

# Bylaws of West Virginia Swimming, Inc.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article		Page
1	Name, Objective, Territory, and Jurisdiction.....	1
2	Membership.....	1
3	Dues and Fees.....	3
4	House of Delegates.....	5
5	Board of Directors.....	9
6	Officers.....	12
7	Divisions, Committees, and Coordinators.....	17
8	Annual Audit, Reports, and Remittances.....	22
9	Members Bill of Rights.....	23
10	Board of Review, Hearings, and Right of Appeal.....	24
11	Organization, Amendment of Bylaws, and Dissolution...	35
12	Indemnification.....	36
13	Parliamentary Authority.....	37
14	Permanent Office and Staff.....	37
15	Miscellaneous.....	37
15	Definitions, Conventions and Rules of Interpretation.....	38

### ARTICLE I

#### NAME, OBJECTIVES, TERRITORY, AND JURISDICTION

- 1.1 NAME - The name of the corporation shall be West Virginia Swimming Inc. (WVS):
- 1.2 OBJECTIVES - The objectives and primary purpose of the WVS shall be the education, instruction and training of individuals to develop and improve their capabilities in the sport of swimming. WVS shall promote swimming for the benefit of swimmers of all ages and abilities, in accordance with the standards, rules, regulations, policies and procedures of FINA, USS, and WVS and its Articles of Incorporation.
- 1.3 GEOGRAPHIC TERRITORY - The geographic Territory of WVS is the State of West Virginia.
- 1.4 JURISDICTION - WVS shall have jurisdiction over the sport of swimming as delegated to it as a Local Swimming Committee by USS to conduct swimming programs consistent with WVS's objectives and those of USS and to sanction, approve, observe, and oversee competitive swimming events within the Territory and to conduct swimming events within the Territory, its Region and its Zone (as those terms are defined in Sections 703.3 and 704.2 of Part Seven of the USS Code). WVS shall discharge faithfully its duties and obligations as a Local Swimming Committee of USS in accordance with these Bylaws, the USS Code and all applicable policies and procedures.

### ARTICLE 2

#### MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 MEMBERS - The membership of WVS shall consist of the following:
  - .1 GROUP MEMBERS - Group Members are organizations operating in the Territory which have, upon application, been granted membership in USS and WVS and paid the fees established by USS and WVS pursuant to Article 3. An organization may be denied membership by the Membership registration Coordinator 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 USS Code, the rules, regulations, policies, procedures and codes of conduct and ethics of WVS and USS 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 shall be entitled to participate in the program of swimming conducted by WVS, and competitions sanctioned or approved by USS, in accordance with Section 9.2.

A Club Members - A Club Member is an organization which is in good standing as a Group Member of WVS and USS, 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 WVS and USS.

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

.2 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS - Individual Members are individuals involved in the sport of swimming in the Territory who have, upon registration, been granted membership in USS and WVS and paid the dues established by USS and WVS pursuant to Article 3. An individual may be denied membership by the Membership/Registration Coordinator 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 USS Code, the rules, regulations, policies, procedure and codes of conduct and ethics of WVS and USS and may be terminate by a decision of the Board of Review or the National Board of Review

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 WVS and USS.

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 WVS and/or USS and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of WVS and USS. Any individual desiring to act in any coaching capacity at any competition sanctioned by USS must be a Coach Member in good standing of WVS and USS.

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 Chairperson or committee member of WVS 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 an Individual Member of USS and WVS.

D Seasonal Athlete Members - A Seasonal Athlete Member is an individual who participate or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for a period of time not longer than 150 days in a registration year and is in good standing as an individual Member of WVS and USS.

E Life Members - A Life Member is an individual who is a life member of USS 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 WVS and USS.

.3 MEMBERSHIP A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT - Membership in WVS and USS is a privilege and shall not be interpreted as a right. Membership (including a Life Membership) may be terminated by the Board of Review or the National Board of Review for any violation of a member's responsibility under Section 2.2, for any of the reasons set forth in Section 10.4.6.C or for any other reason determined by the Board of Review or National Board of Review to be in the best interests of the sport of swimming, USS or WVS.

## 2.2 MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- .1 COMPLIANCE - Each Group and Individual Member shall abide by the code of conduct and ethics, policies, procedure, rules and regulations adopted by USS and WVS, 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, WVS or USS into disrepute. By applying for and accepting membership in WVS and USS, each Individual Member agrees to so abide and represents, except to the extent disclosed to WS and USS, 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 WVS, USS or the sport of swimming.
- .2 RESPONSIBILITY FOR INFRACTIONS - A Group Member may be held responsible for infractions of the policies, procedure, rules, regulations or codes of conduct or ethics adopted by USS or WVS, 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, coach or 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 through 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.
- .3 CLUB SAFETY COORDINATOR - Each Club Member shall appoint an Active Individual Member to be a Club Safety Coordinator. The Club Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for disseminating safety education information received from USS and WVS to the Club Member's athletes, coach and other members and shall make recommendations to the Club Member concerning safety policy and its implementation. The Club Safety Coordinator shall timely make any reports requested by WVS's Safety Coordinator.

## **ARTICLE 3 DUES AND FEES**

- 3.1 CLUB MEMBERS - Every Club Member shall pay an annual fee, consisting of a national club fee established by USS and a local club fee established by WVS, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by WVS.
- 3.2 AFFILIATED GROUP MEMBERS - The Board of Directors shall establish the annual membership fees and any other charges, fees, etc., for Affiliated Group Members.
- 3.3 ATHLETES - Each Athlete Member and Seasonal Athlete Member shall pay an annual or seasonal fee, respectively, consisting of a national fee established by USS and a local fee established by WVS.
- 3.4 COACHES - Each Coach Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USS and a local fee established by WVS, together with any other charge, fees, etc.. as may be established by WVS.
- 3.5 ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS - Each Active Individual Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USS and a local fee established by WVS, together with any other charge, fees, etc. as may be established by WVS.
- 3.6 LIFE MEMBERS - The Board of Directors shall establish the annual or other membership fees, if any, and any other charge, fees, etc., for Life Members.

### 3.7 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 swum, the number of individual swims or 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 these 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 WVS. If any of the sanction or approved 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 WVS when due in according with WVS's fee schedule.

### 3.8 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 due, fees, service charge fines or penalties imposed by WVS or USS, within the time prescribed as evidenced by a final decision of the Board of Review or the National Board of Review or by a court of law, shall preclude the delinquent member from (a) participating in events sanctioned or approved by USS, (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USS, WVS or any other LSC or (c) serving as a Club Safety Coordinator, 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.
- .2 ATHLETE MEMBER OBLIGATIONS - The failure of an Athlete Member or Seasonal Athlete member to satisfy any financial obligations to USS, WVS or their former LSC's, within the time prescribed, as evidenced by a final decision of the Board of Review, the National Board of Review or by a court of law, shall preclude the delinquent member from (a) competing in any competition sanctioned by USS, (b) obtaining an OVC or other reportable time achieved in events swum at any USS sanctioned, approved or observed meet (c) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USS, WVS or any other LSC or (d) practicing, exercising or otherwise participating in the activities of any Group Member or any group member of any other LSC.
- .3 CLUB/INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATIONS - if a Club Member has secured a final court judgment or final Board of Review or National Board of Review decision against an Individual Member for nonpayment of financial obligations owed to the Club Member, then until the decision or judgment is satisfied, the Individual Member shall not (a) compete in any competition sanctioned by USS, (b) obtain an OVC or other reportable time in events swum at any USS approved or observed meet, (c) participate in any capacity in the affairs of USS, WVS 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 court judgment or a final Board of Review or National Board of Review decision against a Club Member for nonpayment 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 USS and (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USS, WVS or any other LSC, including being represented in to 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, as determined by the Board of Directors, the House of Delegates, the Board of Review or the National Board of Review shall be cause for termination of membership.

**ARTICLE 4**  
**HOUSE OF Delegates.**

4.1 MEMBERS - The House of Delegates of WVS shall consist of the Group Member Representatives, the Athlete Representatives, the Coach Representatives, the Board Members designated in Section 5.1, 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 alternate. The appointment shall be in writing, addressed to the Secretary of WVS and duly certified by the chief executive officer or secretary of the appointing Group Member. The appointing Group Member may withdraw its Group Member Representative 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 WVS 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 Chairperson with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. At least half of the at-large members appointed in any given year shall be athlete members. 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 - Two (2) 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 WVS 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 at the same meeting at which other elections are conducted. Prior to the election, the current Athlete Representative 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 at the same meeting at which other elections are conducted.

4.2 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.

4.3 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, THE ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES, THE COACH REPRESENTATIVES AND AT-LARGE HOUSE MEMBERS -- Each of the Group Member Representatives, the Board Members, the Athlete Representatives, the Coach Representatives and the At-Large House Members shall have both voice and one vote each in meetings of the House of Delegates.

. 2 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.

4.4 DUTIES AND POWERS - The House of Delegates shall oversee the management of the affairs of WVS and the establishment of policies, procedures and programs. In addition to the duties and powers prescribed in the USS Code or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the House of Delegates shall:

- .1 Elect the officers and regular and alternate members of the Board of Review and the committee chairpersons and coordinators listed in Section 6.1 in accordance with Sections 6.2 through 6.5;
- .2 Elect alternates to the USS House of Delegates in accordance with Section 502.2 of the USS Code (see also Section 6.13.B);
- .3 Elect the members of the Nominating Committee;
- .4 Review, modify and adopt the annual budget of WVS 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 WVS;
- .8 Establish by resolution or the WVS Policies and Procedures Manual one or more committees of its members. The committee shall have the powers and duties specified in the resolution or the WVS Policies and Procedure 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 W VS in accordance with Section 11.3 ; and
- .10 Remove from office any Board Members, members of the Board of Review, or committee Chairpersons 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 10.4.6. C. However, no Board Member, Board of Review member or elected committee Chairperson 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 procedure for a formal hearing pursuant to Section 10.6.1 to the extent applicable. Should the Board Member, Board of Review member or elected committee Chairperson 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 Article 10.

4.5 ANNUAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS - The annual meeting of the House of Delegates of WVS shall be held on the first Sunday in October and the last Sunday in April of each year.

4.6 SPECIAL MEETINGS - Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be called by the Board of Directors or the General Chairperson. Should the Board of Directors or the General Chairperson 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 five (5) members of the House of Delegates.

4.7 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.

#### 4.8 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- . 1 MEMBERS OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE; ELECTION - The Nominating Committee shall comprise not fewer than five (5) Individual Members elected annually by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors if the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion to serve until their successors are elected A number greater than five -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 (two-fifths if there are more than five (5) members of the Nominating Committee) shall be Board Members. Section 6.5.3 shall apply to members of the Nominating Committee- but service as the immediate Past General Chairperson shall not be counted for that purpose. If any member of the- Nominating Committee resigns or otherwise comes unable to participate in its affairs, the General Chairperson, 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,
- .2 CHAIRPERSON ELECTED BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE - -The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members of the Nominating Committee present at a meeting called promptly after the members are elected or appointed.
- .3 DUTIES OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE - A slate of candidates for election as the officers, or committee Chairpersons or coordinators specified in Section 6.1 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 same 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 4.15.1 where convenient. See Season 6.1.5 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 Chairperson or any three members of the Committee with a minimum of six (6) days notice required. Pertinent provisions of Sections 7.5 through 7.10 and Section 16.1.5 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 of its members voting in any meeting at which -a quorum is present.

#### 4.9 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

- . 1 HOUSE OF DELEGATES - House of Delegates meetings shall be open to all members of WVS and USS. Issues pertaining to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, tax or similar affairs of WVS shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session which only House of Delegates members may amend. 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 WS and USS unless otherwise provided by House of Delegates resolution creating the committee or by a vote of the committee as provided by the rules of the Parliamentary Authority.

4.10 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 Board of Review pursuant to Section 4.4.10, shall be determined by a two-thirds vote after at least thirty (30) days notice. See also Section 11.3 regarding amendment of these Bylaws.

4.11 QUORUM - A quorum of the House of Delegates shall consist of those members present **arid** voting.

4.12 PROXY VOTE - Voting by proxy in any meeting of the House of Delegates shall not be permitted.

4.13 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 Board of Review, elected committee Chairpersons or coordinators and amendments of these Bylaws, may be taken without a meeting. If an action is taken 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 4.15.1) 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.

4.14 ORDER OF BUSINESS - At all meetings of the House of Delegates the following shall be included in the order of business to the extent applicable. The order in which the various subjects are taken up may be varied.

Roll Call

Reading, correction and adoption of minute of previous meeting

Reports of officers

Reports of committee and coordinators

Presentation and approval of the annual budget

Presentation and approval of the annual audit pursuant to Section 8.5, when applicable

Unfinished (old) business

Elections

New business

Resolutions and orders

Adjournment

#### 4.15 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 6.1.5 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 5**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

5.1 MEMBERS - The Board of Directors shall consist of the following officers, committee Chairpersons, coordinators and representatives of WVS, together with those additional members designated in Sections 5.2 and 5.3:

- .1 General Chairperson
- .2 Administrative Vice-Chairperson.
- .3 Program Development Vice-Chairperson
- .4 Program Operations Vice-Chairperson
- .5 Finance Vice-Chairperson
- .6 Secretary
- .7 Treasurer
- .8 The Coach Representatives.
- .9 The Athlete Representative
- .10 Safety Coordinator
- .11 Officials Chairperson

5.2 AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS - This Section is reserved for future use.

5.3 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS - The following persons shall be an ex-officio members of the Board of Directors during the time period in which they meet the defined status:

- .1 The Immediate Past General Chairperson of WVS, if an Individual Member in good standing;

5.4 LIMITATION - This Section is reserved for future use.

5.5 VOICE AND VOTING RIGHTS OF BOARD MEMBERS - The void and voting rights- of Board Members and Individual Members shall be as follows:

- . 1 BOARD MEMBERS - Each Board Member other than the ex-officio members shall have both voice and vote in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees.
- . 2 NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS - Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, the ex officio members shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees.
- . 3 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.

5.6 DUTIES AND POWERS - The Board of Directors shall act for WVS 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 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 USS 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, procedure and programs for WVS;
- .2 Oversee the conduct by the officers and staff of WVS of the day-to day management of the affairs of WVS;
- .3 This Section is reserved for future use.
- .4 Provide advice and consent to appointments proposed by the General Chairperson that require advice and consent under these Bylaws or the WVS Policies and Procedures Manual;

- .5 Cause the preparation and presentation to the House of Delegates of the annual budget of WVS and make recommendation to the House of Delegates concerning the approval or disapproval thereof,
- .6 Receive presentation of the annual audit report pursuant to Section 8.5 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 WVS;
- .10 Appoint other officers, agents, or committee 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 WS 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 committee or coordinators and to prescribe the respective terms of office, authorities and duties; and
- .11 Remove from office any officers, committee Chairpersons, or committee members or coordinators of WS who were not elected by the House of Delegates and who have failed to amend 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 10.4.6.C. No officer, or committee Chairperson 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 notions and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Section 10.6.1 the extent applicable. Should the officer, committee Chairperson, 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 Article 10.

#### 5.7 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- .1 AUTHORITY AND POWER - The Executive Committee shall have the authority and power to act for the Board of Directors and WVS between meetings of the Board and the House of Delegates.
- .2 MEMBERS - The members of the Executive Committee shall be the General Chairperson, who shall as act as Chairperson, Administrative Vice-Chairperson, Program Development Vice-Chairperson, Program Operations Vice-Chairperson, Finance Vice-Chairperson, Senior Athlete Representative, and Senior 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 Chairperson or any three (3) members of the Committee with a minimum of three (3) days notice required. Pertinent provisions of Sections 7.5 through 7.10 and Section 16.1.5 shall apply to the Executive Committee meetings and notices.
- .4 QUORUM - A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of four (4) 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, that 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 modified or rescinded by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

- 5.8 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS - Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings shall be open to all members of WVS and USS. 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.
- 5.9 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.
- 5.10 REGULAR MEETINGS - Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in accordance with a schedule adopted by the Board of Directors.
- 5.11 SPECIAL MEETINGS - Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the General Chairperson. Should the Board of Directors or the General Chairperson 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.
- 5.12 QUORUM - A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of those present and voting.
- 5.13 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.
- 5.14 PROXY VOTE - Voting by proxy in any meeting of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall not be permitted.
- 5.15 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 meeting. These consents shall be treated for all purposes as vote taken at a meeting.
- 5.16 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 Chairperson's appointments, or removals of officers, committee Chairpersons 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 distribute 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 5.16) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary. Action by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of vote cast in favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast.
- 5.17 NOTICES
- .1 TIME - Not less than twenty (20) 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 6.1.5 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.

5.18 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.

- Reading, correction and adoption of minutes
- Report of Executive Committee
- Reports of officers
- Reports of committee and coordinators
- Presentation of the annual budget and adoption of recommendation to the House of Delegates
- Presentation of the annual audit report pursuant to Section 8. 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 6 OFFICERS**

6.1 ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE Chairpersons - The officers, committee chairpersons and coordinators who shall be elected by the House of Delegates are:

- .1 General Chairperson
- .2 Administrative Vice-Chairperson
- .3 Finance Vice-Chairperson
- .4 Program Development Vice-Chairperson
- .5 Program Operations Vice-Chairperson
- .6 Secretary
- .7 Treasurer
- .8 Officials Chairperson
- .9 Safety Coordinator

6.2 ELECTIONS - The House of Delegates, at its annual meeting, shall elect the General Chairperson, the Secretary, the Finance Vice-Chairperson, the Program Development Vice-Chairperson, and the Officials Chairperson in odd-numbered years; and the Administrative Vice-Chairperson, the Program Operations Vice-Chairperson, the Treasurer, and the Safety Coordinator in even-numbered years.

6.3 ELIGIBILITY - Only Individual Members in good standing shall be eligible to hold office and must maintain their eligibility throughout their term of office.

6.4 DOUBLE-VOTE PROHIBITED - An Individual Member of WVS entitled to vote in the House of Delegates by virtue of holding a position in WS may not also vote as a Group Member Representative in the House of Delegates.

### 6.5 OFFICES COMBINED OR SPLIT

.1 OFFICE HELD BY TWO PERSONS - Any office other than General Chairperson, Finance Vice Chairperson 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 Administrative Vice-Chairperson, the House of Delegates at the time of election shall designate one to be the successor to the General Chairperson; 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 Chairperson may be combined with any other office except that the offices of Finance Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer may not be combined. This may be accomplished by the Nominating

Committee nominating a single Individual Member to serve simultaneously as two officers or by the House of Delegates so electing at the time of election.

## 6.6 TERMS OF OFFICE

- .1 TERM OF OFFICE - The terms of office of all elected members of the Board of Directors shall be two years.
- .2 COMMENCEMENT OF TERM - Each person elected to a position shall assume office upon election and shall serve until a successor is chosen.
- .3 CONSECUTIVE TERMS LIMITATION - No individual Member who WVS 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 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.

## 6.7 DUTIES AND POWERS--The duties and powers of the 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 CHAIRPERSON: The General Chairperson shall oversee and have general charge of the management, business, operations, affairs and property of WVS, 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 Chairpersons and members for standing and special committee or coordinators as may be necessary to permit WVS to effectively, efficiently and economically conduct its affairs. The General Chairperson shall report to the Board of Directors all matters within the General Chairperson's knowledge that the Board of Directors should consider in the best interests of WVS.
- .2 SECRETARY:- The Secretary, or a delegate shall be responsible far 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 USS as are required by Article 8 of these Bylaws and shall perform the other duties incidental to the office of Secretary. The Secretary, or the staff of WVS's permanent office, shall be custodian of the records of WVS, and attest the execution of, all duly authorized instruments. The Secretary shall cause to be kept at WVS's permanent office copies of all minutes, official correspondent, meeting and other notices, and any other records of WVS.
- .3 TREASURER: The Treasurer shall be the principal receiving and disbursing officer of WVS. Expect as otherwise directed by the Finance Vice Chairperson, the Finance Committee or the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall receive all moneys, income, fees and other receipts of WVS and pay all bills salaries, expenses and other disbursements approved by an authorized officer, committee Chairperson, coordinator, the Finance Vice-Chairperson, the Finance Committee, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, or required to be paid pursuant to Section 10.3.12. When authorized by the Board of Directors, income and expenses may be received and paid by a division, officer, or committee or coordinator, provided that the division, officer or committee or coordinator promptly submits to the Treasurer an itemized report, duly attested by the division, offer, or committee Chairperson or coordinator and either within the approved budget of such division, officer, or committee or coordinator, or authorized by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates The Treasurer shall be a member of the Finance Committee but may not be its Chairperson. The Treasurer shall issue a quarterly report listing the current budget variants by line item. all receipts, all expenditure 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-Chairperson, the Finance Committee, the General Chairperson or the Board of Directors may direct. The Treasurer shall

A Have charge of and supervision over and be responsible for the finds, moneys, securities and other financial instruments of WVS;

B cause the moneys, securities and other financial instruments of WVS to be deposited in the name and to the credit of WVS in such institutions as shall be designated in accordance with Section 6.10 or to be otherwise invested as the Finance Vice-Chairperson, the Finance Committee or the Board of Directors may direct;

C cause to be appropriately segregated and accounted for any endowment funds, scholarship or award funds and similar special purpose funds or accounts;

D cause the funds of WVS to be disbursed by checks or drafts, automated debits or wire transfers upon the authorized depositories of WVS, and obtain and preserve proper vouchers for all moneys disbursed;

E cause to be kept at WVS'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-Chairperson the Finance Committee or the Treasurer shall determine;

F upon request and at reasonable hours cause such books or duplicate thereof to be exhibited to 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 WVS or USS;

G cause WVS to be in compliance with the requirements of Section 8.4;

H have the power to require from the officers, committee Chairpersons, coordinators, staff or agents of WVS 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 WVS;

I have the power to appoint one or more assistant treasurers and Delegates to them one or more of the Treasury functions, or parts thereof; and

J in general, perform all the other duties incident to the corporate treasury function.

- .4 ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-Chairperson: The Administrative Vice-Chairperson shall conduct meetings in the absence of the General Chairperson and, at the request of the General Chairperson or in the event of the disability of the General Chairperson, shall perform-all-of the duties- of the General Chairperson, and when so acting shall have all of the powers of the General Chairperson. (See Section 6.8.) The Administrative Vice-Chairperson shall and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the division that administers WVS business au4 affairs. The Administrative Vice-Chairperson 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 committee and coordinators. The Administrative Division shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of WVS's Policies and Procedure Manual as well as periodic reviews of the WVS Bylaws. The Administrative Vice-Chairperson serves a liaison to the Athlete Representative, and shall be responsible to see that the Athlete Representative elections are held in accordant with these Bylaws. The Administrative Vice-Chairperson shall be responsible for computerization of WVS functions.
- .5 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT VICE Chairperson: The Program Development Vice-Chairperson shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the division that develops, coordinates and conducts a swimming program for all levels of swimming in the Territory, including the development of long-range plans for both Age Group and Senior swimming programs. The Program Development Vice-Chairperson shall be responsible for WVS functions related to adapted swimming, club development and outreach activities.
- .6 PROGRAM OPERATIONS VICE-CHAIRPERSON: The Program Operations Vice-Chairperson shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the division that coordinates and facilitates the conduct of all swimming programs for WVS including the awarding of meet sponsorships to Club Members, facilities and equipment rentals and meet management for all swimming meets sponsored by WVS. The Program Operations Vice Chairperson shall be responsible for meet sanctions, meet evaluations, and-state championship meet format -and awards.
- .7 FINANCE VICE CHAIRPERSON: The Finance Vice-Chairperson is the chief Financial officer of WVS. The Finance Vice Chairperson 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 WVS's working capital, funded reserves and endowment funds and the development and implementation of a marketing and fund-raising plan for WVS. The Finance Vice-Chairperson, with the assistance of the Finance Committee, shall prepare an

annual budget for WVS's operations and present the budget for approval by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates. In addition, the Finance Vice-Chairperson shall cause to be conducted the audit required pursuant to Section 8.5 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 Chairperson is responsible for the adequacy of WVS's system of internal financial and accounting controls. The Finance Vice-Chairperson is the Chairperson of the Finance Committee. The Finance Vice-Chairperson shall monitor Swim-A-Thon activity within WVS. Together with the Treasurer, the Finance Vice Chairperson is ultimately responsible for WVS's compliance with Section 8.4.

- .8 ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE: The Athlete Representatives shall serve as the liaison between the athletes who are members of WVS and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates.
- .9 COACH REPRESENTATIVES: The Coach Representatives shall serve as a liaison between the coaches who are members of WVS and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates.
- .10 OFFICIALS CHAIRPERSON - The Officials Chairperson shall chair the Officials Committee which shall be responsible for recruiting, training, certifying and supervising officials for WVS. The Officials Chairperson shall assign key officials for state championship meets and shall assign OVC observers for high school state championship meets. The Officials Chairperson shall be a referee certified by WVS and each member of the Officials Committee shall be a certified official of WVS.
- .11 SAFETY COORDINATOR - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancement and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USS safety education information to all Group Members, athlete, coach and officials of WVS. The Safety Coordinator shall develop safety education programs and policies for WVS and make recommendations regarding same, and the implementation thereof, to the Program Operations Vice-Chairperson, the Administrative Vice-Chairperson and the Board of Directors. The Safety Coordinator shall make the reports required pursuant to Section 8.7.
- .12 AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS - This Section is reserved for future use.
- .13 WVS DELEGATES TO USS HOUSE OF DELEGATES
  - A Officer and Representative Delegates - It shall be the duty and privilege of the General Chairperson, the Administrative Vice-Chairperson, the Program Development Vice-Chairperson, the Program Operations Vice-Chairperson, the Senior Athlete Representative, and the Senior Coach Representative to attend the USS annual meeting as representative of WVS and voting Delegates to the USS House of Delegates.
  - B Officer Delegates Alternate - If any of the officer Delegates is unable to attend, their elected alternate, if any, shall attend in their places. In the event that there are no elected alternate or the elected alternative are unable to attend, then the General Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint alternates who shall attend the USS annual meeting as delegates representing WVS.
  - C -Athlete Representative Alternate - If an athlete Delegates is- not able 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 Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall delegate one or more Athlete Members to attend as a representative of WVS.
  - D Coach Representative Alternate - If the Senior Coach Representative is unable to attend the USS annual meeting, then the other Coach Representative shall attend, and if neither Coach Representative is able to attend, then the General Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall designate a Coach Member to attend as a representative of WVS.
- 6.8 RESIGNATIONS - Any officer may resign by orally advising the General Chairperson 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.

## 6.9 VACANCIES AND INCAPACITIES -

- .1 OFFICE OF GENERAL CHAIRPERSON - In the event of a vacancy in the office of General Chairperson, or of the General Chairperson's temporary or permanent incapacity, the Administrative Vice-Chairperson shall become the Acting General Chairperson 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 Chairperson, or until the General Chairperson ceases to suffer from any temporary incapacity. While serving as Acting General Chairperson, the Administrative Vice-Chairperson shall vacate the office of Administrative Vice Chairperson, except in the case of the General Chairperson's temporary incapacity. If the General Chairperson is to be absent from the Territory, the General Chairperson may, but is not obligated to, delegate the Administrative Vice Chairperson as Acting General Chairperson for the duration of the absence.
- .2 OFFICES OF ATHLETE OR COACH REPRESENTATIVES - In the event of a vacant 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 Chairperson 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 a successor can be elected by the appropriate constituent group,
- .3 OTHER OFFICES - In the event of a vacancy in, or permanent incapacity of the person holding, any office other the General Chairperson, Athlete Representative, Coach Representative or member of the Board of Review, the General Chairperson 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 Chairperson 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 become incapacitated shall be within the discretion of she Board-of Directors or the House of Delegates with, in the case of a Athlete Representative or a Coach Representative, the advice and consent of the Athlete Committee or the Coaches Committee, respectively. The determination as to when the General Chairperson is temporarily incapacitated shall be made, where circumstances permit, by the General Chairperson and otherwise shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors, subject to any subsequent action by the House of Delegates.

## 6.10 OFFICERS' POWERS GENERALLY

- . 1 AUTHORITY T O EXECUTE CONTRACTS, ETC. - The General Chairperson, Administrative Vice-Chairperson Finance Vice-Chairperson each may sign and execute in the name of WVS deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, agreements or other instruments duly authorized by the WVS Policies and Procedures Manual, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, except in case 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 signature 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 WVS's Policies and Procedures Manual or by the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chairperson, the respective division Vice-Chairperson, the delegating officer or these Bylaws. The division Vice-Chairperson shall have the additional duties and powers set forth in Section 7.1 and 7.5.
- .3 DELEGATION - Officers of WVS 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-Chairperson 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, any officer may delegate any portion of that officer's powers or duties to the paid staff of WVS. 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 or WVS's Policies and Procedures Manual may create the office of deputy to one or more of the elected officers. The resolution or the Policies and Procedures Manual shall determine 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.

#### 6.11 DEPOSITORES AND BANKING AUTHORITY

.1 DEPOSITORIES, ETC. - All receipts, income, charges and fees of WVS 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 Committee or any officer or officers or agent or agents authorized to do so by the Board of Directors. Endorsements for deposit to the credit of WVS in any of its duly authorized depositories shall be made in the manner determined by the Finance Vice-Chairperson, the Finance Committee or the Board of Directors All funds of WVS 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 Chairperson, the Finance Committee, 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 of money, and all notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in. the name of. WVS shall be signed by the General Chairperson, the Treasurer or other officer or officers or agent or agents of WVS, and in the manner, as shall be determined by the Finance Vice-Chairperson, the Finance Committee or Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE 7 DIVISIONS, COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS**

7.1 DIVISIONAL ORGANIZATION AND JURISDICTIONS, STANDING CCOMMITTEES AND -COORDINATORS - The six divisions of WVS shall each be chaired by a Vice-Chairperson, the Senior Athletes Representative, or the Senior Coach Representative, whose respective powers, duties. jurisdiction and responsibilities are described in Section 6.6. Under each division Vice-Chairperson, there are officers, committees, coordinators and direct responsibilities as follows:

#### 1. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION - Administrative Vice-Chairperson

Membership/Registration Coordinator  
Publications Coordinator Records/Top 16  
Tabulation Coordinator Secretary

#### .2 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT :DIVISION - Program Development Vice-Chairperson

Camp/clinic Coordinator  
Technical Planning Committee  
Safety Coordinator  
Zone Team Coordinator

#### . 3 PROGRAM OPERATIONS DIVISION - Program Operations Vice-Chairperson

Meet Scheduling Committee  
Officials Committee Open  
Water Coordinator  
OVC Committee

.4 FINANCE DIVISION - Finance Vice-Chairperson

Finance Committee  
Marketing/Public Relations  
. Coordinator Relations Coordinator  
Travel Fund Coordinator Treasurer

. 5 ATHLETES DIVISION - Senior Athlete Representative

Athlete Representatives

.6 COACHES DIVISION -Senior Coach Representative

Coach Representative

7.2 NON-OFFICER CHAIRPERSONS AND THEIR COMMITTEES; COORDINATORS

.1 ELECTED, EX-OFFICIO AND APPOINTED NON-OFFICER CHAIRPERSONS AND COORDINATORS

A Elected Chairpersons and Coordinators - This Section is reserved for future use.

B Ex-officio Chairperson - Pursuant to Section 7.3, certain other committee Chairpersons are designated ex-officio by virtue of an office currently held.

C Appointed Chairpersons and Coordinators - The Chairpersons of all other standing committees and all other coordinators shall be appointed by the General Chairperson with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors and the respective division Vice-Chairperson. The appointed standing committee Chairperson or coordinator slip" assume office upon appointment or the date designated by the General Chairperson and shall serve until sixty days after the next election of a General Chairperson or until a successor is appointed and assumes office.

. 2 DUTIES AND POWERS OF NON-OFFICER CHAIRPERSONS AND COORDINATORS

A OVC Chairperson - The OVC Chairperson is responsible for chairing the committee as defined in Section 7.4.10.

B Camp/Clinic Coordinator - The Camp/Clinic Coordinator is responsible for encouraging the Board of Directors, Club Members, or Affiliated Group Members to assist in conducting swimming camps for athlete members and conducting marketing clinics for coach members.

C Membership/Registration Coordinator - The Membership/Registration Coordinator is authorized and obligated to conduct the registration of Group and Individual Members and supervise the transmission of registration information to USS and assist in the preparation of the reports. required by Section 8.6, together with such additional reports as may be required by USS, the Board of Directors, the Administrative Vice-Chairperson or the Finance Vice-Chairperson.

D Records/Top 16/Recognition Coordinator- The Records/Top 16/Recognition Coordinator shall maintain WVS records and WVS Top 16times, report eligible performance to USS for consideration for national recognition, and issue certificates to athlete members who earn such recognition.

E Safety Coordinator - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancement and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USS safety education information to all Group Members, athletes, managers and officials of WVS. The Safety Coordinator shall develop safety education programs and policy for WVS and make recommendations regarding those programs and policies and their implementation to the applicable division Vice-Chairpersons and the Board of Directors. When approved by the Board of Directors, the Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for the coordination of their implementation by the Club Members. The Safety Coordinator shall prepare and transmit the reports required pursuant to Section 8.7.

F Zone Team Coordinator - The Zone Team Coordinator shall coordinate all aspects of WVS involvement in the Central Zone Championships, including selection of the zone team coaches, selection of the zone team uniform, meet entries, and lodging arrangements.

7.3 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 Chairperson with the advice and consent of the respective division Vice-Chairperson and the Chairperson of the committee. The division Vice-Chairperson 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 OFFICIALS COMMITTEE - The members of the Officials Committee shall be the Officials Chairperson, who shall serve as chairperson, and at least two other members each of whom shall be a certified official of WVS.
- .2 OVC COMMITTEE - The members of the OVC Committee shall be the OVC Committee Chairperson, who shall serve as chairperson, and all persons appointed as OVC writers for WVS meets.
- .3 RECORDS COMMITTEE The members of the Records Committee shall be the Records Chairperson and at least two other persons as appointed by the Records Chairperson or General Chairperson.
- .4 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE The members of the Membership Committee shall be the Membership Chairperson and other persons as appointed by the Membership Chairperson or the General Chairperson.
- .5 SAFETY COMMITTEE The members of the Safety Committee shall be the Safety Coordinator and other persons as appointed by the Safety Coordinator or the General Chairperson.

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

7.4 DUTIES AND POWERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES -

- .1 OFFICIALS COMMITTEE - The Officials Committee is authorized and obligated to recruit, train, test, certify, evaluate, retest, recertify and supervise officials for WVS 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.
- .2 OVC COMMITTEE - The OVC Committee is authorized and obligated to issue official verification cards (OVC's) for eligible performance at meets that are sanctioned or approved for such purpose by WVS.
- .3 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE- The Membership Committee is authorized and obligated to keep current USS registration of all WV swimmers as submitted by Club Members, issue USS registration cards, verify registration as needed, and provide registration rosters to the Individual Club Members-
- .4 RECORDS COMMITTEE The Records Committee shall maintain WVS records and WVS Top 16 Times, report eligible performance to USS for consideration for national recognition, and issue certificates to athlete members who earn such recognition

7.5 DUTIES AND POWERS OF CHAIRPERSONS GENERALLY - The duties and powers of the General Chairperson, the division Vice-Chairpersons, committees or subcommittees (in addition to those provided elsewhere in these Bylaws) shall be as follows:

- .1 Preside at all meetings of the respective division, committee or subcommittee;
- .2 See that all duties and responsibilities of the coordinator or the respective division, committee or sub-committee in his/her charge are properly and promptly carried out;

- .3 Appoint such committees or sub-committees as maybe necessary to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of ~` coordinator or division or committee respectively;
- .4 Communicate with the respective division coordinator, committee or subcommittee members to keep them fully informed;
- .5 Keep the General Chairperson, the respective division Vice-Chairperson or committee chairperson and the staff of WVS's office informed of the respective coordinator, division committee or subcommittee actions and recommendations;
- .6 Appoint a member as secretary of the division committee or subcommittee charged with taking minutes of loch meeting and forward reports or minutes of all meetings to WVS's office;
- .7 Refer to the Board of Directors any recommendation for action which would establish or change policies or programs for W VS, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors; and
- .8 Perform the other specific duties listed in WVS's Policies and Policies Manual or as may be delegated by the General Chairperson, the respective division vice-chairperson or committee chair the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. .

7.6 DUTIES AND POWERS OF COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS GENERALLY - Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the duties and powers of the standing committees and coordinators shall be prescribed by WVS's Policies and Procedures Manual, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chairperson or the respective division vice-chairperson. Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws, the duties and powers of any other committees and subcommittees shall be prescribed by WVS's Policies and Procedure Manual, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or the officer, coordinator or Chairperson pursuant to whose powers such committee or subcommittee was created.

7.7 REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS - Regular and special meetings of divisions, committees or subcommittee WVS shall be held as determined by the respective Vice-Chairperson or committee or subcommittee Chairperson. An additional meeting maybe called where applicable by the division Chairperson or committee Chairperson pursuant to whose authority a committee or sub-committee was established.

7.8 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS - Meetings of divisions, committee and subcommittees shall be open to all members of WVS and USS. 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.

7.9 VOICE AND VOTING RIGHTS OF DIVISION, COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE 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 MEMBERSs - Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, the General Chairperson 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 subcommittee 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 eve no vote in those meetings.

7.10 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 subcommittee 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.

7.11 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.

7.12 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 those members present of the committee or subcommittee.

7.13 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.

7.14 PROXY VOTE - Voting by proxy in any meeting of a division, committee or sub-committee of WVS shall not be permitted

#### 7.15 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 WVS. Separate notices need not be given for regular meetings that are scheduled well in advance. (See Section 16.1.5 for the versions forms of notice.)

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

7.16 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 subject are taken up may be varied:

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

7.17 RESIGNATIONS - Any committee or subcommittee Chairperson or member or Coordinator may resign by orally advising the General Chairperson 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. .

7.18 VACANCIES - The determination of when the position of an appointed committee or subcommittee chairperson, committee member or a coordinator 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 6.8 for provisions applicable to elected committee chairpersons and coordinators.) In the event of a vacancy or permanent incapacity, the General Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors and the respective division vice-Chairperson, shall appoint a successor to serve until the conclusion of the incumbent's term. A temporary incapacity may be left unfilled at the discretion of the General Chairperson or an appointment may be made for the duration of the temporary incapacity,

7.19 DELEGATION - With the consent of the Board of Directors or the respective division Vice-chairperson, a committee, subcommittee Chairperson or a coordinator may delegate a portion of their powers or duties to another officer of WVS or to another committee, subcommittee or coordinator, or, with the consent of the Board of Directors, to the staff of WVS. Notwithstanding any delegation the ultimate responsibility for the delegated duties and obligations shall remain with the delegator.

7.20 APPLICATION TO EXECUTIVE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEES AND BOARD OF REVIEW - Section 7.5 through 7.15 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, in the resolution creating the committee or in the WVS Policies and Procedures Manual. These provisions shall also apply to Board of Review meetings, but shall not apply to its hearings or deliberations.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **ANNUAL AUDIT, REPORTS AND REMITTANCES**

8.1 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 USS national headquarters.

8.2 FINANCIAL AND FEDERAL TAX REPORTS - The Secretary shall forward to USS 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 procedure of WVS and the report thereon prepared in accordance with Section 8.5, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the audit report and shall advise USS National headquarters within third (30) days following acceptance by the House of Delegates. Copies of any corresponding federal income tax return required to be filed by WVS under the IRS Code shall be included with the annual audit n upon sent to USS national headquarters.

8.3 STATE AND LOCAL REPORTS AND FILINGS - The Secretary shall cause to be made all reports and non-tax film-and shall requisition from the Treasurer checks with which to pay any applicable fees required by its state incorporation and by any other state or municipality in which it operates.

8.4 PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION- WVS shall cause to be made available from the Treasurer or Finance Vice-Chairperson to anyone requesting to see a copy of WVS's federal income tax and information returns for each of the last three years, and a copy of the materials submitted by USS to include WVS in USS's group exemption ruling as required pursuant to IRS Code Section 6104 and any similar requirements of applicable state or local laws.

8.5 ANNUAL AUDIT - An annual audit of the accounts, books and records of WVS 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 Finance Committee. The audit shall cover any federal, state or local income tax return that WVS is required to file under the IRS Code or applicable provision 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 WVS have been reviewed and fairly present the financial condition of WVS 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.

8.6 MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION REPORTS - The Membership/Registration Coordinator or a Delegates shall forward in a timely manner all required reports to the Executive Director of USS. This report shall be accompanied by a remittance of the appropriate membership and registration fees due to USS. The Membership/Registration Coordinator shall make periodic summary reports to the Administrative Vice-Chairperson, the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates.

## 8.7 SAFETY REPORTS

- . 1 INCIDENT/OCCURRENCE REPORTS - An occurrence report providing all of the information requested by applicable USS national headquarters, the Safety Coordinator and the Administrative Vice-Chairperson, and the WVS office.
- .2 REPORTS OF INJURIES - The Safety Coordinator 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 whether the injured party is a member of WVS and USS, 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 WVS 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 USS national headquarters. The Safety Coordinator is responsible for distribution of this report to each Club Safety Coordinator. A copy of each House of Delegates report shall also be each to the USS 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 WVS and its member.
- .3 SAFETY EDUCATION - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for disseminating safety information flowing from USS Headquarters and exploring safety education opportunities and developing a safety education program tailored to WVS and its members and Territory.

8.8 MAILING ADDRESS - WVS shall notify in writing USS national headquarters of any change in its regular mailing address within 14 days of the change.

8.9 REPORTS GENERALLY - WVS shall make all reports and remittances to USS as specified in the USS Code or by the National Board of Directors or National House of Delegates. in such a manner and on such written forms as maybe requested by USS National headquarters: The General Chairperson, the Membership/Registration Coordinator, the Secretary, the Finance Vice-Chairperson and the Treasurer shall be collectively responsible for seeing that all required reports and remittances are made.

## ARTICLE 9

### MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

- 9.1 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS - WVS, in furtherance of Article 301 of the USS Code, shall respect and protect the right of every Individual Member who is eligible under WVS, USS 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 WVS, USS and FINA requirement. 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 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.
- 9.2 CLUB MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS - WVS shall respect and protect the right of every Club Member which its athletes, coaches, trainers managers, meet directors and other officials, so long as the competition is conducted in compliance with WVS, USS 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 10

### BOARD OF REVIEW, HEARINGS AND RIGHT OF APPEAL

- 10.1 INTRODUCTION - USS was organized as the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming under the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, a federal law. That law requires USS to establish and maintain provisions for the swift and equitable resolution of all disputes involving any of its members. This Article, together with Section 2.2 and Article 9, and the USS Code of Ethics 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 dispute that may arise among its members in connection with the sport of swimming. Accordingly, WVS has established the Board of Review 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 USS Code of Ethics or otherwise violate the policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USS or WVS, or conduct that may bring USS, WVS or the sport of swimming into disrepute. This Article is intended to provide a uniform method of appeal from any decision, act or failure to act to which a member of WVS 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 shall be construed accordingly.
- 10.2 DEFINITIONS FOR ARTICLE 10 - When used in this Article 10, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated in this Section and the definitions of such terms are equally applicable to both the singular and plural forms. Where a cross reference to another Section of the Bylaws appears within the definition, the definition is qualified by the more complete definition found in that Section:
- .1 "Answer"- shall mean the written response to a Protest and Notice filed in accordance with Section 10.6.1. C and served in the manner prescribed in Section 10.10.
  - .2 "Chairperson"- when standing by itself shall-mean the Chairperson of the Board of Review.
  - .3 "Notice" shall mean the writing addressed to the Respondent advising that the Respondent WVS been named a respondent in a Protest and served in accordance with Section 10.10. The Notice sets the hearing date and procedure and establishes the schedule to be followed leading to the hearing, among other things. See Section 10.2.3.
  - .4 "Presiding Officer" shall mean the Chairperson or another member of the Board of Review designated by the Chairperson to preside at a particular hearing or hearings: Where applicable the term shall include an attorney so designated pursuant to Section 10.3.12.B.
  - .5 "Protests" shall mean a written complaint filed in accordance with Section 10.6.IA by a Group Member or an applicant for such status, or an Individual Member or applicant for such status or, with regard to conduct occurring in the Territory, a member of another LSC, against a member of WVS or a constituent element, officer or agent of WVS. The Protest may relate to an applicant's having been denied membership in WVS or a member's alleged infraction against its responsibilities under Section 2.2 or about a decision or action by someone acting -under the authority of WVS or USS or, with regard to conduct in the Territory, another LSC.
  - .6 "Protestor" shall mean the Individual Member or Group Member that has filed a Protest with the Board of Review.
  - .7 "Rebuttal" shall mean the written response to an Answer by a Protester filed in accordance with Section 10.6.1 .D and served in the manner prescribed in Section 10.10.-
  - .8 "Respondent"- shall mean the person against whom a Protest has been filed with the Board of Review or who may be affected by a decision .of the Board of Review regarding the Protest.
  - .9 "Vice-Chairperson" when used by itself shall mean the Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Review.

### 10.3 BOARD OF REVIEW ORGANIZATION

- .1 ESTABLISHMENT - The Board of Review of WVS shall be independent and impartial.
- .2 MEMBERS - The Board of Review shall have at least *five (5)* ~~seven (7)~~ regular members and at least *three (3)* ~~two (2)~~ alternate members. Membership on the Board of Review shall *have a sufficient number of athlete members to constitute at least 20% of its membership* ~~include at least one Athlete Member~~ and at least one Coach Member. 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 numbers of regular or alternate members up on 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 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: Three regular and one alternate members shall be elected in even-numbered years and four regular and one alternate members in odd-numbered years.
- B Term of Office - The term of office shall be two 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 Individual Member of WVS and USS. In no case shall elected members of the Board of Directors constitute a majority of the Board of Review.
- .4 CHAIRPERSON ELECTED BY BOARD; OTHER OFFICERS - The Chairperson, who must, be a regular member, shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the regular members of the Board of Review. The Chairperson shall annually appoint a Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary of the Board of Review, each of whom must be regular members.
- .5 MEETINGS - The Board of Review shall meet for administrative purposes at least one annually to elect the Chairperson, 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 maybe called by the Chairperson or any three regular members. When meeting for administrative purpose, those provisions of Article. 7 that are specified in Section 7.19 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. (The rule prescribed in Section 10.5.1.C governs the quorum for hearings and rehearing conducted by the Board of Review.)
- .8 RESIGNATIONS - Any regular or alternate member of the Board of Review may resign by orally advising the Chairperson or by submitting a written resignation to the Chairperson, the General Chairperson 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-
- A Office of Chairperson - In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chairperson or of the Chairperson's temporary or permanent incapacity; the Vice-Chairperson shall become the Acting Chairperson until an election can be held at a meeting of the Board of Review to fill the remaining term, if any, of the former Chairperson or until the Chairperson ceases to suffer from any temporary incapacity. If the Chairperson is going to be absent from the Territory, the Chairperson may, but is not obligated to, designate the Vice-Chairperson as Acting Chairperson for the duration of the absence.

B Presiding Officer - In the event of the death, resignation or permanent incapacity of a Presiding Officer, Chairperson shall appoint another member, an alternate member or an attorney to serve until the completion of the hearings assigned to that Presiding Officer. Generally that event and appointment should have no impact on those pending hearings or rehearing other than delay for the benefit of the new Presiding Officer. The Chairperson or the new Presiding Officer may make such other orders as are in the interests of fairness, justice and the sport of swimming. In the case of temporary incapacity of a Presiding Officer, a delay of the hearing, or rehearing of such other order as may serve the interests of fairness, justice and the sport of swimming.

C Other Members - In the event of a death, resignation or permanent incapacity of a member of the Board of Review, the Chairperson shall appoint an alternate member, or, failing that, the General Chairperson shall appoint an Individual Member, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, to serve as a Board of Review member until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Delegates. In the event of a temporary incapacity, the Chairperson shall designate another member or an alternate member to act for the incapacitated member for the duration of the incapacity. If there are no alternate members available to serve, the General Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint one or more individual Members to serve as alternate members to serve unable the next regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Delegates.

D Determination of Vacancy or Incapacity - The determination of when a membership on the Board of Review becomes vacant or a member becomes incapacitated shall be within the discretion of the Board of Review, subject to any subsequent action by the House of Delegates. The determination as to when the Chairperson is temporarily incapacitated shall be made, where the circumstances permit, by the Chairperson and otherwise shall be within the discretion of the Board of Review, subject to any subsequent action by 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- as for any reason, recuses herself or himself or is disqualified in any particular circumstance, the Chairperson (or, if the person so unable or unwilling to act or recused or disqualified is, Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson; or failing that, the General Chairperson) 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 as in the member's place and stead in respect of that circumstance.

.11 EXTENSIONS OF TIME - The time by which any act is required to be taken pursuant to this Article 10 maybe extended or foreshortened by the Chairperson, or the Presiding Officer for a particular hearing for good cause. (A single exception to this rule is provided in Section 10.6.4.) A party's request for an extension of time prior to the time established without regard to the requested extension will be accorded greater deference than a request made later. The time, date and location of any hearing may be changed by the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer for a particular hearing on his or her own initiative, as required by the interests of the Board of Review or in the interests of justice.

#### .12 ADVICE; ATTORNEY AS PRESIDING OFFICER

A Legal and Other Advice - Where appropriate or helpful, the Chairperson or Presiding Officer may consult the USS General Counsel, any member of the USS Counselors Committee, the Chairpersons of the USS Legislation, Rules or Officials Committees or of the Bylaws Subcommittee or an attorney (who need not be a member of WVS, USS or the Board of Review) retained by the Board of Review or the Chairperson regarding any issue raised -by a proceeding.

B Attorney as Presiding Officer - The Board of Review or the Chairperson may retain an attorney (who need not be a member of WVS, USS or the Board of Review) to be as Presiding Officer at any hearing where it is appropriate or helpful. A Presiding Officer who is not a Board of Review member may participate in the deliberations of the Board of Review or the designated panel but shall not be counted in determining the existence of a quorum and shall not have a vote.

C Attorney's Fee and Expense - 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 shall not be considered as a payment of fees for

this purpose), the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer shall consult with the General Chairperson and the USS General Counsel. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to pay any fee and expense charged by the attorney and approved by the Chairperson.

### .13 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF BOARD OF REVIEW; RECUSAL -

A Code of Conduct - Members of the Board of Review shall:

- (1) uphold the integrity and independent of the Board of Review;
- (2) avoid any impropriety or even the appearance of impropriety in connection with service as a Board of Review member and swimming-related activities generally, and
- (3) perform the duties of Board of Review membership impartially and diligently.

B Grounds for Recusal - Members of the Board of Review shall recuse themselves from participating in any matter pending before the Board of Review:

- (1) in which their impartiality might reasonable be questioned;
- (2) where they have a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party in the matter pending before the Board of Review or have personal knowledge of disputed evidentiary facts concerning the pending matter (other than knowledge obtained as a Board of Review member);
- (3) where they or a member of their household are a party or are likely to be a material witness in the pending matter,
- (4) where they or a member of their household have an interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding, of
- (5) where they or a member of their household have served or are serving as counsel in the pending matter or are members of a law firm that served or is serving as counsel in the pending matter.

C Recusal by Member - Board of Review members shall recuse themselves as soon as they become aware of facts that give rise to the duty to do so by giving notice to the Chairperson, or in the case of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson.

D Recusal/Disqualification Requested by Party - By written notice to the Presiding Officer or the Chairperson, or, in the case in which the Chairperson is the subject of the notice, the Vice Chairperson, any party may request that .the members recuse themselves or be disqualified from serving on the pending matter stating the reasons for recusal or disqualification. Such notice shall be given at least ten (10) Business Days prior to the scheduled date of the hearing on such matter or later if the party sustains the burden of proving good cause for the lateness of the notice. The named member shall reach a .decision on the matter and notify the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson of that decision within five (5) Business Days of receipt of the party's notice. If the member's decision is not in favor of recusal, then the Chairperson or the Vice chairperson may, but is not required to, disqualify the member from participating in the pending matter. If there is no disqualification, the hearing shall be conducted and the party giving the notice may appeal the disqualification decision. together with the hearing decision, pursuant to Section 10.5.2.

E Substitution for Recused or Disqualified Member-- In the event of a refusal or a disqualification, a substitute shall be appointed as provided is Section 10.3.10.

#### 10.4 GENERAL JURISDICTION -

.1 ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS - The Board of Review shall have the powers and the duty to:

- A administer and conduct the affairs and achieve the purpose of the Board of Review,
- B establish policy procedure and guidelines,
- C elect the Chairperson in accordance with Section 10.3.4,
- 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 contracts and employ those persons which the Board of Review may determine are appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs
- G publish decisions and orders 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 rules and procedures with respect to any matter within its jurisdiction or appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs. The rules and procedures adopted by the Board of Review shall have the same force and effect as if they had been adopted as part of the Bylaws.

.3 INVESTIGATIVE AND JUDICIAL POWERS - The Board of Review may investigate and conduct hearings, make and publish decisions and orders with regard to any matter affecting WVS, its status or conduct as a Local Swimming Committee or the administration of the sport of swimming in the Territory which involve:

A WVS and ( 1 ) a member of members of WS or (2) a member or members of another LSC solely with respect to conduct or events occurring within the Territory or a combination of persons described in clauses (1) or (2), or

B only a member of WVS, or

C with respect to conduct or events occurring outside the Territory, (1) WVS and a member or members of WVS or (2) only a member or members of WVS.

The jurisdiction of the Board of Review is limited in the case of matters described in Sections 401.3.1 and 401.3.3 of the USS Code (with regard to the original and exclusive jurisdiction of the National Board of Review) and may be further limited to the extent provided in an order pursuant to section 401.3.2 of the USS Code (pertaining to certain discretionary jurisdiction of the National Board of Review).

.4 EXERCISE OF POWERS AND DECISIONS - Except for authority and power granted to the Chairperson 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 lie 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 Protest filed with it, subject, in appropriate an circumstances, to the power, and discretion of the Chairperson or Presiding Officer to dismiss a Protest with permission to re-file for a stated period. In connection with any preliminary investigation, the Chairperson or Presiding Officer may offer the services of a Board of Review member to as a mediator or similar positions under other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

.5 TIMELINESS OF PROTEST - The Board of Review need not exercise its jurisdiction with respect to a Protest subject matter of which occurred or concerns or is founded on events which occurred, more than ninety (90) days

prior to the date the Protest is received (as determined under Section 10.10), or in the case of subject matter that relates to a conviction, or actions which could be basis of a conviction, for 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. more than five (5) years prior to that date. A determination not to exercise its jurisdiction as a result of the untimeliness of a Protest may be the subject of a request for rehearing and, thereafter, appeal to the National Board of Review pursuant to Section 10.9.

.6 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 Protest, 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.

#### .7 POWER OF BOARD TO DEVISE REMEDIES AND IMPOSE PENALTIES

A Remedies and Penalties - The Board of Review, after conducting such hearings as it may determine to be necessary or helpful, may, among other remedies:

- (1) dismiss the Protest with or without permission to refill;
- (2) censure or fine;
- (3) establish a period of probation;
- (4) prohibit or mandate future actions, inaction or conduct;
- (5) determine the results of; or require a rerun of, any election held by WVS or any constituent element thereof;
- (6) vacate, modify, sustain, reverse, remand or stay any decision or order of a smaller panel of the Board of Review, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, any officer, division or committee coordinator or official of WVS;
- (7) interpret any provision of the FINA rules and regulations to the extent not preempted by FINA, the USS Code (except for Part One), the USS Code of Ethics, these Bylaws other policy, rules, regulations and procedures of USS or WVS, the Amateur Sports Act of 1978; a federal law, and other applicable laws, rules and regulations and adjudicate alleged inconsistencies and claims of supremacy and invalidity;
- (8) deny, grant, suspend or restore the eligibility or right to compete of an Athlete Member of WVS and USS;
- (9) deny, grant, suspend or restore membership in WVS and USS for a definite or indefinite period of time, with or without terms of probation, or expel any Group Member or Individual Member of WVS and USS, including any administrator, -athlete, coach, trainer, manager, meet director, official, officer, Board Member. House of Delegates representative of a Group Member, coordinator or chairperson or member of any committee or sub-committee;
- (10) prohibit for a definite or indefinite period of time the participation by a non-member volunteer or other person in any capacity whatsoever in the affairs of USS, WVS, its Group Members or other LSC's and their Group Members;
- (11) assess costs, including any filing fee and attorneys fees and expense, to the prevailing party or refund any filing fee paid by the prevailing party; and
- (12) any combination of any of the foregoing or any other remedies deemed appropriate in the circumstance.

B Preliminary Hearing and Temporary Orders - In appropriate cases, the Board of Review, after an initial investigation and/or a preliminary hearing, may make in its discretion temporary orders for the good of the sport of swimming. The temporary order may encompass any remedy or order permissible in a final decision and may include, by way of example, suspending membership; granting the right to participate or coach in a competition or permitting an athlete to compete subject to protest or offering or ordering the parties to attempt to resolve their differences pursuant to mediation or order alternative dispute resolution mechanism prior to any hearing before the Board of Review, These orders may be made effective pending full hearings by the Board of Review or the conclusion of administrative or judicial proceedings of other bodies addressing the same or similar issue or on other terms as determined by the Board of Review. Instances in which such temporary orders might be made include cases in which a member has been indicted or otherwise formally charged with or accused of committing a crime (including felony, misdemeanor and lesser crimes) involving sexual misconduct. child abuse, a violation of a law

specifically designed to protect minors or similar offenses. Temporary orders may not be separately appealed pnoT the decision being issued in the proceeding unless the Chairperson or the Chairperson of the National Board Review in their discretion grant permission to an aggrieved party to appeal the temporary orders prior to the final Board of Review decision in the matter.

C Grounds (Reasons) for Imposition - The Board of Review may fashion remedies and orders and impose penalties with respect to any Group or individual Member or non-member volunteer of WVS or of a Group Member (1) who has violated any of the regulations, rules, policies or procedures of WVS, USS or FINA, including any of the responsibilities of membership set forth in Section 2.2, (2) who aids, abets, instigates or encourages another to violate any of such regulations, rules or polices (3) who is responsible for any such violation by another under Season 2.2.2, (4) who has been 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 Board of Review to have committed actions which would be the basis for a conviction, or (5) who has acted in a manner which has brought, or may bring, into disrepute WVS, USS or the sport of swimming.

D Power to Impose Conditional Remedies and Penalties. Etc. - The Board of Review may stay its decision, in whole or in part subject to specified conditions, with the decision taking effect automatically if such conditions occur.

## 10.5 HEARINGS AND REHEARING GENERALLY -

### . 1 HEARINGS -

A Hearings Conducted by Chairperson or Presiding Officer - Hearings of the Board of Review shall be conducted by the Chairperson or a Presiding Officer designated by the Chairperson.

B Hearing by Panel - The Board of Review may, in the discretion of the Chairperson, conduct hearings either before the full Board of Review or before panels of its members, provided that in any event each panel shall consist of least three (3) members. A panel shall have all of the powers of the Board of Review solely with respect to matter assigned to it by the Chairperson.

C Quorum of Panel - At least three (3) members of a designated panel (or of the full Board of Review) must be present at any initial hearing before the panel and at least the lesser of the full regular membership or five (5) regular members must be present at any rehearing.

D Permissible Hearing Formats - A hearing before the Board of Review may be conducted through the receipt of the procedural documents and other written statements or a hearing at which the parties may appear in person or by means of communications equipment described in Section 10.3.6 and testimony may be taken and other forms of pertinent information presented in addition to oral argument by the parties or their counsel, as determined by the Chairperson or Presiding Officer. In the discretion of the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer, the hearing may be conducted in part through written means and in part by testimony and oral argument

E Right to Counsel - The Protestor, the Respondent and any other person participating in a hearing conducted by the Board of Review shall be entitled to be represented by counsel of their choice at their own expense.

F Rules of Evidence - Judicial rules regarding admissibility of evidence shall not apply to the Board of Review. Thus, hearsay, letters, affidavits, news media articles and reports, etc., as well as direct testimony taken from witness present at a hearing, are all admissible to the extent the Presiding Officer is satisfied as to the relevance and non-repetitive nature of the evidence. Similarly, claims of privilege (other than attorney client and privilege that under applicable Federal and state laws the Board of Review is required to recognize) shall not be entertained by the Board of Review, except in extraordinary circumstances. Proper weight shall be given to each type of evidence considering the source and other common sense factors.

## . 2 REHEARING

A Circumstances Permitting; Rehearing Body - At the request of the Protestor, the Respondent or any other interested party, any matter which was decided by a panel of less than five (5) members may be reheard by the full Board of Review (or, if the Board of Review is larger than seven (7) members, by a panel of at least seven (7) members designated by the Chairperson in his discretion). Members of the initial hearing panel may be members of the rehearing panel.

B Right to a Rehearing; Discretion of Chairperson - A rehearing shall be granted as a matter of right in instances in which the original panel consisted of less than seven members and the decision was not unanimous and at the discretion of the Chairperson in all other instance.

C Time within which a Rehearing may be Requested - The Protester, each Respondent or other party may request within ten (10) Business Days of the date of receipt of the initial written decision that the decision of a Board of Review panel be reheard.

D Failure to Request a Rehearing - A person may not appeal pursuant to Section 10.9 a decision of a panel of less than seven members without first making a timely request for a rehearing.

E Decision of Chairperson on Request; Notice of Rehearing -

(1) Discretionary Rehearing - With respect to requests for a rehearing that are discretionary, the Chairperson, in the same manner in which decisions are rendered, shall either grant or deny the request within ten (10) Business Days of the receipt of the requests.

(2) Non-Discretionary Rehearing - With respect to requests for a rehearing that are not discretionary, within ten (10) Business Days of the receipt of the request, the Chairperson shall schedule a rehearing.

(3) Rehearing Notice; Affect of Inaction - In either case, the Chairperson shall notify all parties to the initial hearing of the rehearing, its time and date and the method by which the rehearing will be conducted. If the Chairperson does not take action within ten (10) Business Days, the decision of the panel shall be considered final and any of the panel may appeal the decision in accordance with Section 10.9.

F Fresh Start Hearing or On the Record Rehearing - The rehearing panel at the discretion of the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer may conduct an entirely new hearing or may make its decision based on the record created by the initial panel supplemented by whatever written memoranda or oral argument may be requested by the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer. The record shall include the Protest, the Notice of Charge, the Answer, the Rebuttal, any temporary orders or partial decision's made and the Notice of Decision, together with any additional memoranda and written evidence filed by the parties. To the extent applicable, the procedure for a formal hearing shall apply to a rehearing. See. Sections 10.5.1 and 10.6.1.E.

.3 CLOSED HEARINGS - Any hearing, or a part thereof, shall be closed to everyone except members of the Board of Review, the Presiding Officer, an attorney advising the Presiding Officer, the Protester, the Respondent, any other party, their counsel and any witness at the request of any of the parties and may be closed at the discretion of the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer as being *in* the best interests of justice and the sport of swimming. If a hearing is closed, the Board of Review may in its discretion direct the participants to keep the proceedings and the decision confidential and all or parts of the record of the hearing to be kept confidential by WVS and USS.

.4 EXTENSIONSOFTIME - The general rule regarding extensions of time within which any act is required to be taken pursuant to this Article 10 appears in Section 10.3.11.

.5 ACCELERATED HEARING SCHEDULE - With the agreement of all parties to a hearing, the Chairperson or the Presiding Officer for the hearing, may order an accelerated hearing schedule in the interest of justice and the sport of swimming.

10. 6 HEARING PROCEDURES - The procedures to be followed in connection with all hearings shall be as follows:

. 1 FORMAL HEARING

A Protest - The Protestor shall submit to the Chairperson of the Board of Review (if submitted to the General Chairperson, the statement is not defective, but the allowable period of time for the Notice shall not commence until the statement is received by the Chairperson) a written statement setting forth a description of the action, inaction or conduct that is believed to have been improper or incorrect, and the name of the person or group believed to have acted improperly or the circumstances believed to require answers; explanation or clarification This written statement becomes the Protest under Section 10.2.5. The Protest shall be accompanied by any filing fee due under Section 10.4.5 or by an application for waiver of the fee.

B Notice - Each Respondent shall be given a written notice of the Protest. This written notice becomes the Notice under Section 10.2.3. The Notice shall be sent to each Respondent's last known address (determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 10.10) by certified or express mail, return receipt requested, by Federal Express, signature requested, or *by* personal service. If the Respondent is WVS or an officer, Board Member, committee or sub-committee Chairperson or coordinator or an official, the Notice shall be also given to the General Chairperson, the Administrative Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary at WVS's office. The Notice shall be given as soon as practical following the conclusion of any preliminary investigation made by or on behalf of the Board of Review, but in no event later than fourteen (14) Business Days (twenty (20) Business Days if advice is sought under Section 10.3.12.A) after the receipt of the Protest by the Chairperson. The form of Notice shall include:

(1) a statement in reasonable detail of the charge against each Respondent, or of the circumstances that are believed to require answers, explanation or clarification. A copy of the Protest received *by* the Board of Review, if any, shall be an attached to the Notice;

(2) a statement that the Respondent has the right to have counsel of his own choice to represent him, at his own expense, at any hearing;

(3) a description of the type of hearing to be held. In the case of an in-person hearing, the Notice shall request each Respondent to appear before the Board of Review with counsel and witnesses, if any;

(4) a date, time and location at which the hearing will be held. The date of the hearing shall be not less than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days after the date of transmission of the Notice;

(5) a request that each Respondent answer in writing all of the charges set forth in the Notice. The Notice shall state that this answer is to be delivered at least ten (10) Business Days prior to the date of the hearing, to the Presiding Officer designated in the Notice, at the specified address, with a copy to the Protestor and the Protestor's counsel, if any, and anyone else specified in the Notice at the addresses designated in the Notice with delivery in accordance with Section 10.10.2; and

(6) a statement of the right of appellate review (including the right, if any, to a rehearing) in the event the decision is rendered against the Respondent.

C Answer by Respondent - Each Respondent's response to the Notice and Protest shall be in writing and delivered to the Presiding Officer designated in the Notice, at least ten (10) Business Days prior to the date of the hearing, with a copy to the Protester and his counsel and anyone else specified in the Notice at the addresses designated in the Notice. This written statement becomes the Answer under Section 10.2.1. The Answer shall be delivered in according with Section 10.10.2.

D Rebuttal by Protester - The Protester may, but is not required to, offer a rebuttal to the Respondent's Answer. Any rebuttal shall be in writing and delivered to the Presiding Officer designated in the Notice, at least five (5) Business Days prior to the date of the hearing, with copies to each Respondent and his counsel at the addresses specified in the Answer and to anyone else specified in the Notice at the addresses designated in the Notice. This written statement comes the Rebuttal under Section 10.2.7.

The Rebuttal shall be delivered in accordance with Section 10.10.2.

## E CONDUCT OF HEARING

- (1) Generally - Hearings shall be conducted in an orderly fashion, but without regard for the formalities of traditional court room procedure. The hearing shall be conducted in a manner conducted to the establishment of the truth and the interests of fairness, justice and the sport of swimming. The Presiding Officer is responsible for keeping the parties and their counsel, if any, focused on the issue at hand and the necessary elements of proof and for enforcing the ordinal rule that no one may speak who has not been recognized by the Presiding Officer. For hearings conducted other than entirely through the receipt of written statements, the Board of Review shall cause a recording or transcription to be made of the hearing. No record of the deliberations of the Board of Review need be kept and, if kept, shall not be available to anyone other than the members of the Board of Review, the Presiding Officer and counsel to the Board of Review.
- (2) Absence of a Party - The hearing may proceed in the absence of any party who fails to be available at the appointed time and judgment shall not be reached merely because of that person's absence. If the Presiding Officer determines that, in the interests of justice and the sport of swimming, the hearing cannot proceed without the absent party, the Presiding Officer may adjourn the hearing and reschedule it for such time as the absent party can be present. Any subsequent absence may be taken into account by the Board of Review in reaching its decision.
- (3) Sequence - The hearing shall be opened by the recording of the place, time and date of the hearing and the presence of the members of the Board of Review, the parties, counsel, if any, and any other witness or observers. Each party (Protestor first, Respondent second) may then present a brief opening statement setting forth the party's view of the issue in dispute, the relief sought and what they hope to prove by the presentation of evidence. The Protestor's claims, evidence and witnesses shall be presented. The Respondent's defenses, claims, evidence and witnesses shall then be presented. In the discretion of the Presiding Officer, the Protestor may then be allowed to rebut any testimony or evidence presented by the Respondent after the Respondent's initial presentation. In the discretion of the Presiding Officer, the Respondent may be permitted to rebut any testimony or evidence presented by the Protestor during the Protestor's rebuttal presentation. Finally, each party (in the same order) shall be entitled to make a brief summation of that party's case.
- (4) Rules of Evidence; Witness Testimony - The rules of evidence governing the hearing are set forth in Section 10.5.F. Each witness may present testimony initially either in the form of questions and answers between the witness and counsel or in uninterrupted narrative. The Presiding Officer and the members of the Board of Review may question any person at any time during the hearing. Thus, for example, in an exercise of discretion the Presiding Officer may call a witness who has not yet been called or whom no party intended to call and propound questions to, or elicit narrative testimony from, that witness. Witnesses shall be subject to cross examination by the other party and to questioning by the Presiding Officer and members of the Board of Review. All panel will be expected to be available for questioning by the Board of Review, whether or not they may have given other testimony at the hearing.
- (5) Variant of Procedures - The Presiding Officer shall have wide discretion to vary these procedures in the interests of justice, the Sport of swimming and efficiency, but in doing so shall afford all parties a full and substantially equal opportunity to present any material or relevant proofs. A hearing may be adjourned by the Presiding Officer at the request of a party or on the Presiding Officer's initiative where an adjournment will serve the interests of fairness, justice and the sport of, swimming. If a hearing is adjourned, the continuance shall be scheduled for any early date of mutual convenience, but, in the discretion of the Presiding Officer. Justice and the sport of swimming ordinarily will be best served by an expeditious resumption and conclusion to the hearing.

F Decision of Board of Review - The decision of the Board of Review may be rendered at the time of the hearing and, if not so rendered, as soon as possible thereafter and in no event more than ten (10) Business Days after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall include findings of facts and a statement of remedies ordered or penalties imposed, if any, and a statement setting forth the rights of the panel to appeal the decision. The decision shall be in writing, or

in case of a decision rendered at the hearing, reduced to writing promptly, and delivered to the Protestor, each Respondent, their respective counsel, any other party to the proceeding, the General Chairperson and the Secret, of WVS, the Chairperson of the National Board of Review and the General Counsel of USS in accordance with Section 10.10.2.

## 2 EMERGENCY HEARING-

A Reasons for Emergency Hearing - When compliance with the formal hearing procedures would be likely not to produce a sufficiently early decision to provide justice to the affected parties or to be in the best interest of the sport of swimming, the Board of Review is authorized to summarily hear and decide any matter relating to a scheduled competition or other matter of similar urgency

B Notice of Emergency Hearing - Each Respondent shall be given such notice of the hearing as time and circumstances may reasonably dictate. The notice may be oral or in writing, and shall substantially comply with the notice requirements set forth in Section 10.2.3 insofar as the emergency nature of the issue permits.

C Conduct of Emergency Hearing - The hearing may be conducted at any location likely to contribute to expeditious resolution of the Protest, including the site of a swimming competition, but in any event under such circumstances so as to fairly protect the right of procedural due process of the Respondent. All or some of the participants in the hearing may participate by telephone conference equipment. If at least three regular or alternate members of the Board of Review are not available due to time constraints, the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson or the General Chairperson is authorized to appoint one or more Individual Members to serve as the Board of Review solely for the purpose of conducting this emergency hearing. The hearing shall substantially comply with the hearing procedures set forth in Section 10.6.1.E insofar as the emergency nature of the hearing permits.

D Decision of Board of Review - The decision of the Board of Review shall be rendered at .the time of the hearing or as soon as possible thereafter in keeping with the emergency circumstances. The decision shall include findings of facts and a statement of remedies ordered, if any, and a statement of the right to request a subsequent formal hearing. The decision shall be in writing, or in case of a decision rendered orally at the hearing, reduced to writing within (10) business days thereafter and delivered to the Protester, the Respondent then counsel, any other parties to the proceeding, the Chairperson, the General Chairperson and the Secretary of WVS, the Chairperson of the National Board of Review and the General Counsel of USS in accordance with Section 10.10.2.

E Right to a Subsequent Formal Hearing - If either the Protester or the Respondent shall deliver to the Chairperson a written request for a further hearing within ten (10) Business Days of the date of receipt of the written decision resulting from the emergency hearing, a formal hearing shall be held as a new proceeding in accordance with Section 10.6.1, as though the emergency hearing had not taken place. Failure to make this request in a timely manner shall preclude the aggrieved party from making an appeal as provided in Section 10.9.

.3 STAY OF DECISION PENDING APPEAL - The Board of Review shall have the authority and discretion, but not the duty, to stay its decision, in whole or in part, subject to specified conditions, during, the time allowed to demand a further hearing after an emergency hearing, a rehearing or to appeal as provided in Section 10.9, with the decision going into effect automatically if those conditions occur or if no demand or appeal is filed during the allowable period or at such time as a perfected appeal is, terminated without the decision being modified by the appellate authority.

.4 EXTENSIONS OF TIME The general rule regarding extensions of time within which any act is required to be taken pursuant to this Article 10 appears in Section 10.3.11.. Nevertheless. the time within which the Notice required by Section 10.2.3 must be transmitted may not be extended without the consent of the Protestor or the USS General Counsel.

10.7 FINALITY OF BOARD OF REVIEW DECISIONS - Except as otherwise provided in this Article 10 with regard to re-hearings, appeals and emergency hearings or in Article Nine of the Constitution of the United States Olympic Committee and in Chapter Nine of its bylaws with respect to binding arbitration in dispute involving the rights of certain individuals to participate in competition, the decision of the Board of Review shall be final in all cases.

10.8 FULL FAITH AND CREDIT TO BOARD OF REVIEW DECISIONS - Final decisions of the Board of Review of another Local Swimming Committee or the National Board of Review shall, where relevant and necessary, be recognized and fully enforced by WVS. Those final decisions may not be attacked or reopened in any proceeding before the WVS Board of Review other than one seeking enforcement of that decision.

10.9 APPEAL FROM BOARD OF REVIEW DECISIONS - Except to the extent that any appeal is precluded by Sections 10.5.2.D or 10.6.2.E, any person, including the Protestor and the Respondent, having an actual, direct interest in any matter decided by the Board of Review under this Article may appeal the decision to the National Board of Review. An appeal must be taken within thirty (30) Business Days from the date of the written notice of the decision of the Board of Review. The appeal to the National Board of Review must be in writing, timely filed with the USS Executive Director and accompanied by the appellate filing fee established by USS. Upon timely request to the Chairperson of the National Board of Review and upon a showing of good cause, the time for appeal from the decision of the Board of Review may be extended.

#### 10.10 NOTICE TO HEARING PARTICIPANTS, TRANSMISSION OF DOCUMENTS AND DETERMINATIONS OF TIMELINESS

##### .1 NOTICE TO HEARING PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF WVS

A WVS Members Generally - In each case, where notice or other hearing-related documents are to be delivered to a member of WVS, it shall be sufficient to deliver the notice or other document to the member's last known address in accordance with Section 16.1.5.

B Minors - In the case of notice delivered to WVS members less than eighteen (18) years of age on the date of the alleged infraction (determined by reference to the member's latest registration application), a second copy shall be sent by registered mail with delivery restricted to the child's parent or guardian at the same address or such other address as can reasonably be ascertained.

.2 METHODS OF TRANSMISSION OF HEARING RELATED DOCUMENTS - With the exception of the Notice (see Sections 10.2.3 and 10.6.2.B), all documents transmitted pursuant to this Article 10 shall be transmitted to each of the parties, their respective-counsel, if any, the Presiding Officer and anyone else specified in the Notice. Documents shall be delivered to the person specified at the addresses specified in the Notice or later documents or as determined in accordance with Section 10.10. Documents may be delivered by any of the following methods of service by personal service, by certified or express mail, return receipt requested, by Federal Express, signature required, by electronic mail or facsimile transmission with receipt of the transmission confirmed orally or by other methods of transmission permitted by this paragraph.

.3 DETERMINATIONS OF TIMELINESS - The rules provided in Section 16.1.5 shall apply in the determination of the timeliness of any notice or other action under this Article 10.

### ARTICLE 11

#### ORGANIZATION, AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND DISSOLUTION

11.1 NON-PROFIT AND CHARITABLE PURPOSES - As stated in Section 1.2, WVS is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purpose and for the purpose of fostering national or international amateur sports competition within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, WVS shall not except to an insubstantial degree. ( 1) engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purpose and objectives of WVS 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 IRS 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 IRS Code.

11.2 DEDICATION OF ASSETS, ETC. - The revenue, properties and assets of WS are irrevocably dedicated to the purpose set forth in Sections 1.2 and 11.1 of these Bylaws. No part of the net earnings, property or assets of WS shall inure to the benefit of any private person or any member, officer or director of WVS.

11.3 AMENDMENTS -Any provision of these Bylaws not mandated by USS maybe amended at any meeting of the House Delegates by a two thirds vote of the members present and voting. Amendments so approved shall not take effect until reviewed and approved by the USS Legislation Sub-committee. These Bylaws shall be deemed amended ninety (90) days after the conclusion of any annual meeting of USS at which the corresponding provisions of Part Six of the USS Code of Rules and Regulations are amended (or such later effective date established in the amending USS legislation) to the extent that such amendment affects a provision required to be included herein or is itself required to be included herein. unless WVS shall have requested permission of the USS Legislation Sub-committee not to have such amendment take effect with respect to these Bylaws.

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

## **ARTICLE 12 INDEMNIFICATION**

12.1 INDEMNITY - WVS 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 WVS, 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 WVS specified in Section 12.3 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 man provided by law, that indemnification of the indemnified Person is proper in the circumstances. WVS 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.

12.2 EXCLUSION - The indemnification provided by this Article 12, 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, of the USS Code, of the USS Code of Ethics 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 Board of Re few or the National Board of Review to have committed actions which would be the basis for a conviction and, in each case, the otherwise indemnifiable conduct (or failure to act) was, or was directly related to, the predicate acts of the conviction or finding.

12.3 INDEMNIFIED PERSONS - As used in this Article 12, indemnified Persons shall mean any person who is or was a Board Member, Board of Review Chairperson. Vice-Chairperson, Presiding Officer or member, Group Member Representative, officer. official, coach, committee chairperson or member, coordinator, volunteer, employee or agent of WVS, or is or was serving at the direct request of WVS as a director, officer, Group Member Representative, meet director. official. coach, committee chairperson or member, coordinator, volunteer, employee or agent of another person or entity involved with the sport of swimming.

12.4 EXTENT OF INDEMNITY - To the full extent permitted bylaw, the indemnification provided- in this Article shall include expenses (including attorneys' fees, disbursements and expense), judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement, and except as limited by applicable laws, these expenses shall be paid by WVS in advance of the final disposition of such action. suit or proceeding. If doubt exists as to the applicability of an exclusion to WVS's obligation to indemnify, WVS 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 WVS determines that there is reasonable doubt as to such person's ability to make

any repayment, WVS 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 WVS to indemnify any other person for any such expense 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.

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

### **ARTICLE 13**

#### **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

13.1 ROBERTS RULES - The rules in the then current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern WVS 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 WVS, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or its divisions, committees, etc., may adopt or as set forth in the next paragraph

13.2 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 send motions, orders or other proposals.

13.3 SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER - This Section is reserved for future use.

### **ARTICLE 14**

#### **PERMANENT OFFICE AND STAFF**

14.1 OFFICE - WVS shall maintain an office in the Territory for the storage and maintenance of the books and records and equipment of WVS And for other purposes as may be determined by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors in accordance with these Bylaws

14.2 STAFF - WVS shall retain paid staff at the WS Office as the Board of Directors may determine to be appropriate or necessary. The paid staff maybe on an independent contractor basis or an employer/employee relationship as agreed upon between the Board of Directors and the paid staff. The staff shall be under the general supervision of the General Chairperson and the Administrative Vice-Chairperson With respect to delegated functions of the officers, committee chairpersons or coordinators, the staff shall be responsible to the respective officer, committee chairperson or coordinator. The powers and duties of the paid staff shall be established in WVS's Policies and Procedure Manual or by resolution of the Board of Directors.

14.3 APPROPRIATIONS - The Budget Committee shall include in its proposed budget a line item for the costs of WVS's Office inclusive of the compensation and benefits costs of the paid staff. Once appropriated by the House of Delegates, the General Chairperson shall be responsible for the administration of those finds. The compensation of the staff shall to the extent possible be treated as confidential.

### **ARTICLE 15**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

15.1 EFFECT OF -STATE LAW CHANGES (SEVERABILITI) - 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 West Virginia come, illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of these Bylaws shall continue in full force and effect

15.2 FISCAL YEAR - The fiscal year of WVS shad correspond to the calendar year.

15.3 TAX STATUS; INTERPRETATION OF BYLAWS - It is intended that WVS 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 IRS 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)(e) and 2522(a)(2) of the IRS Code, respectively. Similar, it is intended that WVS shall have that 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. The Bylaws shall be interpreted according.

## ARTICLE 16

### DEFINITIONS, CONVENTIONS AND RULES OF INTERPRETATION

#### 16.1 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 limitations". 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". Carbons 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 WVS positions and not to USS or another organization
- .3 PRINCIPAL RULE OF INTERPRETATION - The principal substantive rule of interpretation applicable to the Bylaws is set forth in Section 615.3.
- .4 RULE OF INTERPRETATION APPLICABLE TO ARTICLE 10 - Article 10 shall be interpreted generously in order to achieve the intent expressed in Section 10.1.
- .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 the last address shown on the records of WVS 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.)

D Last Known Address - For all purposes under these Bylaws, the last known address of a member of WVS shall be the address given in the latest application for registration or membership in WVS and USS filed with the Membership/Registration Coordinator, or the address given in a written notice of change of residence filed with that Coordinator. In all other cases the records maintained by the Secretary of WVS shall be used to ascertain the last known address.

- .6 TIME PERIOD CONVENTION - In computing time periods established by the 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

- 16.2 DEFINITIONS - When used in the Bylaws, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated in this Section, and the definitions 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. Additional definitions applicable solely to Article 10 are set forth in Section 10.2. For an additional definition applicable solely to Article 12, see Section 12.3:
- .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 chairperson or member, coordinator, or a Group Member Representative or alternate and any other individual actively participating in the affairs of WVS or the sport of swimming and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of WVS and USS. (See Section 2.1.2.A )
  - .2 "Affiliated Group Member"- shall mean any organization which supports the sport of swimming and the objectives and programs of WVS and USS, but which does not have Athlete Members And Coach Members, which is in good standing as a Group Member of WVS and USS, and which is neither a Club Member of WVS. (See Section 2.1. I.B.)
  - .3 "Affiliated Group Member Representative"- shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Affiliated Group Mentor in the House of Delegates See Section 4.1.1.
  - .4 "Affiliated Individual Member"- shall mean any individual interested in the objective and programs of WVS who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory, who is in good standing as a member of WVS and USS and who is not an Active Individual, Athlete or Coach Member. (See Section 2.1.2.D.)
  - .5 "Article"- shall mean the principal subdivisions of the Bylaws.
  - .6 "Articles-of-Incorporation"- shall mean the document filed with the West Virginia Secretary of State, pursuant to which WVS was formed
  - .7 "At-Large Board Member"- shall mean those Board Members designated as such (See Section 5.2.)
  - .8 "At-Large House Member"- shall mean the Individual Members appointed by the General Chairperson to be members of the House of Delegates. (See Section 4.1.2.)
  - .9 "Athlete Member"- shall mean any individual who competes or has competed during any pan of the three (3) immediate preceding years in the sport of swimming and is in good standing as an Individual Member of WVS and USS. (See Section 2.1.2.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 4.1.3.
  - .11 "Board Member"- shall mean a member of the Board of Directors. Where the context requires, the term does not include the Athlete Representatives or the Coach Representatives.
  - .12 "Board of Directors" shall mean the Board of Directors of WVS.
  - .13 "Board of Review"- shall mean the investigative and judicial body of WVS established pursuant to Section 10.3.
  - .14 "Business Days" 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 the bylaws as adopted by, and in effect for, WVS.

- .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 Wt'-and USS 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 WVS and USS. (See Section 2.1. IDA.)
- .18 "Club Member Representative" shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Club Member in the House of Delegates pursuant to Section 4.1.1.
- .19 "Club Safety Coordinator"- shall mean the Active Individual Member designated by each Club Member to serve as its liaison with WVS and USS concerning safety matters. (See Section 2.2.3.)
- .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 WVS and/or USS and who is in good standing as a member of WVS and USS. (See Section 4.1.4.)
- .21 "Coach Representative"- shall mean the Coach Member elected to represent the coaches in the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors. (Section 4.1.4.)
- .22 "Executive Committee"- Shall mean the committee of the Board of Directors which may act for the Board of Directors between meetings. (See Section 5.6.)
- .23 "FINA"- shall mean the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur, the international governing body for the sport of swimming.
- .24 "Group Members"- shall mean 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 4.1.1.)
- .26 "House of Delegates"- shall mean the House of Delegates of WVS as established by Article 4 of these. Bylaws.
- .27 "Immediate Past General Chairperson"- Shall mean the individual who is the immediate past General Chairperson of WVS, except when that person became immediate past General Chairperson by virtue of the House of Delegates taking action pursuant to Section 4.4.10, the Board of Directors taking action pursuant to Section 5.5.12 or the House of Delegates failing to reelect that person to another term sought by that person. The Immediate Past General Chairperson shall serve for the duration of the successor General Chairperson's term. If the office of Immediate Past General Chairperson 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 I Chairperson
- .28 "Individual Members"- shall mean Athlete Members, Coach Members, and Active Individual Member, and Life Members
- .29 "IRS 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 thereunder.
- .30 "Life Member"- Shall mean any individual who is a life member of USS and WVS 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 WVS and USS. (See Section 2.1.2.F.)
- .31 "Local Swimming Committee" or "LSC"- shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in the USS Code. WVS is a Local Swimming Committee.
- .32 "Member" shall mean a Group Member or an Individual Member.

- .33 "National Board of Review"- shall mean the Board of Review of USS established pursuant to Part Four of the USS Code. Where the context requires, a reference to the National Board of Review shall include a reference to the USS Board of Directors when that body is acting upon an appeal from the National Board of Review.
- .34 "Nominating Committee"- shall mean the committee of the House of Delegates charged with nominating candidates for elective offices of WVS. (See Section 4.8.)
- .35 "Policies and Procedure Manual"- shall mean the polices and procedures manual of WVS, as amended, adopted by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.
- .36 "Parliamentary Authority"- shall mean the authority and any special rule of order designated in Article 13.
- .37 "Seasonal Athlete Member"- shall mean any individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for contain periods of time not longer than 150 days each in a calendar year and is in good standing as a Seasonal Athlete Member of WVS and USS. (See Section 2.1.2.E.)
- .38 "Section"- shall mean the subdivisions of the Articles of these Bylaws.
- .39 "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 4.1.3.
- .40 "Senior Coach Representative"- shall mean the Coach Representative senior in term of office. (See Section 4. 1.4.)
- .41 "Standing Committee"- shall mean a committee of WVS listed in Sections 7.1, 7.2 or 7.3 .
- .42 "Territory"- shall mean the geographic territory over which WVS has jurisdiction as a Local Swimming Committee. (See Section 1.3.)
- .43 "USS"- shall mean United States Swimming, Inc., an Ohio not-for-profit corporation which is the national governing body for the United States for the sport of swimming.
- .44 "USS Board of Directors"- shall mean the Board of Directors of USS.
- .45 "USS Code"- shall mean the code of rules and regulations, as adopted and amended by USS.
- .46 "USS House of Delegates"- shall mean the House of Delegates of USS.
- .47 "USS Legislation Committee"- shall mean the Legislation Committee of USS created pursuant to Article 512 of Part Five of the USS Code.
- .48 "USS Legislation Sub-committee" shall mean the sub-committee of the Legislation and Redistricting Committee of USS created pursuant to Section 6202 of Part Six-C of the USS Code, except as the context may otherwise clears require.
- .49 "WVS" shall mean the West Virginia not-for-profit corporation to which the Bylaws pertain.
- .50 "WVS Office" shall mean the permanent office of WVS maintained in accordance with Article 14.