, Group Member Representative, meet director, official, coach, committee chair or member, coordinator, volunteer, employee or agent of another person or entity involved with the sport of swimming.

612.4 Extent of Indemnity

To the full extent permitted by law, the indemnification provided in this Article shall include expenses (including attorneys' fees, disbursement and expenses), judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement, and, except as limited by applicable laws, these expenses shall be paid by Louisiana Swimming in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding. If doubt exists as to the applicability of an exclusion to Louisiana Swimming obligation to indemnify, Louisiana Swimming may require an undertaking from the Indemnified Person obliging him to repay such sums if it is

subsequently determined that an exclusion is applicable. In the case of any person engaged in the sport of swimming for compensation or other gain, if Louisiana Swimming determines that there is reasonable doubt as to such person's ability to make any repayment, Louisiana Swimming shall not be obligated to make any payments in advance of the final determination. This indemnification shall not be deemed to limit the right of Louisiana Swimming to indemnify any other person for any such expenses to the full extent permitted by law, nor shall it be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which any Indemnified Person may be entitled under any agreement, vote of members or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in an official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

612.5 Successors, Etc.

The indemnification provided by this Article shall continue as to an Indemnified Person who has died or been determined to be legally incompetent and shall apply for the benefit or the successors, guardians, conservators, heirs, executors, administrators and trustees of the Indemnified Person.

ARTICLE 613 PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

613.1 Robert's Rules

The rules in the then current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern Louisiana Swimming and any of its constituent or component parts, committees, etc., in the conduct of meetings in all cases to which they apply and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order Louisiana Swimming, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or its divisions, committees, etc., may adopt or as set forth in the next paragraph.

613.2 Voice and Vote

Where in these Bylaws an Individual Member is described as having voice but not the right to vote, that Individual Member may participate in debate and ask pertinent questions in the discretion of the presiding officer, but may not make or second motions, orders or other proposals.

ARTICLE 614 PERMANENT OFFICE AND STAFF

614.1 Office

Louisiana Swimming shall maintain an office in the Territory for the storage and maintenance of the books and records and equipment of Louisiana Swimming and for other purposes as may be determined by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors in accordance with these Bylaws.

614.2 Staff

Louisiana Swimming shall retain paid staff at the Louisiana Swimming Office as the Board of Directors may determine to be appropriate or necessary. The staff shall be under the general supervision of the General Chair and the Administrative Vice-Chair. With respect to delegated functions of the officers, committee chairs and coordinators, the staff shall be responsible to the respective officer, committee

chair or coordinator. The powers and duties of the paid staff shall be established in Louisiana Swimming Policies and Procedures Manual or by resolution of the Board of Directors or by delegation approved by the Personnel Committee.

614.3 Appropriations

The Budget Committee shall include in its proposed budget a line item for the costs of Louisiana Swimming Office inclusive of the compensation and benefits costs of the paid staff. Once appropriated by the House of Delegates, the Personnel Committee shall be responsible, together with the General Chair, for the administration of those funds. The compensation of the staff shall to the extent possible be treated as confidential.

ARTICLE 615 MISCELLANEOUS

615.1 Effect of State Law Changes (Severability)

If any portion of these Bylaws shall be determined by a final judicial decision to be, or as a result of a change in the law of the State of Louisiana become, illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of these Bylaws shall continue in full force and effect.

615.2 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of Louisiana Swimming shall end on August 31st of each year.

615.3 Tax Status; Interpretation of Bylaws

It is intended that Louisiana Swimming shall have and continue to have the status of an organization which is exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and to which contributions, bequests and gifts are deductible for federal income, estate and gift tax purposes under sections 170(c) (2), 2055(a) (2) and 2522(a) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, respectively. Similarly, it is intended that Louisiana Swimming shall have that or similar status under the applicable state and local laws as will exempt it from taxation to the maximum extent possible to the extent not contrary to applicable federal requirements. These Bylaws shall be interpreted accordingly.

ARTICLE 616 DEFINITIONS, CONVENTIONS, AND RULES OF INTERPRETATION

616.1 Conventions and Rules of Interpretation

.1 Terms Generally

Whenever the context may require, any pronoun or official title shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine and neuter forms. The words "include", "includes" and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase "without limitation". The singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular as the context may require. Where the context

permits, the term “or” shall be interpreted as though it were “and/or”. Captions have been used for convenience only and shall not be used in interpreting the Bylaws.

.2 Capitalized Titles

Capitalized titles, such as Secretary or Treasurer, when appearing alone shall refer to Louisiana Swimming positions and not to USA Swimming or another organization.

.3 Principal Rule of Interpretation

The principal substantive rule of interpretation applicable to these Bylaws is set forth in Section 615.3.

.4 Rule of Interpretation Applicable to Article 610

Article 610 shall be interpreted generously in order to achieve the intent expressed in Section 610.1.

.5 Notice Deemed Given; Writings Deemed Delivered; Last Known Address

A. Notice by Mail

Notice given and other writings delivered by first class mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the last address shown on the records of Louisiana Swimming shall be deemed given or delivered upon the postmark date for all purposes under these Bylaws.

B. Notice by Fax or Email

Notice given and writings delivered by facsimile or electronic mail shall be deemed given or delivered upon oral, telephonic, electronic or written confirmation of recipient for all purposes under these Bylaws.

C. Notice by Telephone

Notice given by telephone shall be deemed given only when actually transmitted to the person entitled thereto for all purposes under these Bylaws. (Thus, for example, a message left on an answering machine or similar equipment or with a person other than the intended recipient shall not be notice given prior to the actual receipt by the intended recipient.)

C. Last Known Address

For all purposes under these Bylaws, the last known address of a member of Louisiana Swimming shall be the address given in the latest application for registration or membership in Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming filed with the Membership/Registration Chair; or the address given in a written notice of change of residence filed with that Chair. In all other cases the records maintained by the Secretary of Louisiana Swimming shall be used to ascertain the last known address.

.6 Time Period Convention

In computing time period established by these Bylaws, the initial time period (days or hours) shall not be included but the last period shall be included.

.7 Waiver of Notice Convention

Untimely or insufficient notice for any meeting held under the authority of these Bylaws shall be considered to have been waived if a member attends or participates in the meeting to which such notice referred or to which notice was lacking without, at the earliest opportunity, raising an objection of untimely or insufficient notice having been given for such meeting. If the member is a Group Member Representative, then the relevant Group Member shall be treated as having waived the untimely or insufficient notice to the same extent.

616.2 Definitions

When used in these Bylaws, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated in this Section, and the definition of such terms are equally applicable both to the singular and plural forms thereof. Where a cross reference to another Section of the Bylaws appears within a definition, the definition is qualified by the more complete definition found in that section. For an additional definition applicable solely to Article 612, see Section 612.3.

- .1 **“Active Individual Member”** shall mean an individual other than a Coach Member, or an Athlete Member or a Seasonal Athlete Member who is a trainer, manager, official, meet director, marshal, Board member, At-large House Member, officer or committee chair or member, coordinator, or a Group Member Representative or alternate and any other individual actively participating in the affairs of Louisiana Swimming or the sport of swimming and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.A)
- .2 **“Affiliated Group Member”** shall mean any organization which supports the sport of swimming and objectives and programs of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, but which does not have Athlete Members and Coach Members, which is in good standing as a Group Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming, and which is neither a Club Member or Seasonal Club member of Louisiana Swimming. (See Section 602.1.1.B.)
- .3 **“Affiliated Group Member Representative”** shall mean the individual appointed to represent an Affiliated Group member in the House of Delegates. See Section 604.1.1.
- .4 **“Affiliated Individual Member”** shall mean any individual interested in the objectives and programs of Louisiana Swimming who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory, who is in good standing as a member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming and who is not an Active Individual, Athlete or Coach Member. (See Section 602.1.2.D.)
- .5 **“Article”** shall mean the principal subdivisions of these Bylaws.
- .6 **“[Articles/Certificate] of Incorporation”** shall mean the document filed with the Secretary of State of Louisiana pursuant to which Louisiana Swimming was formed.
- .7 **“At-Large Board Member”** shall mean those Board Members designated as such. (see Section 605.2).
- .8 **“At-Large House Member”** shall mean the Individual Members appointed by the General Chair to be members of the House of Delegates. (See Section 604.1.2.)

- .9 **“Athlete Member”** shall mean any individual who competes or has competed during any part of the three (3) immediately preceding years in the sport of swimming and is in good standing as an Individual Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.A.)
- .10 **“Athlete Representative”** shall mean the Athlete Member elected to represent athletes in the House of Delegates and on the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 604.1.3.
- .11 **“Board Member”** shall mean a member of the Board of Directors, including the At-Large Board Members. Where the contexts requires, the term not include the Athlete Representatives or the Coach Representatives.
- .12 **“Board of Directors”** shall mean the Board of Directors of Louisiana Swimming.
- .13 **“Board of Review”** shall mean the investigative and judicial body of Louisiana Swimming established pursuant to Section 610.3.
- .14 **“Business Day”** shall mean a calendar day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal federal or state holiday anywhere within the Territory.
- .15 **“Bylaws”** shall mean these bylaws as adopted by, and in effect for, Louisiana Swimming.
- .16 **“Club”** shall mean an organization that has athletes and coaches engaged in the sport of swimming.
- .17 **“Club Member”** shall mean any club or other organization which is in good standing as a Group Member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming and has athletes and coaches and participates in the sport of swimming. All athletes and coaches of the club or organization must be Individual Members in good standing with Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.1.A.)
- .18 **“Club Member Representative”** shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Club Member in the House of Delegates pursuant to Section 604.1.1.
- .19 **“Club Safety Coordinator”** shall mean the Active Individual Member designated by each Club Member to serve as its liaison with Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming concerning safety matters. (See Section 602.2.3)
- .20 **“Coach Member”** shall mean any individual, whether or not affiliated with a Group Member, who has satisfactorily completed all safety and other training required by Louisiana Swimming and/or USA Swimming and who is in good standing as a member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 604.1.4.)
- .21 **“Coach Representative”** shall mean the Coach Member elected to represent the coaches in the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors. (Section 604.1.4)
- .22 **“Executive Committee”** shall mean the committee of the Board of Directors which may act for the Board of Directors between meetings. (See Section 605.7)

- .23 **“FINA”** shall mean the Federation Internationale de Natation, the international governing body for the sport of swimming.
- .24 **“Group Members”** shall mean Club Members, Seasonal Club Members, and Affiliated Group Members.
- .25 **“Group Member Representative”** shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Group Member in the House of Delegates. See Section 604.1.1.
- .26 **“House of Delegates”** shall mean the House of Delegates of Louisiana Swimming as established by Article 604 of these Bylaws.
- .27 **“Immediate Past General Chair”** shall mean the individual who is the immediate past General Chair of Louisiana Swimming, except when that person became immediate past General Chair by virtue of the House of Delegates taking action pursuant to Section 604.4.10, the Board of Directors taking action pursuant to Section 605.6.12 or the House of Delegates failing to reelect that person to another term sought by that person. The Immediate Past General Chair shall serve for the duration of the successor General Chair’s term. If the office of Immediate Past General Chair becomes vacant for any reason, including the exception set forth in the initial sentence of this definition, it shall not be filled by appointment or election, but shall remain vacant until another individual becomes Immediate Past General Chair.
- .28 **“Individual Members”** shall mean Athlete Members, Coach Members, and Active Individual Members, and Life Members.
- .29 **“Internal Revenue Code”** shall mean the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law, and shall, when appropriate, also include a reference to the Treasury Regulations issued there under.
- .30 **“Life Member”** shall mean any individual who is a life member of USA Swimming and Louisiana Swimming and who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory and who is in good standing as a member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.F.)
- .31 **“Local Swimming Committee”** or **“LSC”** shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in the USA Swimming Code. Louisiana Swimming is a Local Swimming Committee.
- .32 **“Louisiana Swimming”** shall mean the Louisiana not-for-profit corporation to which these Bylaws pertain.
- .33 **“Member”** shall mean a Group Member or an Individual Member.
- .34 **“National Board of Review”** shall mean the National Board of Review of USA Swimming established pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Where the context requires, a reference to the National Board of Review shall include a reference to the USA Swimming Board of Directors when that body is acting upon an appeal from the National Board of Review.

- .35 **“Nominating Committee”** shall mean the committee of the House of Delegates charged with nominating candidates for elective offices of Louisiana Swimming (see Section 604.8.)
- .36 **“Policies and Procedures Manual”** shall mean the policies and procedures manual of Louisiana Swimming, as amended, adopted by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. If Louisiana Swimming does not have a Policies and Procedures Manual, then the reference shall mean the relevant meeting minutes, orders and resolutions of Louisiana Swimming
- .37 **“Parliamentary Authority”** shall mean the authority and any special rules of order designated in Article 613.
- .38 **“Seasonal Athlete Member”** shall mean any individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for certain periods of time not longer than 150 days each in a calendar year and is in good standing as a Seasonal Athlete Member of LOUISIANA Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.E.)
- .39 **“Seasonal Club Member”** shall mean any organization which has joined Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming for certain periods of time not exceeding 150 days each in a calendar year and is in good standing as a seasonal club member of Louisiana Swimming and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.1.C.)
- .40 **“Section”** shall mean the subdivisions of the Articles of these Bylaws.
- .41 **“Senior Athlete Representative”** shall mean the Athlete Representative senior in term of office, or in cases where there are more than two Athlete Representatives, the Athlete Representative designated in accordance with Section 604.1.3.
- .42 **“Senior Coach Representative”** shall mean the Coach Representative senior in term of office.
- .43 **“Standing Committee”** shall mean a committee of Louisiana Swimming listed in Sections 607.1, 607.2 or 607.3.
- .44 **“Territory”** shall mean the geographic territory over which Louisiana Swimming has jurisdiction as a Local Swimming Committee. (See Section 601.3.)
- .45 **“USA Swimming”** shall mean USA Swimming, Inc., a Colorado not-for-profit corporation which is the national governing body for the United States for the sport of swimming.
- .46 **“USA Swimming Board of Directors”** shall mean the Board of Directors of USA Swimming.
- .47 **“USA Swimming Rules and Regulations”** shall mean the published rules and regulations, as adopted and amended by USA Swimming.
- .48 **“USA Swimming House of Delegates”** shall mean the House of Delegates of USA Swimming.
- .49 **“USA Swimming Rules Committee”** shall mean the Rules and Regulations Committee of USA Swimming created pursuant to Part Five of the USA Swimming Rules.

APPENDIX A

Questions and Answers about Resolving Disputes

INTRODUCTION

The form of the LSC Bylaws was substantially revised by USA Swimming in September of 1995 and again in September 2008; however, the basic structure used for resolving disputes has not materially changed. Members (and non-members) of USA Swimming who disagree with a decision or an action of taken by a meet official or any other LSC officer or who have a swimming-related dispute with another member may appeal those decision, or may submit those disputes, for resolution to the LSC Board of Review (formerly, the Review Section). The Board of Review is responsible for resolving these disputes quickly, fairly and with *due process*.

The purpose of this Appendix is to help with the details of preparing and filing complaints and appeals, and handling a Petition as a Board of Review member. Violation and interpretations of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations (the “Rules”) and the Bylaws of the LSC can have serious consequences or involve relatively minor matters. The consequences can range from being barred from membership due to inappropriate recruiting to whether a club should be penalized for being slow in distributing final meet results. Yet, to the people involved, each dispute, each incident is just as important as the other.

Because serious matters are being handled by the Board of Review, several sections of Article 610 of the Bylaws were relocated to Part Four of the Rules, thus making them more accessible to the membership. Many of the sections may appear to be written in “legalese,” but that was done to insure that--as much as possible--they would be interpreted uniformly, consistently and correctly. While the language may be technical, the ideas behind the Board of Review provisions are simple and basic. Anyone with a problem should receive a fair, impartial hearing and have the problem resolved promptly and with *due process*.

The rules and procedures set forth in Article 610 of the LSC Bylaws and Part Four of the Rules are meant to provide:

- A quick and effective remedy for the Petitioner and the Respondent;
- A hearing by objective unbiased persons, at first a panel of the elected members of the Board of Review, consisting of between three (3) and five (5) member, including at least one athlete member Article 406.2.2 of the Rules);
- Several levels of appeal are provided; from the initial Board of Review panel to a rehearing by all the members of the Board of Review (or at least seven (7) members) (Article 406.3.1 of the Rules) with at least twenty percent (20%) athlete representation; and an appeal of the decision to the National Board of Review (Article 408 of the Rules); all the way to an appeal to the United States Olympic Committee under its Constitution in cases where an athlete is denied the right to compete in international competition.

APPENDIX B

Common Questions About Complaints and Board of Review Process

WHAT IS DUE PROCESS?

Procedural due process is the administration of applicable rules and regulations so that no member is denied his or her legal rights and the application of those rules and regulations in conformance with the fundamental and accepted legal principles. It is the way you would want to be treated if you were charged with misconduct. It includes:

- Notice, in writing, if at all possible, of the specific things that you are being charged with doing or not doing;
- The opportunity to defend yourself against the charges and the right to cross-examine witnesses against you;
- A reasonable amount of time to prepare and present your position;
- The right to have an attorney represent you, if you wish;
- A hearing before disinterested, fair and knowledgeable persons at a time and under circumstances that give everyone a full and fair opportunity to present their position;
- Notice of how to appeal from a decision that you feel is wrong.

WHAT KIND OF COMPLAINTS CAN BE DECIDED BY THE LSC BOARD OF REVIEW?

The responsibility of the LSC Board of Review is broad but does not cover every possible dispute that might come up. Article 403.1 of the Rules provides the list of the kinds of complaints that must go directly to the LSC Board of Review. For example, if a decision is made which affects your ability to compete in swim meets or how you place in swim meets and you think the decision is wrong you may appeal to the Board of Review. If you are prevented from participating in the administration of the sport of swimming or being an official you may appeal to the Board of Review. If a decision is made by the LSC that affects your ability to coach swimmers you may appeal to the Board of Review. However, there are some matters that should be submitted directly to the National Board of Review. See Article 403.1 and 403.2 of the Rules to determine where your complaint should go. Remember that the LSC Board of Review does not involve itself in disputes involving the administration of individual clubs unless it affects the ability of members to participate in competition.

WHAT KIND OF COMPLAINTS WILL BE DECIDED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW?

Article 403.2 of the Rules lists the kinds of complaints that must, or in some cases, may go directly to the National Board of Review. They include most matters where members of more than one LSC are involved; matters which come up at a regional, national or international swimming competition; matters involving sexual misconduct, and matters in which the National Board of Review determines that a fair hearing will not be held quickly enough at the LSC Board of Review level to do justice to the affected parties.

HOW DO I CONDUCT A BOARD OF REVIEW HEARING?

The LSC Bylaws and Part Four of the Rules have sections that explain hearing procedures. Article 406 of the Rules provides a detailed outline of the steps to be taken and procedures to be used when a Petition is filed. The purpose of the Article remains the same as before, *i.e.*, to give due process to any individual or any entity, club or organization participating in any activity of any kind of the LSC or USA Swimming - not just athletes, but coaches, officers, committee chairmen and members, officials, clubs, volunteers and all classes of members as well.

The process can be summarized as follows:

- A. The Petitioner must provide a written Petition to the Chair of the Board of Review setting forth Petitioner's complaint against Respondent(s). (See Article 406.1 of the Rules).
- B. The Chair of the Board of Review *may* appoint someone to investigate or mediate to see if the dispute can be resolved without a formal hearing. It is not unusual to have disputes cleared up when an impartial party listens to both sides and tries to mediate a dispute. This kind of informal resolution is to be encouraged; however, the investigating party should not also serve on the Board of Review panel hearing the case.
- C. A written Notice of Hearing must be prepared by the Board of Review Chair and delivered to the Respondent or its counsel. (See Article 406.4.1A of the Rules and the suggested form of Notice of Hearing which is attached hereto as Appendix C.)
- D. A written response to the Petition may be filed by each Respondent. (See Article 406.4.1B of the Rules.)
- E. Petitioner may file a written Reply to Respondent's Response. (See Article 406.4.1C of the Rules).
- F. A hearing must be scheduled by the Chair to take place no less than thirty (30) days and no longer than sixty (60) from the date the Chair of the Board of Review transmits the Notice of Hearing.
- G. A hearing shall then be held (if everyone involved agrees the Petition can be considered based only upon the written statements that have been submitted without a formal hearing where witnesses are heard; otherwise, the parties must be allowed the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses and otherwise be heard at the hearing). Use common sense in conducting the hearing. (See Article 406.4.1D of the Rules.) Make all parties feel that they have a fair chance to state their position, present evidence and witnesses, cross-examine the other side's witnesses and that the Board has an open mind as it listens to their position. In all events, please give the athlete the benefit of the doubt!
- H. The Board of Review must decide the matter within fourteen (14) days after the conclusion of the hearing. (If time is not critical, it may be advantageous to delay the decision for a few days after the hearing to give full consideration to all the facts presented in a hearing rather than making a ruling immediately upon conclusion of the hearing.)

- I. The Board must send copies of its decision to all Petitioners and Respondents (or their respective counsel) and to the LSC General Chair and Secretary. (See Article 406.4.1E of the Rules)
- J. In the Board's decision, the parties must be given a statement telling them what they must do to request a rehearing before the full Board of Review (if applicable) or to appeal the Board of Review's decision and how long they have to appeal.

THE MEET DIRECTOR JUST TOLD ME THAT MY SWIMMER'S PROOF OF TIME IS NOT ADEQUATE AND THE SWIMMER WON'T BE IN THE EVENT LATER THIS MORNING. THE MEET DIRECTOR IS WRONG AND WE CAN'T WAIT FOR A HEARING FROM THE BOARD OF REVIEW. WHAT DO I DO?

First, you should review the meet information to see if it provides for any kind of appeal such as the Eligibility Jury provided for at the National Championships. (Article 207.12.4 of the Rules.) If you still believe your swimmer is being improperly kept out of the meet you should ask for an emergency hearing from the Board of Review. The Bylaws give the Board of Review a great deal of flexibility in handling emergency situations. Get on the telephone to the Chair of the Board of Review or the LSC General Chair and make arrangements to set up an emergency hearing under Article 406.4.2 of the Rules.

The Federal law which created National Sports Governing Bodies such as USA Swimming states that an athlete cannot be suspended from competition, *even temporarily*, without the opportunity for a hearing.

Members of the Board of Review should keep in mind their responsibility to conduct emergency hearings whenever they are at a swim meet and should alert the Meet Manager of their presence. The Chair of the Board of Review should always make arrangements in advance to see that a panel can be available at championship meets.

A meeting at the swim meet or an exchange of information by telephone, email, and fax can be arranged to permit a timely decision even if the athlete must compete under protest. (See Section 102.11 of the Rules.)

After the meet is concluded, a full formal hearing may be conducted at the request of the Petitioner or the Respondent.

HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO APPEAL A DECISION OF THE LSC BOARD OF REVIEW TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW?

An appeal must be taken within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written Decision of the LSC Board of Review.

APPENDIX C
Sample LSC Notice of Hearing

(Form may and should be modified to fit the actual circumstances)

NOTICE OF HEARING

To: *[Insert Name(s) and Address(es) of Respondent(s)]*

Re: *[Insert Name of Petitioner] vs. [Insert Name of Respondent(s)]*

CHARGE:

You are charged with having committed the following acts in violation of Section 304.3.xx of the Code of Conduct of USA Swimming:

[Insert details of charge; may be a summary if Petition is unnecessarily lengthy.]

This charge is based upon a Petition that was filed by *[Insert Petitioner's name and address and the name and address of Petitioner's counsel, if any].* Attached hereto is a copy of the Petition filed with the Louisiana Swimming, Inc. Board of Review.

ANSWER:

You are requested to file an answer in writing to these charges with the Chair of the Board of Review whose mailing address is *[Insert Name and Address of the Chair of the Board of Review or other person designated as the Presiding Officer in this case]* and to *[Insert Petitioner's name and address or that of its counsel, if so requested.]* at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of hearing that is set in this Notice of Hearing. The hearing will proceed whether or not you file this reply.

HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE:

The initial date set for the formal hearing is *[insert date, time and place of hearing]* or to such other date, time or place as the Chair continues, adjourns or reschedules the hearing. You are requested to appear at that time with any counsel and witnesses. *[This part would need to be rephrased if the proceeding were to be conducted entirely in writing or in writing with only oral argument at a hearing.]*

HEARING AUTHORITY:

The power and authority of the Louisiana Swimming, Inc. Board of Review is established, and this hearing shall be held pursuant to, Part Four of the *Rules and Regulations* of USA Swimming.

HEARING BODY:

The hearing body will be the three (3) member panel of the Board of Review of Louisiana Swimming, Inc. consisting of: *[insert names of members of the Board of Review designated to serve on this panel]* or such other persons as are appointed pursuant to the Bylaws of Louisiana Swimming, Inc. *[This should be rephrased if the initial panel is of more than three (3) or is the full Board of Review.]*

POSSIBLE PENALTIES:

The Petitioner has requested that *(insert here what the Petitioner has asked for)*. In addition, the Board of Review has a broad range of sanctions, penalties and suspensions that it may impose on you if it believes

that such are appropriate either in addition to or in lieu of those that the Petitioner is seeking. (See 404.1.1 of the *Rules*.)

APPEAL:

If you are dissatisfied with the decision, you must file a request for a rehearing before the full Board of Review within fourteen (14) days of your receipt of the decision, unless the initial panel was the full Board of Review or had seven (7) members. (See Article 408 of the *Rules*.) The request must be filed with the Chair of the Board of Review *[here give name and address]*. *[If your LSC has imposed a filing fee applicable to a request for a rehearing, this should be noted here.]* Your request must be granted if the decision was rendered by a panel of fewer than seven (7) members and the decision was not unanimous. Otherwise, the Board of Review may either grant or deny a rehearing in its discretion. If the decision is not subject to a request for a rehearing, a rehearing request is denied or the decision is the decision on a rehearing, an appeal may be made to the National Board of Review. The appeal must be filed with the Executive Director of USA Swimming, along with a filing fee of \$250.00 within thirty (30) days after the postmark date of written notice of the decision of the Board of Review. The address of the Executive Director of USA Swimming, Inc. is 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5770.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

You are entitled to be represented by counsel at your own cost or by such other representative as you may choose, to have witnesses testify in your behalf, to question witnesses testifying at the hearing and to submit any and all evidence in your defense, including hearsay and documentary evidence, so long as it is relevant to the issues. You are entitled to ask that the hearing date be rescheduled so that you may attend, secure witnesses or otherwise respond. Please direct all questions or correspondence to the Chair of the Board of Review of Louisiana Swimming, Inc., *[insert name]* at *[insert mailing address]*.

Dated *[Insert date notice is mailed.]*

Board of Review Chair

[If the notice is signed by the designated Presiding Officer, the title line should be changed accordingly.]