

2015 AAU Aquatics Handbook & Regulations

PREAMBLE

The AAU Aquatics National Committee has been established in order to promote the benefits of participation in athletics and hereby adopts these rules & regulations for the advancement of that purpose. AAU Aquatics includes the sports of Diving, Swimming, Synchronized Swimming and Water Polo. The AAU Aquatics Committee operates under the governance of the AAU Code in addition to rules herein.

I. NATIONAL SPORT COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A. National Committee Structure and Procedures

1. **National Sport Chair.**
 - a. National Sports Chairs shall be elected National Sport Committee at the committee meeting during National Conventions in which National Officers are elected.
 - b. Terms are four years.
 - c. National election policies shall apply.
 - d. National Sport Chairs can be removed for cause by a majority vote of the National Officers, subject to the Right of Appeal to the National Board of Review. The President, with the approval of a majority of the officers, may appoint a person to fill a vacant Sport Chair position. The appointee will serve until the next regular or special meeting of the Sport Committee, at which time an election shall be held to complete the term. (Updated 11/14)
2. **National Chair.** The President of the AAU appoints the Chair from the recommendations of the National Sport Committee after approval of a majority of the National Officers.
3. **National Sport Committee Composition.** The Committee will consist of the National Sports Chair, the elected or appointed officers or committee chairs as defined by the sport's operating rules, the elected or appointed Sport Director of each District, or a representative designated by the District Governor, and one appointed representative from each affiliated member that registers members in the sport. The President may appoint up to two (2) members-at-large (Updated 11/14).
4. **Other Committee Positions.** The National Chair may appoint additional committee positions.
5. **Voting.** Voting in the Committee shall be the National Sport Chair, Executive Committee, the elected or appointed District Sports Director or a representative from each affiliated member that

registers members in the sport, and any members-at-large. Only representatives from Districts which registered a minimum of .5% (a half percent) of the total number of athletes in that sport in the previous year shall be allowed to vote in the National Sport Committee meeting.

B. Sport Committee Meetings

1. **National Sport Committee Regular Meetings.** Regular Meetings of the National Sport Committee shall be in conjunction with the AAU Convention.
2. **Non-Regular Sport Committee Meetings.** National Sport Committee may hold a Non-Regular National Sport Committee meeting in odd years subject to the following provisions:
 - a. The meeting is called by the Chair following approval of the National Office.
 - b. The National Office has the right to coordinate the meeting and pick the site for the meeting.
3. **National Sport Committee Special Meetings.** Special meetings of a Committee are scheduled at the request of the Chair or upon written request of at least one half (1/2) of the Committee members. The purpose of the Special meeting must be stated in the Notice for the meeting.
4. **National Sport Executive Committee Meetings.** The National Chair shall determine the date and location of Executive Committee Meetings.
5. **Agenda Additions**
 - a. **Sport Committee Meeting Order (Agendas)-** The Regular National Sport Committee meetings, the Non-Regular National Sport Committee meetings, and National Sport Committee Special meetings shall follow meeting order (agenda format) as established by Code (Bylaw 9.5).

II. SPORT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A. **Sportsmanship.** It is the obligation of coaches, players, administrators, volunteers and other representatives of the AAU to practice the highest principles of sportsmanship and to observe the ethics of competition. Good sportsmanship is defined as qualities of behavior, which are characterized by courtesy and genuine concern for others. The display of good sportsmanship is a statement of the individual's understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.
- B. **Program Violations.** Disciplinary action may be considered by the Districts, Sport Committee or the Executive Committee for any violations

bringing discredit upon the AAU, including, but not limited to, passing “bad” checks, participation of athletes in an improper age division, or any violation of any part of this Handbook or the AAU Code. In instances of alleged violations, Board of Review action may be taken against athletes, coaches, parents and/or clubs according to AAU Code.

- C. No Guarantee Policy.** The AAU cannot and does not guarantee the appearance and/or participation of specific participant(s) and/or teams (as applicable) in this event. The AAU has sanctioned (approved) this Event as an official AAU Event (competition), but the AAU is not and shall not be responsible for any participant's or spectator's expenses related to this Event (nor reimbursements for same) in case of dissatisfaction of any participant, friend, family, or spectator, this includes, but is not limited to all travel, hotel (lodging), food, entry fees and/or any other expenses related to the event.
- D. Cross Boundary Athletes:** The Aquatics Committee does not have a limit on the number of cross boundary athletes.

III. SPORT OPERATIONS

A. Event Operating Rules.

1. **District Qualifier Medals.** AAU medals shall be used at any sanctioned district qualifying event. Medals must be purchased through the AAU medal program or the sanction shall be denied/voided. Effective September 1, 2009. (Added 3/09)

B. Competition Rules.

1. **Youth Diving Competition Rules.** AAU Diving is conducted under the AAU Code, AAU Aquatics Handbook and the competition rules of FINA as modified by the AAU National Aquatics Committee.
- a. Qualification Procedure.** For qualification scores to compete in the Diving National Championship, please refer to **Appendix A**.
- b. Single Age Divisions for Diving National Championships**

i.

9 & Under	10 Years	11 Years
12 Years	13 Years	14 Years
15 Years	16 Years	17 Years
18 Years	Open	

ii. Age groups are determined by the divers' age on December 31, year of competition.