

2021-2024 Quad USOPC AAC Election Procedures for Lakeshore Foundation (USA Wheelchair Rugby)

Outcome sought

Election of one athlete representative and one alternate from Lakeshore Foundation/Wheelchair Rugby, to the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council for the 2021-2024 quadrennium.

Eligibility

Eligible athletes shall be those who have represented the United States at the Paralympic Games, Parapan American Games, or World Championships from January 1, 2011, to those participating in the 2020 Paralympic Games. Guides, pilots, alternates and other "Ab" credentialed athletes are not eligible.

Athletes shall not be eligible if they are paid employees of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USPOC), or an NGB/PSO/HPMO. Athletes must disclose all items listed in the bylaws that would prevent them from serving in this capacity.

An athlete may not have served two previous terms on the AAC as a Representative. Status as an Alternate does not constitute serving a term.

Athletes must be willing to commit to a minimum of two (2) of the three (3) meetings a year. All expenses for either the Representative or Alternate (in the event the Representative cannot attend), associated with attending the meetings are paid by the USOPC AAC.

Administration and Governing Authority

Lakeshore Foundation shall administer the election. All contact for the election will be through Jen Allred, Chief Program Officer:

jena@lakeshore.org

205-313-7417

Process

Lakeshore Foundation will send an email (by July 1, 2021) to all eligible athletes that asks those interested in serving on the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council (AAC) to fill out a Declaration of Candidacy. In addition, these procedures and AAC Bylaws should be included in the email. The Declaration of Candidacy forms must be returned to Lakeshore Foundation by 5pm CT on Friday, October 1, 2021.

Lakeshore Foundation will compile and post a list of eligible athletes who have self-nominated for one of the two positions identified above to www.lakeshore.org and www.usawr.org by end of the day on Monday, November 1, 2021. In addition, these procedures and AAC Bylaws will be posted on the website.

Lakeshore Foundation will e-mail a ballot to each eligible voting athlete.

All voting by eligible athletes must be completed by November 8, 2021, through Jen Allred. All athletes' individual votes are confidential.

Depending on how many athletes are nominated, the following will apply:

- If only one (1) athlete is nominated, an election will still be held to allow athletes the opportunity to vote in the representative. An alternate will be elected at a subsequent time.
- If two (2) athletes are nominated, then the athlete with the most votes (plurality) shall be the representative. The other athlete shall be the alternate regardless of gender.
- If three (3) athletes are nominated, then the athlete with the most votes (plurality) shall be the representative. The highest voted athlete of the opposite gender shall be the alternate. If there are not athletes of the opposite gender, then the runner up shall be the alternate.
- If four (4) or more athletes are nominated and one athlete wins a majority of the votes, then that athlete will be the representative. The highest voted athlete of the opposite gender shall be the alternate. If there are no athletes of the opposite gender, then the runner up shall be the alternate.
- If four (4) or more athletes are nominated and no athlete wins a majority of the votes, then three athletes will move forward to a second round of voting. The two highest voted athletes will always move forward to the second round. If the two highest voted athletes are of the same gender, then whenever possible, the highest voted athlete of the opposite gender. If there are not athletes of the opposite gender, then the third highest voted athlete will move forward to the second round.
- Majority is defined as 50% or more of the votes cast and any informal grievances should be addressed to Jen Allred.

If a second round of voting is necessary, Lakeshore Foundation will e-mail ballots on or before November 12, 2021 with three candidates as described above. All voting needing a second round must be completed through Jen Allred by January 31, 2021.

Winners will be announced November 15, 2021.

Vacancies

If a Representative vacancy remains leaving no Representative and no Alternate, another election shall be conducted at a later date but within a year of the close of this election. The election dates shall be communicated to all eligible athletes. These election procedures shall remain in effect to govern the elections.

If an Alternate athlete vacancy remains, another election shall be conducted at a later date within a year of the close of this election. The election dates shall be communicated to all eligible athletes of the opposite gender from the Representative. If there is not an athlete of the opposite gender nominated or interested by the time of the next election, the alternate position shall be open to all eligible athletes regardless of gender. These election procedures shall remain in effect to govern the elections.

If a Representative vacancy occurs during the quadrennium (for reasons such as recusal, removal, etc.) then the Alternated shall become the Representative. A new election shall take place for the Alternate, as described above for an Alternate vacancy.

AAC Representative

The current AAC Representative is Chuck Aoki and his contact information is chuckaoki@gmail.com, should you have any questions or concerns.