

## 2016-17 USRowing Call for Nominations

The USRowing Board of Directors has taken a new direction since 2014 to lead the organization and the sport into the future with the following vision:

***We are USRowing, fostering community, cultivating excellence and developing Olympic Champions.***

The Board is pursuing five strategic pathways in developing the policies and goals that will enable continued success and help the sport to thrive in the coming decade:

- Retooling internal systems
- Strengthening and growing the brand
- Improving the value of affiliations
- Increasing points of access through venues
- Increasing points of access through new markets

USRowing invites nominations from members to Join Our Team and submit their candidacy for the Board of Directors, Referee Committee, High Performance Committees or Referee Regional Coordinator positions.

Nominations for the following positions are due Monday, November 21, 2016.

### **Board Positions:**

1. Elected by the organizational members in the respective regions: the **Northeast** and **Northwest Regional Positions** on the **Board of Directors**. These positions are for a three-year term of office.
2. The **Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) Representatives** are up for election by those athletes eligible to vote under the By-laws (see definition below). The AAC representatives also serve as members of the Board of Directors. These positions are for a four-year term of office.

### **Standing Committees:**

Nominations are being accepted for the following Board-appointed positions:

- a. **Five (5) At-Large High Performance Committee Positions** (four-year term)
- b. **Five (5) At-Large Junior High Performance Committee Positions** (four-year term)
- c. **Five (5) At-Large Adaptive Committee Positions** (four-year term)
- d. **One (1) At-Large Referee Committee Member** (three-year term)

### **Referee Regional Coordinator Positions:**

1. Elected by referees in their given region, the **Northeast** and **Northwest Referee Regional Coordinator Positions**. These positions are for a three-year term of office.

## **Nominations**

Interested parties should declare their intent by submitting the nomination form and disclosure form with all required materials no later than the date indicated above to USRowing and acknowledge acceptance of the responsibilities and duties of the position that they seek by signature on the self-nomination form.

All prospective **regional candidates** must have been individual members of USRowing as of July 1, 2016, and submit to the requirements of the USRowing SafeSport policy, which includes a criminal background check.

## **Voting Process**

Ballots for the **AAC positions** will be distributed on December 1, 2016. Completed ballots must be submitted for receipt no later than December 21, 2016. The term shall commence on January 1, 2017. In order to vote, athletes must meet the criteria published in the By-laws.

Ballots for member-elected positions, including the **Northeast Regional Position and Northwest Regional Position**, will be distributed after the Date of Record (December 18, 2016) and before January 2, 2017. Completed ballots must be submitted for receipt no later than February 1, 2017. The term shall commence on the first Monday of March 2017. In order to vote, members must be in good standing by December 1, 2016.

Ballots for the **Northeast and Northwest Referee Regional Coordinator Positions** will be distributed to referees in those respective regions after the Date of Record (December 18, 2016) and before January 2, 2017. Ballots must be received no later than February 1, 2017. The term shall commence on the first Monday of March 2017. In order to vote, members must be in good standing by December 1, 2016.

## **I. Introduction**

Per the USRowing By-laws, individuals who serve on the USRowing Board of Directors govern our organization. Opportunities for elected service and leadership exist in the areas defined below.

Members of USRowing are encouraged to participate in this electoral process, both as voters and as potential candidates. Here are important details to help you cast your vote, or be on the ballot yourself.

### Regional Boundaries for USRowing

*Mid-Atlantic* – DE, DC, MD, NJ, PA, VA, WV

*Midwest* – IN, IL, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, OK, SD, and WI

*Northeast* – CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT

*Northwest* – AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, and WY

*Southeast* – AL, AR, GA, FL, KY, LA, MS, NC, PR, SC, TN, TX and the Virgin Islands

*Southwest* – AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, NM, UT

Prospective candidates must submit the attached form with all required materials no later than the date indicated above to USRowing and acknowledge acceptance of the responsibilities and

duties of the position that they seek by signature on the self-nomination form. All prospective candidates must be individual members of USRowing as of July 1, 2016.

The attached materials outline the above positions, as well as the responsibilities of each group.

## **II. USRowing Board of Directors**

**The Bylaws require that members of the Board (excluding At-Large Directors) must:**

- **Have competed in, coached or directly served rowing;**
- **Be a member of one or more member organizations, and**
- **Be an individual member of the association as of July 1, 2016.**

The Board established non-binding criteria for individuals that it believes would best contribute to the overall direction of USRowing through board service. This is not necessarily applicable to At-Large Directors appointed by the Board. The criteria are as follows:

- Ten or more years experience in business, governance (such as volunteer service on public or private boards) or public policy is preferred.
- Volunteer participation in a local rowing organization or other volunteer boards sufficient to familiarize the candidate with the processes and duties of board participation.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

- Set the policies of the Association.
- Establish the annual budget of the Association and monitor the financial operations of the Association.
- Evaluate the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.
- Appoint delegates to represent the Association at FISA Congresses or other organizations of which the Association is a member and nominate United States nationals to hold office within FISA or other international sports bodies of which the Association is a member.
- Elect stewards of the Casitas Fund as specified in that organization's Articles of Incorporation and the Directors(s) of the United States Olympic Committee ("USOC") to which the Association is entitled.
- Exercise such other powers as may be vested by law.

### Time Commitment

Four regular meetings are held annually to conduct the business of the Association. These meetings are generally held from Friday night through Saturday afternoon. The board also meets by phone monthly. Two unexcused absences from in-person board meetings results in automatic removal of a board member under the By-laws. Excused absences are granted by the full board for a limited number of reasons. Thus, it is critical that any candidate make a serious commitment to board participation. Board members typically serve on one or more committees of the board in addition to board service. Partial travel funding provided.

### Who Votes in the Board Election?

**Regional Board Representatives** are elected by organizational members, within their respective region, in good standing as of **December 1, 2016** (e.g. clubs, colleges, high

schools.) Under the By-laws, each organization has one vote, which is not weighted. The following regional positions are up for re-election:

- Northeast
- Northwest

**Athlete Advisory Council (AAC):** AAC Athlete Members, as defined by the AAC By-laws at the time of the election, shall select one male and one female who shall be the USOC representative and the alternate to the USOC AAC to a four-year term. The AAC Representative and the Alternate AAC Representative must alternate between male and female. This year, the AAC Representative must be male and the Alternate AAC Representative must be female. Both positions also serve as members of the USRowing Board of Directors.

- \* Athlete Advisory Council Representative (Male)
- \* Alternate Athlete Advisory Council Representative (Female)

#### “AAC Athlete Members”

#### USRowing By-laws

1. Athlete Advisory Council (“AAC”) of the United States Olympic Committee (“USOC”) athlete members shall consist of those individuals who meet the definition of “athlete” as that term is defined by the AAC in its By-laws (“AAC Athlete Members”). [*USRowing By-law 11(b)*]
2. AAC Representatives shall be nominated in accordance with Section 18(b) and elected to serve in the December immediately following the Summer Olympic Games in 2008 and every fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) year thereafter by vote of the AAC Athlete Members then eligible to vote. Only AAC Athlete Members shall be eligible to vote for the AAC Representatives. The term of office for the Representatives described in this section shall commence with the first AAC meeting of the quadrennium. No AAC Athlete Member who is an employee of the USOC or the Association shall be eligible for election as an AAC Representative. [*USRowing By-law 48(d)*]

#### **Athlete Advisory Council By-laws – AAC Requirements**

1. An athlete must have represented the United States in Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Para Pan American or “other major international competition,” within the preceding ten years as measured from the first AAC meeting of the Quadrennium. The term “other major international competition” as used herein means only a competition designated by the USOC as an Operation Gold competition. Requests for extensions in this requirement may only be granted by the AAC and must be in writing.
  - a. For USRowing purposes, the Operation Gold designated competition is only those events at the World Rowing Senior Championships that are also contested at the Olympic and Paralympic Games (i.e. M1x, M2x, M4x, M2-, M4-, M8+, LM4-, LM2x, LW2x, W1x, W2x, W4x, W2-, W8+, ASM1x, ASW1x, TAMix2x, LTA4+).
  - b. The 10-year measure will constitute athletes representing the United States from 2007-2016.

2. 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. If an Alternate replaces a Representative and has the opportunity to attend over half of the meetings as the Representative in a Quadrennium, the Alternate shall be deemed to have served one (1) term.
3. AAC Representatives and Alternates are seated for one Quadrennium, or until replaced, whichever is later. For purposes of these Bylaws, a Quadrennium is deemed to start on January 1 of the year following the year in which the summer Olympic Games is scheduled to be held, and end on December 31 of the year in which the next edition of the summer Olympic Games is scheduled to be held. Once seated, no AAC Representative or Alternate shall lose his or her position on the AAC, except for cause and after a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the AAC at a properly called meeting, or except as stated elsewhere in these Bylaws.
4. Athletes may not be paid employees of the USOC, any NGB, USP or any city's domestic bid committee for an Olympic Games and simultaneously serve as a Representative or Alternate to the AAC. The term "paid employee" shall mean anyone who is employed on a regular basis. This provision shall not apply to 1) individuals who are engaged on an occasional or temporary basis, which shall include, but not be limited to coaching at a clinic or training camp, making a paid appearance for a sponsor, or working on a finite or discrete project, and 2) athletes who are still competing and receiving benefits from the USOC, the USP or any NGB in his/her capacity as a competing athlete.
5. All AAC Representatives and Alternates are required to disclose in writing to the Chair of the AAC and the USOC Ethics and Compliance officer any employment with the USOC, an NGB, USP, or a domestic bid committee.
6. An AAC Representative's or Alternate's failure to satisfy additional NGB or USP requirements for qualification as an AAC Representative or Alternate may not be used by the NGB or the USP as cause to remove such individual their AAC Representative or Alternate position.
7. The representative and alternate must be of the opposite sexes in a sport in which men's and women's teams are represented by a single NGB.
  - a. In the upcoming 2016 elections, the AAC Athlete Representative must be male and the AAC Alternate Athlete Representative must be female.

#### Deadline

Your self-nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, November 21, 2016**. The self-nomination form is available at [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org). You also may call 1-800-314-4769 to request a self-nomination form be mailed or faxed to you.

### **III. Referee Committee**

In order to be considered for the Referee Committee, you must be a current USRowing member as of July 1, 2016. Members of the Referee Committee shall hold a USRowing Referee's license, with the exception of the one (1) athlete representative.

#### Composition

The Referee Committee shall be composed of five members including three At-Large Members, one representative of the Regional Referee Coordinators and one Athlete Member. The term

begins January 1, 2017. The following positions are up for re-election:

- At-Large Representative

#### Responsibilities

The purpose of the Referee Committee is to support, with the assistance of the Regional Referee Coordinators, the Chief Executive Officer in administering and supervising USRowing referees and recommending changes to the Rules of Rowing. Members of the Referee Committee shall hold a USRowing Referee's license, with the exception of the one (1) athlete representative.

#### Time Commitment

Three in-person meetings usually held in March, September and at the USRowing Annual Convention in December. Occasional conference calls.

#### Who Votes

**At-Large Representative:** At-Large Referee Committee Members are elected by a vote of the Board of Directors in office at the time.

#### Deadline

Your self-nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, November 21, 2016**. The self-nomination form is available at [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org). You also may call 1-800-314-4769 to request a self-nomination form be mailed or faxed to you.

### **IV. Referee Regional Coordinators**

In order to be considered as a Referee Regional Coordinator, you must be a current USRowing member as of July 1, 2016. Coordinators shall hold a USRowing Referee's license.

#### Composition

The six Referee Regional Coordinators shall be elected by referees within their respective regions. The coordinators elect one representative to the Referee Committee. The following positions are up for election:

- Northeast
- Northwest

#### Responsibilities

The Regional Referee Coordinators elect one representative to the Referee Committee. They represent the general interests of referees in their region and promote recruitment of new officials.

#### Time Commitment

Annual meeting and conference calls as needed.

#### Who Votes

Referees in their respective regions vote for their Referee Regional Coordinators.

#### Deadline

Your self-nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, November 21, 2016**. The self-nomination form is available at [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org). You also may call 1-800-314-4769 to request a self-nomination form be mailed or faxed to you.

### **V. High Performance Committee**

#### Composition

The High Performance Committee shall be composed of seven members including two athlete members and five at-large members. The term begins January 1, 2017. The following positions are up for appointment:

\* Five At-Large Committee Members

#### Responsibilities

The purpose of the High Performance Committee (HPC) shall be to define, in consultation with the national team's director and coaches, the plans and programs for the training and selection of teams to represent the United States in international competition at all levels other than Juniors, Masters and Adaptive.

#### Time Commitment

On average, one monthly conference call and one to two in-person meetings each year.

#### Selection Process

At-Large Representatives of the High Performance Committee are elected by a vote of the Board of Directors in office at the time.

#### Deadline

Your self-nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, November 21, 2016**. The self-nomination form is available at [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org). You also may call 1-800-314-4769 to request a self-nomination form be mailed or faxed to you.

### **VI. Junior High Performance Committee**

#### Composition

The Junior High Performance Committee shall be composed of seven members including two athlete members and five at-large members. The term begins January 1, 2017. The following positions are up for appointment:

\* Five At-Large Committee Members

#### Responsibilities

The purpose of the Junior High Performance Committee (JHPC) shall be to define, in consultation with the national team's director and coaches, the plans and programs for the

training and selection of teams to represent the United States in international competition at the Junior level only.

#### Time Commitment

On average, one monthly conference call and one to two in-person meetings.

#### Selection Process

At-Large Representatives of the Junior High Performance Committee are elected by a vote of the Board of Directors in office at the time.

#### Deadline

Your self-nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, November 21, 2016**. The self-nomination form is available at [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org). You also may call 1-800-314-4769 to request a self-nomination form be mailed or faxed to you.

### **VII. Adaptive Committee**

#### Composition

The Adaptive Committee shall be composed of seven members including two athlete members and five at-large members. The term begins January 1, 2017. The following positions are up for appointment:

\* Five At-Large Committee Members

#### Responsibilities

The purpose of the Adaptive Committee (AC) shall be to promote recreational and competitive opportunities for adaptive rowers, and to define the plans and programs for the training and selection of teams to represent the United States in international competition at the Adaptive level only.

#### Time Commitment

On average, one monthly conference call and one to two in-person meetings.

#### Selection Process

At-Large Representatives of the Adaptive Committee are elected by a vote of the Board of Directors in office at the time.

#### Deadline

Your self-nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, November 21, 2016**. The self-nomination form is available at [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org). You also may call 1-800-314-4769 to request a self-nomination form be mailed or faxed to you.