

# BYLAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS

## FOR POTOMAC VALLEY SWIMMING, INC. (PVS)

SEPTEMBER 1, 1997

(as amended November 18, 1997, May 24, 2001, May  
25, 2004 and May 23, 2007)

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**ARTICLE 1**

**NAME, OBJECTIVES, TERRITORY AND JURISDICTION**

**1.1 NAME** - The name of the corporation shall be Potomac Valley Swimming, Inc. (PVS).

**1.2 OBJECTIVES** - Potomac Valley Swimming (PVS) shall promote swimming and foster equal access for competitive opportunities for the benefit of swimmers of all ages and abilities, in accordance with the standards, rule, regulations, policies and procedures of the Federation Internationanale de Nation Amateur (FINA), USA Swimming (USA-S) and PVS and its Articles of Incorporation. The



objectives and primary purpose of PVS shall be the education and assurance of instruction and training of individuals to develop and improve their capabilities in the sport of swimming.

**1.3 GEOGRAPHIC TERRITORY** - The geographic Territory of PVS is the District of Columbia and in the State of Maryland, the Counties of Montgomery and Prince George's, and in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Counties of Arlington and Fairfax and the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church.

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

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## ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP

**2.1 MEMBERS** - The membership of PVS shall consist of the following:

**.1 GROUP MEMBERS** - Group Members are organizations operating in the Territory which have, upon application, been granted membership in USA-S and PVS and paid the fees established by USA-S and PVS pursuant to Article 3. An organization may be denied membership by the Registrar 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. An organization's status as a Group Member is subject to its continued satisfaction of the criteria for membership and compliance with its responsibilities under these Bylaws, the USA-S Rules and Regulations, the rules, regulations, policies, procedures and codes of conduct and ethics of PVS and USA-S and may be terminated by a decision of the Board of Directors, 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 PVS, and competitions sanctioned or approved by USA-S, in accordance with Section 9.2. Any denial of membership may be appealed to the Board of Review.

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**A Club Members** - A Club Member is an organization which is in good standing as a Group Member of PVS and USA-S, 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 PVS and USA-S.

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

**.2 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** - Individual Members are individuals involved in the sport of swimming in the Territory who have, upon registration, been granted membership in USA-S and PVS and paid the dues established by USA-S and PVS pursuant to Article 3. An individual may be denied membership by the Registrar or by the Board of Directors for failure to satisfy the criteria for membership or for any reason for which an Individual Membership could be terminated. Any denial of membership may be appealed to the Board of Review. An individual's status as an Individual Member is subject to the Individual Member's continued satisfaction of the criteria for membership and compliance with the individual's responsibilities under these Bylaws, the USA-S, Rules and Regulations, the rules, regulations, policies, procedures and codes of conduct and ethics of PVS and USA-S and may be terminated by a decision of the Board of Directors, the Board of Review, or the National Board of Review. Individual Members in good standing shall be entitled to participate in the program of swimming conducted by PVS, and competitions sanctioned or approved by USA-S, in accordance with Section 9.1.

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**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 PVS and USA-S.

**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 USA-S and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of PVS and USA-S. Any individual desiring to act in any coaching capacity at any competition sanctioned by USA-S must be a Coach Member in good standing of PVS and USA-S.

**C Active Individual Members** - An Active Individual Member is an individual other than a Coach Member or an Athlete Member who is a trainer, manager, official, meet director, marshal, Board Member, At-Large House Member, officer, coordinator or committee chair or committee member of PVS or a Group Member Representative or alternate.

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**D Seasonal Athlete Members** - A Seasonal Athlete Member is an individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for the period of April through August in a registration year and is in good standing as an Individual Member of PVS and USA-S.

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**.3 MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION** - Membership in PVS and USA-S is a privilege and shall not be interpreted as a right. Membership may be terminated by the Board of Directors, Board of Review, or the National Board of Review for any violation of a member's responsibilities under Section 2.2, for any of the reasons set forth in Section 10.4.7C or for any other reason determined by the Board of Directors, the Board of Review, or National Board of Review to be in the best interests of the sport of swimming, USA-S or PVS.

## **2.2 MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

**.1 COMPLIANCE** - Each Group and Individual Member shall abide by the codes of conduct and ethics, policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USA-S and PVS, 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, PVS or USA-S into disrepute. By applying for and accepting membership in PVS and USA-S, each Individual Member agrees to so abide and represents, except to the extent disclosed to PVS and USA-S, 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.

**.2 RESPONSIBILITY FOR INFRACTIONS** - A Group Member may be held responsible for infractions of the policies, procedures, rules, regulations or codes of conduct or ethics adopted by USA-S or PVS, including its responsibilities as set forth in these Bylaws. Infractions of a Group Member include those committed or allowed to happen by its members, representatives, officials or coaches or by athletes who are competing as representatives of the Group Member or who are competing with the Group Member as unattached swimmers. Also included are infractions committed or allowed to happen by a person instigated by the Group Member or with whom the Group Member 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 Individual Member to be a Club Safety Coordinator. The Club Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for disseminating safety education information received from USA-S and PVS to the Club Member's athletes, coaches and other members and shall make recommendations to the Club Member concerning safety policy and its implementation. The Club Safety Coordinator shall make any reports requested by PVS'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 USA-S and a local club fee established by PVS, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by PVS.

**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 USA-S and a local fee established by PVS.

**3.4 COACHES** - Each Coach Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USA-S and a local fee established by PVS, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by PVS.

**3.5 ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** - Each Active Individual Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USA-S and a local fee established by PVS, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by PVS.

### **3.6 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, 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 or other bases.

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

### 3.7 FAILURE TO PAY

#### .1 GROUP, COACH AND ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

**OBLIGATIONS** - The failure of a Group Member, Coach Member or Active Individual Member to pay dues, fees, service charges, fines or penalties imposed by PVS or USA-S, within the time prescribed, as evidenced by a final decision of the Board of Directors, 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 USA-S, (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA-S, PVS 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 USA-S, PVS 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 USA-S, (b) obtaining a reportable time achieved in events swum in any USA-S sanctioned, approved or observed meet, (c) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA-S, PVS 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.

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**.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 non-payment 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 USA-S, (b) obtain a reportable time in events swum at any USA-S approved or observed meet, (c) participate in any capacity in the affairs of USA-S, PVS 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.

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**.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 non-payment of financial obligations (such as a refund of training fees) to the Individual Member, then until the decision or judgment is satisfied, the delinquent or offending Club Member shall be precluded from (a) participating in events sanctioned or approved by USA-S and (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA-S, PVS or any other LSC, including being represented in the House of Delegates by its Group Member Representative.

**.5 CONTINUED FAILURE TO PAY; TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP -**

Continued failure to pay, within a reasonable period of time, 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 PVS 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 alternates. The appointment shall be in writing, addressed to the Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) of PVS 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 Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) of PVS and signed by the chief executive officer or secretary of the appointing Group Member.

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**.2 AT-LARGE HOUSE MEMBERS** - Up to ten (10) at-large members of the House of Delegates may be appointed by the General ~~Chair~~ with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. Additionally, a sufficient number of athlete members-at-large shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advise and consent of the Board of Directors to constitute at least 20% of the voting membership of the House of Delegates. No more than two athletes shall be appointed in this manner from the same member club. 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.

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**.3 ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES** - Athlete representatives shall constitute at least 20% of the voting membership of the Board of Directors. Three (3) Athlete Representatives shall be elected for a 2-year term, or until their respective successors are elected to the Board of Directors, with two elected in odd numbered years and one elected in even numbered years. 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 PVS or another LSC; and unless granted an exception by the Board of Directors (d) reside in the Territory and expect to reside therein throughout at least the first

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half of the term. The election of the Athlete Representative shall be conducted annually during PVS's long course swimming championships, or other regularly scheduled meet designated by the Board of Directors. The balloting shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose by the Senior Athlete Representative, or failing that, at a time and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors. The Athlete Representatives elected shall be determined by a plurality of the Athlete Members in good standing, present, and voting who are thirteen (13) years of age or older.

**.4 COACH REPRESENTATIVES** - Two (2) Coach Representatives shall be elected, one each year for a 2-year term, or until a successor is elected.

Nominations to the PVS Board of Directors for Coach's Representative will be held at the Winter Competition Committee Meeting preceding the spring PVS championship meets. A ballot will be produced and will be made available to all registered PVS Coaches in good standing as of the day before the first day of the first championship meet. Balloting will take place at two sessions of each of the championship meets. Notice will be given not less than 10 days prior to the first day of voting as to the exact sessions where balloting will take place.

The Coach's Representative whose term is not expiring and the Administrative Office will oversee the voting process. The ballots will be counted at the conclusion of Sunday Prelims. This will provide time for run off election (in the event of a tie) during finals of the last scheduled PVS championship meet. Election results will be posted on the PVS Web Page as soon as possible.

The election of the Coach Representative shall be determined by a plurality of the Coach Members in good standing, present, and voting. If the election shall not occur as specified above, it shall occur at a time and place and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors.

**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 term 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 (OTHER THAN THOSE OF AFFILIATED GROUP MEMBERS), 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 AFFILIATED GROUP MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES – Group Member Representatives of Affiliated Group Members, unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the House of Delegates.**

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**.3 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** - Individual Members who are not members of the House of Delegates may attend open meetings of the House of Delegates and be heard at 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.

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**4.4 DUTIES AND POWERS** - The House of Delegates shall oversee the management of the affairs of PVS and the establishment of policies, procedures and programs. In addition to the duties and powers prescribed in the USA-S Rules and Regulations or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the House of Delegates may:

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.1 Elect the officers and the Strategic Planning Committee Chair, as listed in Section 6.1, in accordance with Sections 6.2 through 6.6, and members of the Board of Review.

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.2 Review, modify and adopt the annual budget of PVS recommended by the Board of Directors;

.3 Call regular and special meetings of the House of Delegates;

.4 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;

.5 Establish joint administrative committees, or undertake joint activities with other sports organizations where deemed helpful or necessary by PVS;

.6 Establish by resolution one or more committees of its members. The committees shall have the powers and duties specified in the resolution, 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;

.7 Amend the Bylaws of PVS in accordance with Section 11.3; and



**.8** Remove from office any Board Members, members of the Board of Review, committee chairs or members or coordinators who have failed to attend to their official duties or member responsibilities or have done so improperly, or who would be subject to penalty by the Board of Review for any of the reasons set forth in Section 10.4.7C. No Board Member, Board of Review member or elected committee chair or coordinator may be removed except upon not less than thirty (30) days written notice by the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (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 using the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Section 10.6.1 to the extent applicable. Should the Board Member, Board of Review member, elected committee chair, or coordinator contest the alleged deficiency or other reason alleged in the notice, the House of Delegates shall hold a hearing at which the defendant shall have the same rights as if the hearing were to be conducted by the Board of Review pursuant to Article 10.

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**4.5 ANNUAL MEETING** - The annual meeting of the House of Delegates of PVS shall be held in the month of May 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 Chair. Should the Board of Directors or the General Chair fail to call the annual or scheduled regular meetings or should a special meeting be appropriate or helpful, a meeting of the House of Delegates may be called by a petition signed by at least five (5) members of the House of Delegates.

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**4.7 MEETING LOCATION AND TIME** - All meetings of the House of Delegates shall be 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; APPOINTMENT** - The Nominating Committee shall comprise not fewer than three (3) Individual Members appointed by the Board of Directors. At least one (1) member of the Nominating Committee shall not be a member of the Board of Directors. Each Nominating Committee member shall be an Individual Member of PVS and USA-S. Section 6.5.3 shall apply to members of the Nominating Committee. If any member of the Nominating Committee resigns or otherwise becomes unable to participate in its affairs, the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a successor.

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**.2 CHAIR ELECTED BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE** - The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Nominating Committee present at a meeting called promptly after the members are elected or appointed.

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**.3 DUTIES OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE** - A slate of candidates for election as the officers as specified in Section 6.1 , or Strategic Planning Committee, Chair, or the 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.

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**.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 Section 16.1.5 for the methods which may be used for the distribution.

**.5 ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS** - Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the House of Delegates by any member of the House of Delegates eligible to vote.

**.6 MEETINGS AND NOTICES** - Meetings of the Nominating Committee shall take place at a site within the Territory when called by the Chair with a minimum of six (6) days notice required. Pertinent provisions of Sections 7.5 through 7.16 and Section 16.1.5 also shall apply to the Nominating Committee's meetings and notices.

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**.7 QUORUM** - A quorum for any meeting of the Nominating Committee shall consist of not fewer than two-thirds of the 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 PVS and USA-S. Issues pertaining to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, tax or similar affairs of PVS shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session which only House of Delegates members may attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege, the House of Delegates may decide to go into executive session on any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the House.

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**.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 PVS and USA-S unless otherwise provided by the House of Delegates resolution creating the committee or by a vote of the committee as provided by the rules of the Parliamentary Authority.

**4.10 QUORUM** - A quorum of the House of Delegates shall consist of those members present.

**4.11 VOTING** - Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the Parliamentary Authority, all motions, orders and other propositions coming before the House of Delegates shall be determined by a majority vote. A motion or order calling for the removal of a member of the Board of Review pursuant to Section 4.4.8, 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.

**4.12 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 chairs or coordinators and amendments of these Bylaws, may be taken without a meeting. If an action is taken without a meeting, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary), or the Administrative Assistant acting on their behalf, shall distribute a written ballot to every member of the House of Delegates entitled to vote on the matter. The written ballot may be distributed either by first class mail postage prepaid or by electronic e-mail. (The ballot shall be faxed or sent by express mail to any person entitled to vote who does not have ready access to e-mail.) 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 48 hours involving an electronic vote or 6 days involving a vote conducted by first class mail) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary or the PVS Administrative Assistant. 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.

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**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 minutes of previous meeting
- Reports of officers
- Reports of committees and coordinators

- Presentation and approval of the annual budget
- Presentation and approval of the annual audit pursuant to Section 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 16.1.5 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 chairs, and representatives of PVS, together with those additional members designated in Sections 5.2 and 5.3:

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- General Chair
- Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary)
- Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer)
- Vice-Chair of the Operations Division
- Vice-Chair of the Senior Division
- Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division
- Strategic Planning Committee Chair
- The Coach Representatives
- The Athlete Representatives
- Officials Representative

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**5.1.1 OFFICIALS REPRESENTATIVE** – An Officials Representative shall be elected for a 2-year term or until a successor is elected. Elections will occur in odd numbered years.

A ballot will be produced by the Officials Committee and will be made available to all registered PVS Officials in good standing before the first day of the first Summer PVS championship meet. Balloting will take place at two sessions of each of the championship meets. Notice will be given not less than 10 days prior to the first day of voting as to the exact sessions where balloting will take place.

The Administrative Office will oversee the voting process. The election of the Officials Representative shall be determined by a plurality of the Official members in good standing, present and voting. If the election shall not occur as specified above, it shall occur at a time and place and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors.

**5.2 AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS** – The Board of Directors shall have up to three additional At-Large Board Members appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

**5.3 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS** - The Immediate Past General Chair of PVS and the current Chair of the Board of Review, if Individual Members in good standing, shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors during the time period in which they meet the defined status.

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

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**.1 BOARD MEMBERS** - Each Board Member other than the ex-officio members and At-Large Board Members, shall have both voice and vote in meetings of the Board of Directors.

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**.2 NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS** - Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, the ex-officio members and At-Large Board 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 at 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.

**5.5 DUTIES AND POWERS** - The Board of Directors shall act for PVS 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

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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 USA-S Rules and Regulations or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to:

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.1 Establish and direct policies, procedures and programs for PVS;

.2 Oversee the conduct by the officers and staff of PVS and the day-to-day management of the affairs of PVS;

.3 Provide advice and consent to appointments proposed by the General Chair that require advice and consent under these Bylaws;

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.4 Cause the preparation and presentation to the House of Delegates of the annual budget of PVS and make a recommendation to the House of Delegates concerning the approval or disapproval thereof;

.5 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;

.6 Call regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates;

.7 Admit eligible prospective Group Members and Affiliated Group Members;

.8 Retain such independent contractors and employ such persons as the Board shall determine are necessary or appropriate to conduct the affairs of PVS;

.9 Appoint other officers, agents, or committees or coordinators, to hold office for the terms specified. These appointees shall have the authority and perform the duties as provided in these Bylaws or as may be provided in the resolutions appointing them, including any powers of the Board of Directors as may be specified, except as may be inconsistent with any other provision of these Bylaws. To the extent not provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may delegate to any officer, agent, or committee or coordinator the power to appoint any such subordinate officers, agents, or committees or coordinators and to prescribe their respective terms of office, authorities and duties; and

.10 Remove from office any officers, committee chairs, or committee members or coordinators of PVS who were not elected by the House of Delegates and who have failed to attend to their official duties or member

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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 10.4.7C. No officer, committee chair or coordinator may be removed without receiving the thirty (30) days written notice specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of the member's responsibilities under these Bylaws, the member's official duties or other reasons. All notices and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed using the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Section 10.6.1 to the extent applicable. Should the officer, committee chair, or committee member or coordinator contest the alleged deficiency or other reason set forth in the notice, the Board of Directors shall hold a hearing at which the member shall have the same procedural rights as if the hearing were to be conducted by the Board of Review pursuant to Article 10.

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**5.6 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS** - Board of Directors meetings shall be open to all members of PVS and USA-S. 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 are entitled to attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege the Board of Directors 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.

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**5.7 PARTICIPATION THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT** - Members of the Board of Directors may participate in meetings of the Board of Directors 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.

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**5.8 REGULAR MEETINGS** - Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in accordance with a schedule adopted by the Board of Directors.

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

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**5.10 QUORUM** - A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the voting members.

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

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**5.12 PROXY VOTE** - Voting by proxy in any meeting of the Board of Directors shall not be permitted.

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

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**5.14 MAIL VOTE** - Any action which may be taken at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, except elections, advice and consent to the General **Chair's** appointments, or removals of officers, committee **chairs** and members, may be taken without a meeting. If an action is to be taken without a meeting, the Vice-**Chair** of the Administrative Division (Secretary), or the Administrative Assistant acting on their behalf, shall distribute a written ballot to every Board Member entitled to vote on the matter. The written ballot may be distributed either by first class mail postage prepaid or by electronic e-mail. (The ballot shall be faxed or sent by express mail to any person entitled to vote who does not have ready access to e-mail.) 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 48 hours involving an electronic vote or 6 days involving a vote conducted by first class mail) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary or the PVS Administrative Assistant. 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.

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**5.15 NOTICES** -

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**.1 TIME** - Not less than six (6) days notice shall be given to each Board Member for any annual, regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors. Separate notices need not be given for regular meetings that are designated in these Bylaws or otherwise scheduled and noticed well in advance. (See Section 16.1.5 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.

**5.16 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.

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- Roll Call
- Reading, correction and adoption of minutes
- Reports of officers



- Reports of committees 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
- Resolutions and orders
- Adjournment

**ARTICLE 6  
OFFICERS**

**6.1 ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS-** The officers and committee chair who shall be elected by the House of Delegates are:

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1. General Chair
2. Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary)
3. Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer)
4. Vice-Chair of the Operations Division
5. Vice-Chair of the Senior Division.
6. Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division.
7. Strategic Planning Committee Chair.

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**6.2 ELECTIONS** - The House of Delegates, at its annual meeting, shall elect the General Chair, the Vice-Chair of the Senior Division, and the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) in odd-numbered years; and the Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary), the Vice-Chair of the Operations Division, and the Strategic Planning Committee Chair in even-numbered years. The House of Delegates shall also elect the Board of Review, as provided in Section 10.3.3.

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**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 entitled to vote in the House of Delegates by virtue of holding a position in PVS may not also vote as a Group Member Representative in the House of Delegates.

**6.5 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 at the start of the fiscal year of PVS (1 September through 31 August) and shall serve until a successor takes office.

**.3 CONSECUTIVE TERMS LIMITATION** - No Individual Member who has been elected by the House of Delegates and served four successive years shall be eligible for re-election to the same position until a lapse of two years. A portion of any term served to fill a vacancy in the position shall not be considered in the computation of this successive terms limitation.

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

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**.2 VICE-CHAIR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION (SECRETARY):** The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall conduct meetings in the absence of the General ~~Chair~~ and, at the request of the General ~~Chair~~ or in the event of the disability of the General ~~Chair~~, shall perform all of the duties of the General ~~Chair~~, and when so acting shall have all of the powers of the General ~~Chair~~. (See Section 6.9.) The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall chair, and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the division that administers PVS business and affairs. The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall aid in the development of policy and the coordination of the activities of the officers and committees within the division internally and with other divisions, and committees and coordinators. The Administrative Division shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of PVS's Aquatics Guide. The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary), or a delegate, shall be responsible for keeping a record of all meetings of the House of Delegates and Board of Directors, conducting official correspondence, issuing meeting and other notices and making such reports to USA-S as are required by Article 8 of these Bylaws and shall perform the other

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duties incidental to the office of the Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary). The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall be custodian of the records of PVS, and attest the execution of all duly authorized instruments. The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall cause to be kept, at PVS's permanent office, copies of all minutes, official correspondence, meeting and other notices, and any other records of PVS. The Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall be responsible to see that the Athlete Representatives' elections are held in accordance with these Bylaws.

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**.3 VICE-~~CHAIR~~ OF THE FINANCE DIVISION (TREASURER):** The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) is the chief financial officer of PVS. The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall 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 PVS's working capital, funded reserves and endowment funds and the development and implementation of a marketing and fund-raising plan for PVS. The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall prepare an annual budget for PVS's operations and present the budget for approval by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates. In addition, the ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) 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 ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) is responsible for the adequacy of PVS's system of internal financial and accounting controls. The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer), is ultimately responsible for PVS's compliance with Section 8.4. The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall be the principal receiving and disbursing officer of PVS. Except as otherwise directed by Board of Directors, the ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall receive all moneys, incomes, fees and other receipts of PVS and pay all bills, salaries, expenses and other disbursements approved by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, or required to be paid pursuant to Section 10.3.12. The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall issue a quarterly report listing the current budget variances by line item, all receipts, all expenditures and the current fund and account balances for the preceding quarter and for the fiscal year to date, together with such other items as the General ~~Chair~~ or the Board of Directors may direct. The ~~Vice-Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall:

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**A** have charge of and supervision over and be responsible for the funds, moneys, securities and other financial instruments of PVS;

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

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

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

**E** cause to be kept in the safe keeping of the Treasurer or person authorized in writing by the Treasurer, 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 or the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall determine;

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**F** upon request and at reasonable hours cause such books or duplicates 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 PVS or USA-S;

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

**H** have the power to require from the officers, committee chairs, coordinators, staff or agents of PVS reports or statements giving such information as the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) may determine to be appropriate or helpful with respect to any and all financial transactions of PVS;

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**I** Make the books and records available and otherwise fully cooperate with those conducting the annual audit of accounts of PVS and cause the preparation and timely filing of all required federal, state and local tax returns, and other financial and tax reports with the applicable government official, and forward a copy of the annual financial statement and audit report and any federal tax return to the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) for submission to the Board of Directors and USA-S national headquarters in accordance with Sections 8.2 and 8.3;

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**J** have the power to appoint one or more assistant treasurers and delegate to them one or more of the Treasury functions, or parts thereof; and

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

**.4 VICE-CHAIR OF THE OPERATIONS DIVISION:** The Vice-Chair is responsible for providing the equipment, technical training, and operational procedures required to support the competition program.

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**.5 VICE-CHAIR OF THE SENIOR DIVISION:** The Vice-Chair of the Senior Division -is responsible for developing and conducting the PVS Senior program.

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**.6 VICE-CHAIR OF THE AGE GROUP DIVISION:** The Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division is responsible for developing and conducting the PVS Age Group Program.

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**.7 STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE, CHAIR:** The Strategic Planning Committee Chair shall advise the Board of Directors on strategic issues presented for investigation; advise the Board of Directors on any initiatives, trends, or impending actions on the local, national, or international level that may impact upon PVS programs in the future; forecast future areas of concern for the local swimming program; and, formulate a strategic plan to assist in directing the PVS program.

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**.8 COACH REPRESENTATIVES:** The Coach Representatives shall serve as a liaison between the coaches who are members of PVS and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates.

**.9 ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES:** The Athlete Representatives shall serve as the liaison between the athletes who are members of PVS and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates.

#### **.10 PVS DELEGATES TO USA-S HOUSE OF DELEGATES -**

**A Officer and Representative Delegates** - It shall be the duty and privilege of the General Chair, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary), the Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division, the Vice-Chair of the Senior Division, the senior Athlete Representative and the senior Coach Representative to attend the USA-S annual meeting as representatives of PVS and voting delegates to the USA-S House of Delegates.

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

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**C Athlete Representative Alternates** - If an athlete delegate is unable to attend, the Athlete Representative next most senior in term of office shall attend. If seniority cannot be established or there remain no additional

Athlete Representatives or alternates able to attend, then the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall designate one or more Athlete Members to attend as a representative of PVS.

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**D Coach Representative Alternates** - If the senior Coach

Representative is unable to attend the USA-S annual meeting, then the other Coach Representative shall attend, and if neither Coach Representative is able to attend, then the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall designate a Coach Member to attend as a representative of PVS.

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

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**6.8 VACANCIES AND INCAPACITIES -**

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

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**.2 OFFICES OF ATHLETE OR COACH REPRESENTATIVES** - In the event of a vacancy in the office of Athlete Representative or Coach Representative, or of the permanent incapacity of a person holding the office of Athlete Representative or Coach Representative, the General Chair may appoint, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, an Athlete Member or a Coach Member, as the case may be, to serve the remainder of the term of office or until the athletes or the coaches, as the case may be, shall elect a successor.

**.3 OTHER OFFICES** - In the event of a vacancy in, or permanent incapacity of the person holding, any office other than General Chair, Athlete Representative, Coach Representative or member of the Board of Review, the General Chair shall appoint a successor, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, to serve until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Delegates. In the event of a temporary incapacity, the General Chair may designate, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, an

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Individual Member to act for the incapacitated officer for the duration of the incapacity.

**.4 DETERMINATION OF VACANCY OR INCAPACITY** - The determination of when an office becomes vacant or an officer becomes incapacitated shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. The determination as to when the General Chair is temporarily incapacitated shall be made, where the circumstances permit, by the General Chair and otherwise shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors, subject to any subsequent action by the House of Delegates.

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## 6.9 OFFICERS' POWERS GENERALLY -

**.1 AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS, ETC.** - The General Chair or Treasurer may, in the name of PVS, sign and execute deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, agreements or other instruments duly authorized by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to another officer or agent, expressly requires two or more signatures or is required by law to be otherwise executed. Additional signing authority may be provided by standing resolutions of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

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**.2 ADDITIONAL POWERS AND DUTIES** - Each officer shall have other powers and perform other duties as may be prescribed by the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chair, the respective division coordinators and chairs, the delegating officer or these Bylaws. The division chairs shall have the additional duties and powers set forth in Sections 7.4 and 7.5.

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**.3 DELEGATION** - Officers of PVS may delegate any portion of their powers or duties to another Individual Member or to a committee composed of Individual Members, except that Treasurer may not delegate duties to others 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 staff of PVS. 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.

## 6.10 DEPOSITORIES AND BANKING AUTHORITY -

**.1 DEPOSITORIES, ETC.** - All receipts, income, charges and fees of PVS 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 Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer). Endorsements for deposit to the credit of PVS in any of its duly authorized depositories shall be made in the manner determined by Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) or the Board of Directors. All funds of PVS not otherwise employed shall be maintained in the banks, trust companies, other depositories or custodians, investment companies or investment management companies designated by the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) or the Board of Directors.

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**.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 PVS shall be signed by the General Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) in the manner determined by the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) or the Board of Directors.

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## ARTICLE 7 DIVISIONS, COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

**7.1 DIVISIONAL ORGANIZATION AND JURISDICTIONS, STANDING COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS** - The PVS staff shall be supervised by the General Chair, while the five divisions of PVS shall each be chaired by a vice-chair, whose respective powers, duties, jurisdiction and responsibilities are described in Section 6.6. Under each division vice-chair there are officers, committees, coordinators and direct responsibilities as follows:

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**.1 STAFF - General Chair**

Administrative Assistant  
Registrar  
Distribution Coordinator  
Publication Coordinator  
Personnel Committee

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**.2 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION - Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary)**

Awards Coordinator  
Outstanding Athletes Committee  
Records/Top 16 Tabulation Coordinators  
Scholar-Athletes Coordinator

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**.3 FINANCE DIVISION - Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer)**

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Financial Planning Committee  
Trust Committee  
Audit Committee

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**4 OPERATIONS DIVISION - Vice-Chair of the Operations Division**

Computer Coordinator  
Equipment Coordinator  
Officials Committee  
Safety Coordinator

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**.5 Senior Division - Vice-Chair of the Senior Division**

Distance Coordinator  
Zone Technical Planning Representative

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**.6 AGE GROUP DIVISION - VICE-CHAIR OF THE AGE GROUP DIVISION**

Camps/Clinic Coordinator  
Zone Team Coordinator

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**7.2 STANDING COMMITTEES**

**.1 Competition Committee** - The Competition Committee shall be responsible for developing and coordinating an overall swimming program for all levels of swimming in the Territory, including Senior and Age Group programs. The members of the Competition Committee shall consist of the Vice-Chair of the Senior Division, Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division, the Coach Representatives, the Zone Technical Planning Representative, and all USA-S coach members of PVS Clubs. The Vice-Chair of the Senior Division or the Vice-Chair of the Age Group Division, whoever is senior in term, shall serve as the chair of this committee and shall report to the Board of Directors. (See Section 7.9 for voting provisions.)

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**.2 Strategic Planning Committee** - The Strategic Planning Committee shall be responsible for long-range planning for the programs conducted by PVS and for advice regarding the any initiatives, trends, or impending actions on the local, national or international level. The committee shall also be responsible for forecasting future areas of concern for the local swimming program and for formulating a strategic plan to assist in directing the PVS program. The committee shall consist of the junior in term Coach Representative the senior in term Athlete Representative and shall be chaired by the Strategic Planning Committee Chair elected by the House of Delegates. As deemed necessary, the Chair of this committee may, from time to time, invite or appoint other PVS members, on either temporary basis or for the duration of the term, to the

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membership on this committee. The committee shall report to the Board of Directors.

**.3 Personnel Committee** - The Personnel Committee shall be authorized and obligated to negotiate and set wages, compensation and other terms of employment of PVS staff, including employees and independent contractors, within established budgetary guidelines and policies and to review and approve the scope of duties delegated to the staff. The committee may include the General Chair. If General Chair is not a member, it shall report to the General Chair.

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### 7.3 DUTIES OF THE STAFF

**.1 Administrative Assistant** - The Administrative Assistant manages the PVS permanent office and provides administrative support to the Board of Directors and the PVS committees. In addition, the Administrative Assistant maintains the family memberships of Potomac Valley Swimming and provides information on sanctions.

**.2 Registrar** - The Registrar shall be responsible for the registration of Group and Individual Members and shall make the reports required by Section 8.6, together with such additional reports as may be required by USA-S, the Board of Directors, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary), or the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer). In addition, the Registrar provides information concerning USA-S insurance.

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**.3 Distribution Coordinator** - The Distribution Coordinator processes the PVS publications and assures that all members of PVS receive the appropriate publications.

**.4 Publication Coordinator** - The Publication Coordinator is responsible for the publication of meet notices, results, and other official correspondence of PVS for the membership.

### 7.4 DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES/COORDINATORS OF THE PVS DIVISIONS

#### .1 Administrative Division

**A Awards Coordinator** - The Awards Coordinator is responsible for maintaining, developing, and promoting programs that educate and recognize the accomplishments of PVS athletes.

**B Outstanding Athletes Committee** - The Outstanding Athletes Committee reviews all athlete accomplishments and prepares the nominations

for the PVS Outstanding Athlete awards. The nominations are provided to the coaching community for balloting.

**C Records/Top 16 Coordinators** - The Records/Top 16

Coordinators establish procedures for reporting USA-S/PVS records and maintain the PVS open and resident records. The Records/Top 16 Coordinators also establish procedures for nominating PVS athletes for Top 16 consideration

**D Scholar-Athlete Coordinator** - The Scholar-Athlete Coordinator

establishes application procedures, reviews and approves applications, and provides recognition pins to the qualified Scholar-Athletes of PVS.

**.2 Finance Division**

**A Financial Planning Committee** - The Financial Planning

Committee advises the Board of Directors on long-range financial planning, development of investments, and the solicitation of corporate and private funding for PVS programs.

**B Trust Committee** - The Trust Committee shall be responsible for

establishing procedures and guidelines for PVS Trust funding proposals, evaluating proposals, and providing funding recommendations to the Board of Directors. The committee shall also administer approved programs, allocate funds, account for expenditures, and recommend policies and practices to ensure perpetuation of the Trust.

**C Audit Committee** - The Audit Committee of at least three

persons, at least one of whom shall not be a member of the Board of Directors, shall be appointed annually by the General ~~Chair~~ with the consent of the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee shall be authorized to, and it shall be its duty to, conduct the annual audit of the PVS books or to have such audit performed by an independent auditor, pursuant to Section 8.5. The Committee shall report to the Board of Directors. Vice-~~Chair~~ of the Finance Division (Treasurer) may not be a member of the Audit Committee. When the audit is performed by the independent auditor, the Audit Committee shall (a) recommend an independent auditor to the Board of Directors, (b) review and negotiate the services to be performed by the auditor, (c) receive and review the audit and other reports submitted by the auditor and (d) submit the audit and other reports and make recommendations to the Board of Directors with regard there to.

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**.3 Operations Division**

**A Computer Coordinator** - The Computer Coordinator conducts

the Computer Clinics, establishes policy for use of PVS computers, and directs the PVS computerization effort.

**B Equipment Coordinator** - The Equipment Coordinator is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and distribution of electronic timing equipment, and for conducting Electronic Timing Clinics.

**C Officials Committee** - The Officials Committee is authorized and obligated to recruit, train, test, certify, evaluate, retest, recertify, and supervise officials for PVS. The Officials Chair, appointed by the Board of Directors, shall chair the Officials Committee. The Officials Chair shall be a referee certified by PVS and each member of the Officials Committee shall be a certified official of PVS.

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**D Safety Coordinator** - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancement and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USA-S safety education information to all Group Members, athletes, coaches and officials of PVS. The Safety Coordinator shall develop safety education programs and policies for PVS and make recommendations regarding same, and the implementation thereof, to the Vice-Chair of the Operations Division and the Board of Directors. The Safety Coordinator shall make the reports required pursuant to Section 8.7

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#### .4 Senior Division

**A Distance Coordinator** - The Distance Coordinator is responsible for planning and conducting the PVS distance program.

**B Zone Technical Planning Representative – The Zone Technical Planning Representative assists in developing the Senior Circuit at the Zone level, advises the Vice-Chair of the Senior Division concerning development of the PVS Senior program, and assists in the realization of the program.**

Deleted: OVC Coordinator - The OVC Coordinator is responsible for developing procedures for obtaining official verification cards for PVS athletes.

**C Zone Technical Planning Representative** - The Zone Technical Planning Representative assists in developing the Senior Circuit at the Zone level, advises the Vice-Chair of the Senior Division concerning development of the PVS Senior program, and assists in the realization of the program.

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#### .5 Age Group Division

**A Camps/Clinic Coordinator** - The Camps/Clinic Coordinator is responsible for the development, planning, and conducting of the PVS camp program.

**B Zone Team Coordinators** - The Zone Team Coordinators coordinate selection of the PVS All-Star Team, make travel and accommodation arrangements, and assist the coaching staff with the meet logistics.

**7.5 DUTIES AND POWERS OF CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS GENERALLY**

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

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

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Appoint such committees or sub-committees, as well as fill vacancies on such committees or sub-committees, as may be necessary to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the coordinator or division or committee, respectively;

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Communicate with the respective division, coordinator, committee or subcommittee members to keep them fully informed;

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Keep the General Chair, the respective division coordinator or chair or committee chair and the staff of PVS's office informed of the respective coordinator, division, committee or subcommittee actions and recommendations;

Appoint a member as secretary of the division, committee or subcommittee charged with taking minutes of each meeting and forward reports or minutes of all meetings to PVS's office;

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Refer to the Board of Directors any recommendation for action which would establish or change policies or programs for PVS, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors; and

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Perform the other specific duties as may be delegated by the General Chair, the respective division chair 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 the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chair or the respective division vice-chair. Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws, the duties and powers of any other committees and subcommittees shall be prescribed by the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or the officer, coordinator or chair pursuant to whose powers such committee or subcommittee was created.

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**7.7 REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS** - Regular and special meetings of divisions, committees or sub-committees of PVS shall be held as determined by the respective coordinators, chairs, or committee or sub-committee chair. In addition, meetings may be called where applicable by the division vice-chair, or committee chair or coordinator pursuant to whose authority a committee or sub-committee was established.

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**7.8 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS** - Meetings of divisions, committees and sub-committees shall be open to all members of PVS

and USA-S. 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 in-to executive session on any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the division, committee or sub-committee.

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**7.9 VOICE AND VOTING RIGHTS OF DIVISION, COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS** - The voice and voting rights of Board Members and Individual Members shall be as follows:

**1 MEMBERS** - Each division, committee and sub-committee member shall have both voice and vote in the respective meetings, with the exception of the Competition committee where each member shall have voice, but only the elected Coach Representatives, two at-large coaches appointed by the General Chair, and one representative from each member club shall have voting privileges.

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**.2 NON-VOTING COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS** - Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, the General Chair shall have voice but no vote in meetings of divisions, committees and sub-committees. Coaches other than the elected Coach Representatives, the at-large coaches appointed by the General Chair, and the representatives of each member club shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the Competition Committee.

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

**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 sub-committee members entitled to vote consent to the action in writing and the written consents are filed with the records of the meetings. These consents shall be treated for all purposes as a vote taken at a meeting.

**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 a majority of members 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 PVS 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 PVS. Separate notices need not be given for regular meetings that are scheduled well in advance. (See Section 16.1.5 for the various 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 subjects are taken up may be varied:

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

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

**7.18 VACANCIES** - The determination of when the position of an appointed committee or subcommittee **chair**, committee member or a coordinator becomes vacant or the person becomes incapacitated, if not made by the person, shall be

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within the discretion of the Board of Directors, or the division chair, committee chair, or coordinator who appointed said committee or subcommittee. (See Section 6.8 for provisions applicable to elected committee chairs and coordinators.) In the event of a vacancy or permanent incapacity, the General Chair-man, with the advice and con-sent of the Board of Directors and the respective division chair, 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 Chair or an appointment may be made for the duration of the temporary incapacity.

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

**7.20 APPLICATION TO NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF REVIEW**  
- Sections 7.5 through 7.16 shall apply to the Nominating Committee and any other committee of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws or in the resolution creating the committee. 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 Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall, within thirty (30) days after each meeting of the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates, transmit a copy of the minutes of the meeting to the respective members and to USA-S national headquarters.

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**8.2 FINANCIAL AND FEDERAL TAX REPORTS** - The Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall forward to USA-S national headquarters a copy of the annual closing Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expense for the preceding fiscal year following completion of the audit of the accounts and internal financial controls and procedures of PVS and the report thereon, prepared in accordance with Section 8.5, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the audit report, and shall advise USA-S national headquarters within thirty (30) days following acceptance by the House of Delegates. Copies of any corresponding federal income tax return required to be filed by PVS under the IRS Code shall be included with the annual audit report sent to USA-S national headquarters.

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**8.3 STATE AND LOCAL REPORTS AND FILINGS** - The Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) shall cause to be made all reports and non-tax filings and shall requisition, from the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer), checks with which to pay any applicable fees required by PVS's state of incorporation and by any other state or municipality in which it operates.

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**8.4 PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION** - PVS shall cause to be made available at the PVS permanent office, to anyone requesting to see, a copy of PVS's federal income tax and information returns for each of the last three years, and a copy of the materials submitted by USA-S, to include PVS, in USA-S'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 PVS 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 or an audit committee. At least once every 3 years, the annual audit must be conducted by an independent auditor. The audit shall cover any federal, state or local income tax return that PVS is required to file under the IRS Code or applicable provisions of state or local law, rules or regulations, the balance sheet, the statement of income and expenses, check register and bank statements and other records as is deemed appropriate. If the audit is conducted by an audit committee, the committee shall issue a report signed by all of its members and stating that the financial records and reports of PVS have been reviewed and fairly present the financial condition of PVS 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 Registrar shall forward in a timely manner all required reports to the Executive Director of USA-S. These reports shall be accompanied by a remittance of the appropriate membership and registration fees due to USA-S. The Registrar shall make periodic summary reports to the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary), the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates.

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### **8.7 SAFETY REPORTS -**

**.1 INCIDENT/OCCURRENCE REPORTS** - An occurrence report providing all of the information requested by applicable USA-S form should be completed at the time of the occurrence by the meet director, officer, coach or club officer with copies to USA-S national headquarters, the Safety Coordinator, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) and the PVS office.

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**.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 PVS and USA-S, 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 PVS and its members to reduce the likelihood of a recurrence and the status of that recommendation. The written report shall include a review of the pertinent statistical information provided by USA-S 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 sent to the USA-S 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 PVS and its members.

**.3 SAFETY EDUCATION** - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for disseminating safety information flowing from USA-S Headquarters and exploring safety education opportunities and developing a safety education program tailored to PVS, its members and Territory.

**8.8 MAILING ADDRESS** - PVS shall notify, in writing, USA-S national headquarters of any change in its regular mailing address within 14 days of the change.

**8.9 REPORTS GENERALLY** - PVS shall make all reports and remittances to USA-S, as specified in the USA-S Code or by the National Board of Directors or National House of Delegates, in such a manner and on such written forms as may be requested by USA-S national headquarters. The General Chair, the Registrar, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary), and the Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall be collectively responsible for seeing that all required reports and remittances are made.

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## ARTICLE 9 MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

**9.1 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS** - PVS, in furtherance of the applicable articles of the USA-S Rules and Regulations, shall respect and protect the right of every Individual Member who is eligible under PVS, USA-S 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 PVS, USA-S and FINA requirements. Before any

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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** - PVS shall respect and protect the right of every Club Member which is eligible under PVS, USA-S and FINA rules and regulations to participate in any competition through its athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, meet directors and other officials, so long as the competition is conducted in compliance with PVS, USA-S 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** - USA-S 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 USA-S 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 USA-S Rules and Regulations of Ethics is intended to provide a clear statement of member responsibilities, liabilities for infractions thereof and a mechanism for resolving in an orderly and fair way all manner and kinds of disputes that may arise among its members in connection with the sport of swimming. Accordingly, PVS 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 USA-S Rules and Regulations of Ethics or otherwise violate the policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USA-S or PVS, or conduct that may bring USA-S, PVS 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 PVS 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.

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**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 10.6.1C and served in the manner prescribed in Section 10.10.

**.2 "Chair"** when standing by itself shall mean the Chair of the Board of Review.

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**.3 "Notice"** shall mean the writing addressed to the Respondent advising that the Respondent has been named a respondent in a Protest and served in accordance with Section 10.10. The Notice sets the hearing date and procedures and establishes the schedule to be followed leading to the hearing, among other things. See Section 10.6.1B.

**.4 "Presiding Officer"** shall mean the Chair or another member of the Board of Review designated by the Chair to preside at a particular hearing or hearings. Where applicable the term shall include an attorney so designated pursuant to Section 10.3.12B.

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**.5 "Protest"** shall mean a written complaint filed in accordance with Section 10.6.1A 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 PVS or a constituent element, officer or agent of PVS. The Protest may relate to an applicant's having been denied membership in PVS 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 PVS or USA-S 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 Protestor filed in accordance with Section 10.6.1D 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-chair"** when used by itself shall mean the Vice-chair of the Board of Review.

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### 10.3 BOARD OF REVIEW ORGANIZATION -

**.1 ESTABLISHMENT** - The Board of Review of PVS shall be independent and impartial.

**.2 MEMBERS** - The Board of Review shall have at least five (5) members. The House of Delegates may increase the number of members by resolution but, subsequent to the adoption of these Bylaws, may only decrease the number of members upon the expiration of the term of office of any incumbent members.

**.3 ELECTION; TERM OF OFFICE; ELIGIBILITY -**

**A Election** - The House of Delegates shall annually elect members of the Board of Review: One half the members (rounded up if necessary) shall be elected in even-numbered years and one half the members (rounded down if necessary) shall be elected in odd-numbered years.

**B Term of Office** - The term of office shall be two years. Each member shall assume office upon the start of the fiscal year of PVS and shall serve until a successor takes office.

**C Eligibility** - Each member of the Board of Review shall be an Individual Member of PVS and USA-S. In no case shall elected members of the Board of Directors constitute a majority of the Board of Review.

**.4 CHAIR ELECTED BY BOARD; OTHER OFFICERS** - The Chair, who must be a member, shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Review. The outgoing Chair shall be responsible for assuring the election is conducted. The Chair shall annually appoint a Vice-chair and a Secretary of the Board of Review, each of whom must be members. The Chair shall also serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors.

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**.5 Failure to Elect/Appoint** - Should the Board of Review fail to elect a Chair and/or appoint a Vice-Chair and a Secretary of the Board in a timely manner, the General Chair may appoint, with the advise and consent of the Board of Directors, a Chair, Vice-Chair and/or Secretary of the Board of Review. They shall be appointed from amongst the individuals whom the House of Delegates has elected to be members of the Board of Review. They shall serve until such time as the Board of Review elects or appoints such individuals in accordance with Section 10.3.4

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**.6 MEETINGS** - The Board of Review shall meet for administrative purposes at least once annually to elect the Chair, to adopt rules and procedures and to conduct other business as may be helpful or necessary to achieve the purposes of the Board of Review and efficiently exercise its duties and powers. Other meetings may be called by the Chair or any three members. When meeting for administrative purposes, Sections 7.5 through 7.16 shall apply to the Board of Review.

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**.7 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.

**.8 QUORUM** - A quorum for any administrative meeting of the Board of Review shall be fifty percent (50%) of its members. (The rule prescribed in Section 10.5.1C governs the quorum for hearings and rehearings conducted by the Board of Review.)

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

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**.10 INCAPACITIES AND VACANCIES -**

**A Office of Chair** - In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chair, or of the Chair's temporary or permanent incapacity, the Vice-chair shall become the Acting Chair until an election can be held at a meeting of the Board of Review to fill the remaining term, if any, of the former Chair, or until the Chair ceases to suffer from any temporary incapacity. If the Chair is going to be absent from the Territory, the Chair may, but is not obligated to, designate the Vice-chair as Acting Chair for the duration of the absence.

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**B Presiding Officer** - In the event of the death, resignation or permanent incapacity of a Presiding Officer, the Chair shall appoint another 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 rehearings other than delay for the benefit of the new Presiding Officer. The Chair 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 a temporary incapacity of a Presiding Officer, the Chair shall have discretion regarding appointment of a new Presiding Officer, a delay of the hearing or rehearing or 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 General Chair 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

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incapacity, the Chair of the Board of Review shall designate another member to act for the incapacitated member for the duration of the incapacity. If there are no members available to serve, the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, shall appoint one or more Individual Members to serve as members to serve until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Delegates.

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**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 Chair is temporarily incapacitated shall be made, where the circumstances permit, by the Chair and otherwise shall be within the discretion of the Board of Review, subject to any subsequent action by the House of Delegates.

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

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**.12 EXTENSIONS OF TIME** - The time by which any act is required to be taken pursuant to this Article 10 may be extended or foreshortened by the Chair, 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 Chair 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.

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**.13 ADVICE; ATTORNEY AS PRESIDING OFFICER -**

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

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**B Attorney as Presiding Officer** - The Board of Review or the Chair may retain an attorney (who need not be a member of PVS, USA-S or the

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Board of Review) to act as Presiding Officer at any hearing where it is appropriate or helpful. A Presiding Officer who is not a Board of Review member may 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 Fees and Expenses** - Prior to retaining an attorney on any basis requiring the payment of fees to the attorney (the payment of expenses to an attorney providing services at no charge (pro bono publico) shall not be considered as a payment of fees for this purpose), the Chair or the Presiding Officer of the Board of Review shall consult with the General Chair and the USA-S General Counsel. The Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) is authorized and directed to pay any fee and expenses charged by the attorney and approved by the General Chair.

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**.14 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 independence 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 reasonably 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; or



(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 Chair, or in the case of the Chair, the Vice-chair.

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**D Recusal/Disqualification Requested by Party** - By written notice to the Presiding Officer or the Chair, or, in the case in which the Chair is the subject of the notice, the Vice-chair, 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 Chair or the Vice-chair 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 Chair or the Vice-chair 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.

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**E Substitution for Recused or Disqualified Member** - In the event of a recusal or a disqualification, a substitute shall be appointed as provided in 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 purposes of the Board of Review,

**B** establish policies, procedures and guidelines,

**C** elect the Chair in accordance with Section 10.3.4,

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**D** elect or provide for the appointment of other officers, agents, committees or coordinators to hold office for terms, and to have the powers and duties, specified,

**E** call regular or special meetings of the Board of Review,

**F** retain attorneys, agents and independent contractors and employ those persons which the Board of Review may determine are appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs and

**G** 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 these 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 PVS, its status or conduct as a Local Swimming Committee or the administration of the sport of swimming in the Territory which involves:

**A** PVS and (1) a member or members of PVS 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) and (2), or

**B** only a member or members of PVS, or

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

The jurisdiction of the Board of Review is limited in the case of matters described in the applicable sections of the USA-S Rules and Regulations (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 issued pursuant to the USA-S Rules and Regulations (pertaining to certain discretionary jurisdiction of the National Board of Review).

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**4 EXERCISE OF POWERS AND DECISIONS** - Except for authority and power granted to the Chair or the Presiding Officer, the exercise of the authority and powers of the Board of Review and the decision of matters which are the subject of a hearing shall be decided by a majority vote of the panel, the rehearing panel or 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

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solely in its discretion and the interests of justice and the sport of swimming. The Board of Review shall exercise its power in response to a timely Protest filed with it, subject, in appropriate circumstances, to the power and discretion of the Chair or Presiding Officer to dismiss a Protest with permission to refile for a stated period. In connection with any preliminary investigation, the Chair or Presiding Officer may offer the services of a Board of Review member to act as a mediator or similar positions under other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

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

(7 interpret any provision of the FINA rules and regulations to the extent not preempted by FINA, the USA-S Rules and Regulations (except for Part One), the USA-S Code of Ethics, these Bylaws, other policies, rules, regulations and procedures of USA-S or PVS, the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act of 1998, both federal laws, and other applicable laws, rules and regulations and adjudicate alleged inconsistencies and claims of supremacy and invalidity;

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(8 deny, grant, suspend or restore the eligibility or right to compete of an Athlete Member of PVS and USA-S;

(9 deny, grant, suspend or restore membership in PVS and USA-S for a definite or indefinite period of time, with or without terms of probation, or expel any Group Member or Individual Member of PVS and USA-S, including any administrator, athlete, coach, trainer, manager, meet director, official, officer, Board Member, House of Delegates representative of a Group Member, coordinator or chair or member of any committee or sub-committee;

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(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 USA-S, PVS, its Group Members or other LSCs and their Group Members;

(11 assess costs, including any filing fee and attorneys fees and expenses, 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 circumstances.

**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, permitting an athlete to compete subject to protest or offering or ordering the parties to attempt to resolve their differences pursuant to mediation or other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms 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 issues 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 prior to the decision being issued in the proceeding unless the Chair or the Chair of the National Board of 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.

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**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 PVS or of a Group Member (1) who has violated any of the regulations, rules, policies or procedures of PVS, USA-S 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 policies, (3) who is responsible for any such violation by another under Section 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 PVS, USA-S 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 REHEARINGS GENERALLY -

### .1 HEARINGS -

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

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**B Hearing by Panel** - The Board of Review may, in the discretion of the Chair, 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 at least three (3) members. A panel shall have all of the powers of the Board of Review solely with respect to matter(s) assigned to it by the Chair.

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**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 four members of the full membership 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 Chair or Presiding Officer. In the discretion of the Chair or the Presiding Officer, the hearing may be conducted in part through written means and in part by testimony and oral argument.

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**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 witnesses 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 privileges 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 REHEARINGS -**

**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 four (4) members may be reheard by the full Board of Review. Members of the initial hearing panel may be members of the rehearing panel.

**B Right to a Rehearing; Discretion of Chair** - 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 Chair in all other instances.

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**C Time within which a Rehearing may be Requested** - The Protestor, 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 four members without first making a timely request for a rehearing.

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**E Decision of Chair on Request; Notice of Rehearing -**

**(1 Discretionary Rehearings** - With respect to requests for a rehearing that are discretionary, the Chair, 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 request.

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**(2 Non-Discretionary Rehearings** - With respect to requests for a rehearing that are not discretionary, within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the request, the Chair shall schedule a rehearing.

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**(3 Rehearing Notice; Affect of Inaction** - In either case, the Chair 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 Chair does not take action within ten (10) business days, the decision of the panel shall be considered final and any of the parties may appeal the decision in accordance with Section 10.9.

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**F Fresh Start Hearing or On the Record Rehearing** - The rehearing panel at the discretion of the Chair 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 Chair or the Presiding Officer. The record shall include the Protest, the Notice of Charges, the Answer, the Rebuttal, any temporary orders or partial decisions made and the Notice of Decision, together with any additional memoranda and written evidence filed by the parties. To the extent applicable, the procedures for a formal hearing shall apply to a rehearing. See Sections 10.5.1 and 10.6.1E.

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**.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 Protestor, the Respondent, any other party, their counsel and any witnesses at the request of any of the parties and may be closed at the discretion of the Chair 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 PVS and USA-S.

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**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.

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

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**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 Chair of the Board of Review (if submitted to the General Chair the statement is not defective, but the allowable period of time for the Notice shall not commence until the statement is received by the Chair of the Board of Review) 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 10.25. The Protest shall be accompanied by any filing fee due under Section 10.4.6 or by an application for waiver of the fee.

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**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 16.1.5) by certified or express mail, return receipt requested, by Federal Express, signature required, or by personal service. If the Respondent is PVS or an officer, Board Member, committee or sub-committee chair or coordinator or an official, the Notice shall be also given to the General Chair, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) and the Administrative Assistant at PVS'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 10.3.12A) after the receipt of the Protest by the Chair of the Board of Review. The form of Notice shall include:

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(1 a statement in reasonable detail of the charges 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 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 Protestor 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 accordance with Section 10.10.2.

**D Rebuttal by Protestor** - The Protestor 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 becomes 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 procedures. The hearing shall be conducted in a manner conducive 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 issues 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 witnesses or observers. Each party (Protestor first, Respondent second) may then present a brief opening statement setting forth the party's view of the issues 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; Witnesses' Testimony** - The rules of evidence governing the hearing are set forth in Section 10.5.1F. 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 could 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 parties 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 Variance 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 parties 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 Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) of PVS in accordance with Section 10.10.2.

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## **.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 emergent 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 members of the Board of Review are not available due to time constraints, the Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Board of Review or the General Chair 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 10.6.1E insofar as the emergent nature of the hearing permits.

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**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 emergent 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 ten (10) business days thereafter and delivered to the Protestor, the Respondent, their counsel, any other parties to the proceeding, the Chair of the Board of Review, the General Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Division (Secretary) of PVS, the Chair of the National Board of Review and the General Counsel of USA-S in accordance with Section 10.10.2.

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**E Right to a Subsequent Formal Hearing** - If either the Protestor or the Respondent shall deliver to the Chair 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.

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**.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 USA-S General Counsel.

**10.7 FINALITY OF BOARD OF REVIEW DECISIONS** - Except as otherwise provided in this Article 10 with regard to rehearings, appeals and emergency

hearings or in the pertinent articles of the Constitution of the United States Olympic Committee and in the pertinent chapters of its bylaws with respect to binding arbitration in disputes 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 PVS. Those final decisions may not be attacked or reopened in any proceeding before the PVS 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 10.5.2D or 10.6.2E, 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 USA-S Executive Director and accompanied by the appellate filing fee established by USA-S. Upon timely request to the Chair 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.

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

##### **.1 NOTICE TO HEARING PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF PVS-**

**A PVS Members Generally** - In each case, where notices or other hearing-related documents are to be delivered to a member of PVS, 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 notices directed to PVS 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 10.6.2B), 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 persons specified at the addresses specified in the Notice or later documents or as determined in accordance with Section 16.1.5. 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** - PVS is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and for the purpose of fostering national or international amateur sports competition within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, PVS shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, (1) engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes and objectives of PVS 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 revenues, properties and assets of PVS are irrevocably dedicated to the purposes set forth in Sections 1.2 and 11.1 of these Bylaws. No part of the net earnings, properties or assets of PVS shall inure to the benefit of any private person or any member, officer or director of PVS.

**11.3 AMENDMENTS** - Any provision of these Bylaws not mandated by USA-S may be amended at any meeting of the House of 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 USA-S, Rules and Regulations Committee.

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**11.4 DISSOLUTION** - PVS 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 PVS shall not inure to the benefit of any private individual, unincorporated organization or corporation, including any member, officer or

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

## ARTICLE 12 INDEMNIFICATION

Article Added by Amendment -- November 18, 1997

**12.1. INDEMNITY** - Unless otherwise specifically required by law, Potomac Valley ~~Swimming~~ shall only be obligated to provide indemnification benefits to the indemnified persons through the use of United States Swimming membership insurance policies. In special cases, the Board of Directors may elect to provide full or partial indemnity, as permitted by law, beyond the coverage of the applicable insurance.

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**12.2. INDEMNIFIED PERSON** - As used in this article, "Indemnified Person" shall mean any person who is included in the definition of indemnified person in any insurance policy purchased and maintained for the purpose of this article to include those acting on behalf of Potomac Valley Swimming and at the direction of an Officer or the Board of Directors of Potomac Valley Swimming.

## ARTICLE 13 PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

**13.1 ROBERT'S RULES** - The rules in the then current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern PVS 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 PVS, 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 second motions, orders or other proposals.

## ARTICLE 14 PERMANENT OFFICE AND STAFF

**14.1 OFFICE** - PVS shall maintain an office in the Territory for the storage and maintenance of the books and records and equipment of PVS 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** - PVS shall retain staff at the PVS Office as the Board of Directors may determine to be appropriate or necessary. The staff shall be under the general supervision of the General Chair. With respect to delegated functions of the officers, committee chairs and coordinators, the staff shall be responsible to the respective officer, committee chair or coordinator. The powers and duties of the staff shall be established by resolution of the Board of Directors.

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**14.3 APPROPRIATIONS** - The Vice-Chair of the Finance Division (Treasurer) shall include in the proposed budget a line item for the costs of PVS's Office inclusive of the compensation and benefits costs of the staff. Once appropriated by the House of Delegates, the General Chair shall be responsible for the administration of those funds. The compensation of the staff shall to the extent possible be treated as confidential.

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## ARTICLE 15 MISCELLANEOUS

**15.1 EFFECT OF STATE LAW CHANGES (SEVERABILITY)** - If any portion of these Bylaws shall be determined by a final judicial decision to be, or as a result of a change in the law of the State of Maryland become, illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of these Bylaws shall continue in full force and effect.

**15.2 FISCAL YEAR** - The fiscal year of PVS shall end on August 31st of each year.

**15.3 TAX STATUS; INTERPRETATION OF BYLAWS** - It is intended that PVS 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)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the IRS Code, respectively. Similarly, it is intended that PVS shall have that or similar status under the applicable state and local laws as will exempt it from taxation to the maximum extent possible to the extent not contrary to applicable federal requirements. These Bylaws shall be interpreted accordingly

## ARTICLE 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 limitation". The singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular as the context may require. Where the context permits, the term "or" shall be interpreted as though it were "and/or". Captions have been used for convenience only and shall not be used in interpreting the Bylaws.

**.2 CAPITALIZED TITLES** - Capitalized titles, such as Secretary or Treasurer, when appearing alone shall refer to PVS positions and not to USA-S or another organization.

**.3 PRINCIPAL RULE OF INTERPRETATION** - The principal substantive rule of interpretation applicable to these Bylaws is set forth in Section 15.3.

**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 to the last address shown on the records of PVS shall be deemed given or delivered upon the postmark date for all purposes under these Bylaws.

**B Notice by Fax or E-mail** - 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 PVS shall be the address given in the latest application for registration or membership in PVS and USA-S filed with the Registrar 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 Vice-Chair

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of the Administrative Division (Secretary) of PVS shall be used to ascertain the last known address.

**.6 TIME PERIOD CONVENTION** - In computing time periods established by these Bylaws, the initial time period (days or hours) shall not be included but the last period shall be included.

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

**16.2 DEFINITIONS** - When used in these 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 ~~chair~~ or member, coordinator, or a Group Member Representative or alternate, and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of PVS and USA-S. (See Section 2.1.2A)

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**.2 "Affiliated Group Member"** shall mean any organization which supports the sport of swimming and the objectives and programs of PVS and USA-S, but which does not have Athlete Members and Coach Members, which is in good standing as a Group Member of PVS and USA-S, and which is not a Club Member of PVS. (See Section 2.1.1B.)

**.3 "Affiliated Group Member Representative"** shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Affiliated Group Member in the House of Delegates. (See Section 4.1.1.)

**.4 "Article"** shall mean the principal subdivisions of these Bylaws.

**.5 "Articles of Incorporation"** shall mean the document filed with the Maryland Secretary of State pursuant to which PVS was formed.

**.6 "At-Large House Member"** shall mean the Individual Members appointed by the General ~~Chair~~ to be members of the House of Delegates. (See Section 4.1.2.)

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**.7 "Athlete Member"** shall mean any individual who competes or has competed during any part of the three (3) immediately preceding years in the sport of swimming and is in good standing as an Individual Member of PVS and USA-S. (See Section 2.1.2A.)

**.8 "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.

**.9 "Board Member"** shall mean a member of the Board of Directors. Where the contexts require, the term does not include the Athlete Representatives or the Coach Representatives.

**.10 "Board of Directors"** shall mean the Board of Directors of PVS.

**.11 "Board of Review"** shall mean the investigative and judicial body of PVS established pursuant to Section 10.3.

**.12 "Business day"** shall mean a calendar day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a legal federal or state holiday anywhere within the Territory.

**.13 "Bylaws"** shall mean these bylaws as adopted by, and in effect for, PVS.

**.14 "Club"** shall mean an organization that has athletes and coaches engaged in the sport of swimming.

**.15 "Club Member"** shall mean any club or other organization which is in good standing as a Group Member of PVS and USA-S 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 PVS and USA-S. (See Section 2.1.1A.)

**.16 "Club Member Representative"** shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Club Member in the House of Delegates pursuant to Section 4.1.1.

**.17 "Club Safety Coordinator"** shall mean the Active Individual Member designated by each Club Member to serve as its liaison with PVS and USA-S concerning safety matters. (See Section 2.2.3.)

**.18 "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 PVS and/or USA-S and who is in good standing as a member of PVS and USA-S. (See Section 2.1.2B.)

**.19 "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.)

**.20 "FINA"** shall mean the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur, the international governing body for the sport of swimming.

**.21 "Group Members"** shall mean Club Members and Affiliated Group Members.

**.22 "Group Member Representative"** shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Group Member in the House of Delegates. (See Section 4.1.1.)

**.23 "House of Delegates"** shall mean the House of Delegates of PVS as established by Article 4 of these Bylaws.

**.24 "Immediate Past General Chair"** shall mean the individual who is the immediate past General Chair of PVS, except when that person became immediate past General Chair by virtue of the House of Delegates taking action pursuant to Section 4.4.8, the Board of Directors taking action pursuant to Section 5.4.10 or the House of Delegates failing to reelect that person to another term sought by that person. The Immediate Past General Chair shall serve for the duration of the successor General Chair's term. If the office of Immediate Past General Chair becomes vacant for any reason, including the exception set forth in the initial sentence of this definition, it shall not be filled by appointment or election, but shall remain vacant until another individual becomes Immediate Past General Chair.

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**.25 "Individual Members"** shall mean Athlete Members, Coach Members, Active Individual Members and Seasonal Athlete Members.

**.26 "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.

**.27 "Local Swimming Committee"** or "LSC" shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in the USA-S Rules and Regulations. PVS is a Local Swimming Committee.

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**.28 "Member"** shall mean a Group Member or an Individual Member.

**.29 "National Board of Review"** shall mean the Board of Review of USA-S established pursuant to Part Four of the USA-S Rules and Regulations. Where the context requires, a reference to the National Board of Review shall include a reference to the USA-S Board of Directors when that body is acting upon an appeal from the National Board of Review.

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**.30 "Nominating Committee"** shall mean the committee of the House of Delegates charged with nominating candidates for elective offices of PVS. (See Section 4.8.)

**.31 "Policies and Procedures Manual"** shall mean the policies and procedures manual of PVS, as amended, adopted by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. Until PVS executes a Policies and Procedures Manual, the reference shall mean the relevant meeting minutes, orders and resolutions of PVS.

**.32 "Parliamentary Authority"** shall mean the authority and any special rules of order designated in Article 13.

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**.33 "Seasonal Athlete Member"** shall mean any individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for April through August in a calendar year and is in good standing as a Seasonal Athlete Member of PVS and USA-S. (See Section 2.1.2D.)

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**.34 "Section"** shall mean the subdivisions of the Articles of these Bylaws.

**.35 "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.

**.36 "Senior Coach Representative"** shall mean the Coach Representative senior in term of office. (See Section 4.1.4.)

**.37 "Standing Committee"** shall mean a committee of PVS listed in Sections 7.1, 7.2, or 7.4.

**.38 "Territory"** shall mean the geographic territory over which PVS has jurisdiction as a Local Swimming Committee. (See Section 1.3.)

**.39 "USA-S"** shall mean United States Swimming, Inc., a Colorado not-for-profit corporation which is the national governing body for the United States for the sport of swimming.

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**.40 "USA-S Board of Directors"** shall mean the Board of Directors of USA-S.

.41 "USA-S **Rules and Regulations**" shall mean the **published** rules and regulations, as adopted and amended by USA-S.

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.42 "USA-S House of Delegates" shall mean the House of Delegates of USA-S.

.43 "USA-S **Rules and Regulations Committee**" shall mean the **Rules and Regulations** Committee of USA-S created pursuant to the applicable article of the USA-S **Rules and Regulations**.

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.44 "PVS" shall mean the Maryland not-for-profit corporation to which these Bylaws pertain.

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.45 "PVS Office" shall mean the permanent office of PVS maintained in accordance with Article 14.

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.46 "in good standing" shall refer to those members who have fulfilled the eligibility requirements and paid the necessary fees to be granted said membership.

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