Athlete Advisory Council
Meeting Agenda
November 16, 2026
Via Zoom from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. MT

Attendees:
USA Archery Staff: Mary Emmons, Sara Crowell, Samantha Bauer
AAC: Catalina GNoriega, Trenton Cowles, Katherine Wu, Makenna Proctor, Heather Koehl
Absent: Lexi Hull, Savannah Nofel

1. **Welcome**
    a. **Conflict of Interest Disclosures**
        i. Emmons asked if anyone had any conflict of interests to disclose before the meeting commenced. No participants disclosed any additional conflicts beyond athlete event and USAT participation, except Cowles is a member of the RA program. Emmons asked participants to flag any further conflicts so they could be documented.
2. **Election Results**
    a. Emmons presented that Thomas Stanwood was elected to the at-large athlete seat and will replace Jason Tabansky. McKenna Proctor will serve a second AAC term and nominations remain open for the male compound representative seat.
    b. Emmons presented that Brandi Iannoli, Erev King and Ryan Lindstrom have been named as Compound Athlete representatives for the Para AAC with their first terms for 2027-2030.
3. **Events**
    a. 2027 National Event and U.S. Team Trials Schedule
        i. Emmons presented the 2027 National event and U.S. Team Trials schedule. She mentioned that the Salt Lake Summit is a youth only event and that the Lancaster Showcase is a new event.
    b. 2027 International Events Schedule
        i. Emmons presented the 2027 International Events schedule. She stated that World Cup 2 is currently the self-funded drop event and the decision

followed the majority response to an athlete survey and with consideration to USAA's national head coach feedback.

1. GNoriega and Koehl questioned requiring travel to China shortly before the first trials event rather than making that World Cup self-funded. The discussion identified approximately four days between China and the first U.S. Team trials event, compared with approximately ten days between World Cup 2 and stages 2 and 3 of the trials.
    a. Following the meeting Emmons consulted with USAA staff about this matter. Due to the timing of the WA schedule being released and in relation to the deadline to apply for international funding World Cup China was officially planned for and will remain the funded event. The National Head Coach is supportive of this event being funded and does not foresee any issues with the timing of the trials.
2. GNoriega stated that World University Games travel may cause athletes to miss the first day of Nationals practice. Emmons replied that field availability for Nationals prevented a larger gap between WUG's and the trials, but Nationals has been moved to be one day later to help accommodate the athletes return time.

4. 2027 Athlete Stipends and Support Programs

a. Emmons presented the 2027 Athlete Stipends and Support Programs document and mentioned that funding has increased to $403,200 for USOPC athlete support.
    i. Emmons presented the athlete funding schedules for June 1-December 31st. The AAC favored the option that funds the entire recurve and compound World Championship team June 1 forward rather than funding the top 4 ranked recurve and top 2 ranked compound athletes.
        1. Emmons mentioned that since the AAC favored the option that gives the third compound World Championship team athlete a monthly stipend, the separate $3,000 World Cup 4 stipend for that athlete would be removed; the athlete remains eligible for the $500 travel stipend for this event.

ii. Emmons mentioned that the Op Gold event for 2027 will be the World Archery Championships.
iii. Emmons presented the new USOPC Targeted Athlete Support funding model and eligibility criteria to the AAC. Emmons stated this will be a reimbursement based program for athletes who have medaled at the most recent World Championships or Olympic Games. She stated that this funding is separate from elite athlete stipends and can be used on eligible training and preparation expenses. Emmons mentioned that receipts must document expenses incurred that year and be submitted by November 30th.
iv. Emmons also presented the AAC with a new medal incentive program for when an athlete reaches the specified minimum qualifying scoring in a 72-arrow ranking round at a national USAT or outdoor world ranking international event. The athlete will receive $1,000 for each achievement. Emmons stated that USA Archery staff will track the qualifying scores and send payment, however, athletes are encouraged to communicate their achievements to highperformance@usarchery.org.
v. Emmons stated a funded World Championship team camp is scheduled for September 12-16th in Chula Vista. Eligible athletes are encouraged to attend.
vi. Emmons stated that she has requested partial athlete funding support for the self-funded World Archery Youth Championships and World University Games teams. The WUG support was approved; however, the Youth World Championships support request is pending.
vii. Emmons reviewed the Elite Athlete Health Insurance schedule. She stated that from July 1, 2027 to May 2028 the eligibility for EAHI will switch to the World Championship team athletes for recurve. Compound follows a different schedule and will be the top number one ranked male and female athletes as of December 31st and will be covered for the 2027 calendar year.

5. **USAT Athlete Selection Procedures**
    a. Senior
        i. Emmons presented the Senior USAT athlete selection procedures and mentioned that they have remain largely unchanged despite an extra USAT event. The required number of events to attend is unchanged.
    b. 50+, U21, U18, U15 and Barebow Senior
        i. Emmons presented the youth, 50+ and barebow senior USAT athlete selection procedures and stated these also remain largely the same.
            1. Cowles brought up that with indoor nationals and six USATs available to youth athletes, two athletes could finish with three first places and the same cumulative ranking score. Emmons replied that there is a tiebreaker for fifth place on the team, but USA Archery staff will review and determine who ties are broken within the top five.
6. **International Event Athlete and Staff Selection Procedures**
    a. World University Games
        i. The World University Games selections remains a self-funded team and U.S. Team trials will be held in conjunction with Collegiate Target Nationals.
    b. World Youth Championships
        i. The World Archery Youth Championships selection remains self-funded and trials will be held in conjunction with JOAD Target Nationals followed by a standalone event.
    c. World Cup and Other International Events
        i. Emmons stated that World Cup and other international events selection procedures retain their minimum qualification scores and highlighted team selection modifications based on USAT rankings by category. Barebow team selection will use USAT rankings rather than placement at the required event.
        ii. Emmons also mentioned that in World Archery Championship years, the procedures state that athletes named to the World Championship team are also named to the World Cup prior to the World Championship team.

d. 2027 Pan Am Games and World Archery Championships Athlete Selection Procedures
    i. Emmons started by stating that the Pan Am Games and World Archery Championships have different eligibility requirements; Pan Am Games requires US citizenship, World Championships does not and allows national team transfers.
        1. It was identified that there could be a potential conflict during the trials regarding eligibility that could lead to concerns with the round robin matches. Since the trial events are the same for both events the question was raised on what if an ineligible Pan Am athlete reaches the cut to the top eight.
        2. It was discussed if USA Archery could impose Pan Am eligibility requirements on World Championship selection but Emmons raised the concern about the Ted Stevens Act or a right to compete. Following the call USAA legal confirmed the eligibility criteria could be set the same for both events and USAA updated the citizenship requirements to be consistent with the Pan Am Games.
    ii. The AAC raised a concern regarding the point allocations for round robin matches. The AAC agreed that each round robin match win should be 1 point across all matches and to calculate the three-arrow average separately for each set. USAA updated the procedures based on the AAC feedback after consulting coaching staff.
e. 2027 Pan Games and International Team Staff Selection Procedures
    i. Emmons stated that the Pan Am Games staff selection procedures had no changes from prior years.
    ii. USAA will issue an application process for alternate and self-funded positions for 2027 International Team staff. She also mentioned that there are separate selection committees for Para and Collegiate staff.

7. **USA Archery Policies and Procedures**
    a. USA Archery Dress Code
        i. Emmons presented the USA Archery Dress Code policy to the AAC. Emmons mentioned that the policy removes the fingertip-length test for skirts and shorts, replacing it with requirements for professional

appearance, appropriate fit, suitable competition length and adequate coverage during normal movement and shooting positions. Koehl and Proctor warned that subjective length judgements have led to calls against sport skirts with shorts underneath. Emmons replied that she will ask the Director of Athlete Safety and Compliance to add visual examples, including examples relevant to shorter skirts with shorts underneath.

b. Policy for Missing a Required Event
    i. Emmons presented the Policy for Missing a Required Event. The AAC was in favor of changing approved required event replacement points to the average of their best three USAT events vs the 3rd best points. The new calculation will need to use the events actually attended, not an average already substituted for another non-required event exemption as outlined in the Senior USAT Selection Procedures.
c. Personal Coach Policy
    i. AAC requested stricter enforcement onsite at events for coaches sitting in athlete area. Emmons replied that she will follow up with the National event staff to ensure proper enforcement is being provided.
d. International Event Participation Policy
    i. AAC had no feedback for this policy.
e. Policy for Adaptive and Accessibility Equipment
    i. AAC had no feedback for this policy.

Quick Links to USAA Resources

- Athlete Stipends and Support Programs
- A Quick guide to Athlete Safety Procedures
- High Performance Programs
- Athlete Ombuds
- Athlete Selection Procedures
- Team USA Eligibility