

**SOUTH TEXAS SWIMMING, INC**

**BYLAWS**

Approved by Board of Directors

April 12, 2011

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## ARTICLE 601 - NAME, OBJECTIVES, TERRITORY AND JURISDICTION

- 601.1 **NAME** - The name of the corporation shall be South Texas Swimming, Inc. (“STSI”). The USA Swimming LSC code for South Texas shall be “ST”.
- 601.2 **OBJECTIVES** - The objectives and primary purpose of STSI shall be the education, instruction, and training of individuals to develop and improve their capabilities in the sport of swimming. STSI shall promote swimming for the benefit of swimmers of all ages and abilities, in accordance with the standards, rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of FINA, USA Swimming, and STSI and its Articles of Incorporation.
- 601.3 **GEOGRAPHIC TERRITORY** - The geographic Territory of STSI is that part of the State of Texas bounded on the East by, and including, the Counties of Milam, Burleson, Washington, Austin, Fayette, Lavaca and Jackson; on the South by the Gulf of Mexico and the Republic of Mexico; on the West by, and including, the Counties of Val Verde, Sutton and Schleicher; and on the North by, and including, the Counties of Menard, Mason, Llano, Burnet, Lampasas and Bell. The USA Swimming zone alignment for South Texas shall be “Southern Zone” (Appendix B). The USA Swimming region alignment shall be “Region 9” (Appendix C).
- 601.4 **JURISDICTION** - STSI shall have jurisdiction over the sport of swimming as delegated to it as a Local Swimming Committee by USA Swimming to conduct swimming programs consistent with STSI's objectives and those of USA Swimming 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 Appendix 6-B Zone Alignment and Appendix 6-C Regional Alignment). STSI shall discharge faithfully its duties and obligations as a Local Swimming Committee of USA Swimming in accordance with these Bylaws, the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, and all applicable policies and procedures.

## ARTICLE 602 - MEMBERSHIP

602.1 MEMBERS - The membership of STSI 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 Swimming and STSI and paid the fees established by USA Swimming and STSI pursuant to Article 603. An organization may be denied membership by 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 membership may be deferred by the Executive Secretary to the Administrative Vice-Chair for remedial action if the criteria for a Group Membership is incomplete or is a Group Member falls out of compliance with the membership rules established by USA Swimming or STSI. Any denial of membership may be appealed to the Board of Review. An organization's status as a Group Member is subject to its continued satisfaction of the criteria for membership and compliance with its responsibilities under these Bylaws, the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, the rules, regulations, policies, procedures and codes of conduct and ethics of STSI and USA Swimming and may be suspended or terminated by the Executive Committee, or a decision of the Board of Review or the National Board of Review. Except for Affiliated Group Members, Group Members in good standing shall be entitled to participate in the program of swimming conducted by STSI, and competitions sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, in accordance with Section 609.2.
  - A Club Members - A Club Member is an organization, which is in good standing as a Group Member of STSI and USA Swimming, 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 STSI and USA Swimming.
  - B Affiliated Group Members - An Affiliated Group Member is an organization which supports the sport of swimming and the objectives and programs of STSI and USA Swimming, which is in good standing as a Group Member of STSI and USA Swimming, but which does not have athletes and coaches who all are Individual Members of STSI and USA Swimming.
  - C Seasonal Club Members - A Seasonal Club Member is an organization, which has joined STSI and USA Swimming for a period not longer than 150 days between April 1st and August 27th inclusive of a registration year and is in good standing as a Group Member of STSI and USA Swimming. All Seasonal Club Member coaches must be Coach Members in good standing of STSI and USA Swimming. All athlete members of seasonal clubs must be Seasonal Athlete or Athlete Members in good standing of STSI and USA Swimming.

.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 Swimming and STSI and paid the dues established by USA Swimming and STSI pursuant to Article 603. An individual may be denied membership 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. An individual's membership may be deferred by the Executive Secretary to the appropriate responsible party defined in the STSI Policies and Procedures for remedial action if the criteria for an Individual Membership are incomplete or to the Administrative Vice-Chair if an Individual Member falls out of compliance with membership rules established by USA Swimming or STSI. 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 Swimming Rules and Regulations, the rules, regulations, policies, procedures and codes of conduct and ethics of STSI and USA Swimming and may be terminated by a decision of the Board of Review or the National Board of Review. Except for Affiliated Individual Members and life members, Individual Members in good standing shall be entitled to participate in the program of swimming conducted by STSI, and competitions sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, in accordance with Section 609.1.

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 STSI and USA Swimming.

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

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 STSI or a Group Member Representative or alternate and any other individual desiring to participate in the sport of swimming and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of USA Swimming and STSI.

D **Affiliated Individual Members** - An Affiliated Individual Member is an

individual interested in the objectives and programs of STSI who resides, formerly resided, or formerly participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of STSI and USA Swimming.

E Seasonal Athlete Members - A Seasonal Athlete Member is an individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for a period not longer than 150 days between April 1st and August 27<sup>th</sup> inclusive in a registration year and is in good standing as an Individual Member of STSI and USA Swimming.

F Life Members - A Life Member is an individual who is a life member of USA Swimming and who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory and who is in good standing as a member of STSI and USA Swimming. A Life Member shall have all of the privileges of an Active Individual Member of STSI.

.3 MEMBERSHIP A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT - Membership in STSI and USA Swimming is a privilege and shall not be interpreted as a right. Membership (including a Life Membership) may be terminated by Board of Review or the National Board of Review for any violation of a member's responsibilities under Article 410 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, for any of the reasons set forth in Section 610.4.7.C or for any other reason determined by the Board of Review or National Board of Review to be in the best interests of the sport of swimming, USA Swimming or STSI.

## 602.2 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 Swimming and STSI, 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, STSI or USA Swimming into disrepute. Any income derived from the promotion of swimming by STSI must be used for the further promotion of swimming or for the general welfare of STSI as a whole. By applying for and accepting membership in STSI and USA Swimming, each Individual Member agrees to so abide and represents, except to the extent disclosed to STSI and USA Swimming, that he or she has never been convicted of a crime involving sexual misconduct, child abuse, violation of a law specifically designed to protect minors, or similar offenses, or to have been found by a Board of Review or the National Board of Review to have committed actions which would be the basis for a conviction and that she or he has never acted in a manner which might bring

into disrepute STSI, USA Swimming or the sport of swimming.

- .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 Swimming or STSI, 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 All teams not represented at the annual House of Delegates meeting will not be eligible to receive a meet sanction for the following year.

## ARTICLE 603 - DUES AND FEES

- 603.1 **CLUB MEMBERS** - Every Club Member and Seasonal Club Member shall pay an annual or seasonal fee, respectively, consisting of a national club fee established by USA Swimming and a local club fee established by STSI, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by STSI.
- 603.2 **AFFILIATED GROUP MEMBERS** - STSI shall establish the annual membership fees and any other charges, fees, etc., for Affiliated Group Members.
- 603.3 **ATHLETES** - Each Athlete Member and Seasonal Athlete Member shall pay an annual or seasonal fee, respectively, consisting of a national fee established by USA Swimming and a local fee established by STSI.
- 603.4 **COACHES** - Each Coach Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USA Swimming and a local fee established by STSI, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by STSI.
- 603.5 **ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** - Each Active Individual Member shall pay an annual fee consisting of a national fee established by USA Swimming and a local fee established by STSI, together with any other charges, fees, etc. as may be established by STSI.
- 603.6 **AFFILIATED INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** - STSI shall establish the annual membership fees and any other charges, fees, etc., for Affiliated Individual Members.
- 603.7 **LIFE MEMBERS** - STSI shall establish the membership fee, and any other charges, fees, etc., for Life Members.
- 603.8 **SANCTIONS, APPROVAL, AND OTHER FEES**
- .1 **SANCTION AND APPROVAL FEES** - The STSI House of Delegates 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 STSI House of Delegates 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 STSI. 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 STSI when due in accordance with STSI's fee schedule.

### 603.9 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 STSI or USA Swimming, within the time prescribed, as evidenced by a final decision of (i) a court of law, and/or (ii) the STSI Board of Review or the National Board of Review, shall preclude the delinquent member from (a) participating in events sanctioned or approved by USA Swimming, (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, STSI or any other LSC or (c) serving as a Group Member Representative, coach, manager, official, trainer or in any other capacity with any Club Member, Seasonal Club Member or with any group member of any other LSC until the debt is satisfied.
- .2 ATHLETE MEMBER OBLIGATIONS - The failure of an Athlete Member or Seasonal Athlete Member to satisfy any financial obligations to USA Swimming, STSI, their former LSCs, within the time prescribed, as evidenced by a final decision of (i) a court of law, and/or (ii) the STSI Board of Review or the National Board of Review, shall preclude the delinquent member from (a) competing in any competition by USA Swimming, (b) obtaining a reportable time achieved in events swum in any USA Swimming sanctioned, approved or observed meet, (c) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, STSI 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 until the debt is satisfied.
- .3 CLUB/INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATIONS - If a Club Member or a Seasonal Club Member has secured: (i) a final court judgment against an Individual Member for non-payment of financial obligations owed to the Club Member, and (ii) a final decision of the STSI Board of Review or the National Board of Review suspending such Individual Member's membership rights as set forth below, then until the court judgment is satisfied, the Individual Member shall not (a) compete in any competition sanctioned by USA Swimming, (b) obtain a reportable time in events swum at any USA Swimming approved or observed meet, (c) participate in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, STSI or any other LSC or (d) practice, exercise or otherwise participate in the activities of any Group Member or any group

member of any other LSC.

- .4 **INDIVIDUAL/CLUB OBLIGATIONS** - If an Individual Member has secured a final decision of (i) a court of law, and/or (ii) the STSI Board of Review or the National Board of Review 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 Swimming and (b) participating in any capacity in the affairs of USA Swimming, STSI 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 after the STSI Board of Review or the National Board of Review, as determined by the STSI Board of Review or the National Board of Review shall be cause for termination of membership.

**ARTICLE 604 - HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**604.1 MEMBERS** - The House of Delegates of STSI shall consist of the Group Member Representatives, the Athlete Representatives, the Coach Representatives, the Board Members designated in Section 605.1, and the At-Large House Trustee.

.1 **GROUP MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES** - Each Group Member in good standing shall appoint from its membership Group Member Representatives, one of which shall be the head coach, and one or more alternates. The appointment shall be in writing, addressed to the Secretary of STSI and duly certified by the chief executive officer or secretary of the appointing Group Member. Group members with 5 or more votes shall name an athlete or athletes to vote 20% of the club's votes, as indicated in the chart below. The appointing Group Member may withdraw one or more of its Group Member Representatives or one or more of its alternates and substitute new Group Member Representative or new alternates by written notice, addressed to the Secretary of STSI and signed by the chief executive officer or secretary of the appointing Group Member. Voting strengths for Group Members shall be based on year round registered athlete count. For all meetings, this count will be as of August 31 of a registration year. Allotment of representatives shall be according to the following formula:

Registered Athletes As of August 31	Total Votes	Non-Athlete Votes	Athlete Votes
1-10	1	1	0
11-20	2	2	0
21-35	3	3	0
36-50	4	4	0
51-75	5	4	1
76-100	6	5	1
101-150	7	6	1
151-200	8	6	2
201 or more	Votes to increase at a rate of one (1) per each fifty (50) additional athletes. Athlete portion of those votes will be 20% rounded to the nearest whole number.		

.2 A sufficient number of athlete members-at-large constituting at least 20% of the voting membership of the House of Delegates (representing the votes of the clubs who have no named athlete representatives based on the chart above) shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The At-Large House Members shall hold office from the date of the appointment through the conclusion of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates following such appointment or until their successors are appointed to the House of Delegates

.3 **COACH REPRESENTATIVES** - Two (2) Coach Representatives shall be elected, one each year for a two-year term, or until a successor is elected to serve on the board

of directors. The election of the Coach Representatives shall be conducted during a caucus called for that purpose at the Annual Meeting of the STSI House of Delegates and determined by a majority of the Coach Members in good standing present and voting or, failing that, at a time and place and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors.

604.2 ELIGIBILITY - Only Individual Members in good standing shall be eligible to be elected or appointed members of, to be heard at or to vote at the House of Delegates in any capacity. Members of the House of Delegates must maintain their status as Individual Members in good standing throughout their terms of office.

604.3 VOICE AND VOTING RIGHTS OF MEMBERS - The voice and voting rights of members of the House of Delegates and of Individual Members shall be as follows:

- .1 GROUP MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES, BOARD MEMBERS, THE ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES, COACH REPRESENTATIVES, AT-LARGE TRUSTEE AND MEMBERS AT LARGE - Each of the, the Board Members, the Athlete Representatives, the Coach Representatives, the At-Large House Trustee, and members at-large shall have both voice and one vote according to these Bylaws in meetings of the House of Delegates. The coach representative of each Group Member shall cast the total votes for that Group Member, except for the athlete votes, allowing that the vote may be split in whole numbers. Only an athlete representative(s) may cast the 20% of the club's votes. If the athlete representative(s) or their designated alternate fails to attend the House of Delegates meeting, the club will lose those votes.
- .2 AFFILIATED GROUP MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES, SEASONAL CLUB MEMBERS AND SEASONAL ATHLETE MEMBERS - Group Member Representatives of Affiliated Group Members and Seasonal Club Members and Seasonal Athlete Members, unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the House of Delegates and its committees.
- .3 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS - Individual Members who are not members of the House of Delegates may attend open meetings of the House of Delegates and its committees and be heard in the discretion of the presiding officer. Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, Individual Members shall have no vote in meetings of the House of Delegates.

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

- .1 Elect the officers, Athlete Representatives, At-Large Board Members, and regular and alternate members of the Board of Review, and the committee chairs and coordinators listed in 606.1 in accordance with Sections 606.2 through 606.6.

- .2 Confirm the Board of Review at the first meeting following the appointment by the General Chair (Article 610.3.3)
- .3 Elect alternates to the USA Swimming House of Delegates in accordance with section 502.2 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations (see also Section 606.7.11B);
- .4 Review, modify and adopt the annual budget of STSI recommended by the Board of Directors.
- .5 Call regular and special meetings of the House of Delegates;
- .6 Ratify or prospectively modify or rescind policy and program established by the Board of Directors, except any action or authorization by the Board of Directors with respect to contracts or upon which any person may have relied shall not be modified or rescinded;
- .7 Establish joint administrative committees, or undertake joint activities with other sports organizations where deemed helpful or necessary by STSI;
- .8 Establish by resolution or the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual one or more committees of its members. The committees shall have the powers and duties specified in the resolution, or the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual, which may include delegation of one or more of the powers and duties of the House of Delegates other than the powers to amend these Bylaws or remove Board Members and other elected officers;
- .9 Amend the Bylaws of STSI in accordance with Section 611.3; and
- .10 Remove from office any Board Members, members of the Board of Review, or 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 Article 410 of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. However, 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 Secretary or other officer designated by the House of Delegates specifying the alleged deficiency in the performance of member responsibilities or specific official duties or other reason. All notices and proceedings under this section shall be prepared, served and processed utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Article 406 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations to the extent applicable. Should the Board Member, Board of Review member or 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 Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

.11 Draft the meet scheduling calendar at the July House of Delegates meeting for the next short and long course seasons. Updates and corrections will be made at the annual meeting (October) when the final schedule will be completed and approved. Schedule meets for the calendar year during the scheduling portion of the annual meeting. The Championship Meets will be bid during the House of Delegates portion of the annual meeting. Meets of the same classification shall not be scheduled at different sites of the LSC on the same weekend. Teams must be present and registered to bid or schedule a meet. Teams must be present and registered with proposed meet information to bid or schedule as open, unclassified or championship meet.

604.5 **ANNUAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS** - The Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates of STSI shall be held in the month of October in accordance with Article 604.7. *Other regular meeting of the House of Delegates shall also be held in accordance with Article 604.7 as follows: in conjunction with 1) the Short Course STAGS, 2) the Long Course STAGS.*

604.6 **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 a majority of a number equal to the number of delegates present and voting at the most recently concluded Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates.

604.7 **MEETING LOCATION AND TIME** - All meetings of the House of Delegates shall take place at a site within the Territory, as prescribed in the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual. The House of Delegates or the Board of Directors shall determine the location and time of all meetings of the House of Delegates. The annual scheduling meeting shall be held during the first session of the Annual Meeting.

#### 604.8 **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

.1 Members of Nominating Committee; Election – The Nominating Committee shall comprise the Immediate Past General Chair and not fewer than four individual members. The Nominating Committee shall be elected annually by the House of Delegates. If the House of Delegates does not act in a timely fashion the Board of Directors shall elect a Nominating Committee to serve until their successors are elected. A number greater than four may be designated from time to time by either the House of Delegates or the Nominating Committee. Each Nominating Committee member shall be a member of the House of Delegates and no more than two (two-fifths) shall be Board Members. This section applies to members of the Nominating Committee, but service as the immediate Past General Chair shall not be counted for that purpose. 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 to serve until the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

- .2 **NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR AND ELECTIONS COORDINATOR** – The Immediate Past General Chair shall serve as chair of the Nominating Committee. The At-Large Trustee shall act as elections coordinator during the annual House of Delegates meeting. The Elections Coordinator shall:
  - A. Make know the slate of candidates as recommended by the Nominating Committee
  - B. Collect nominations from the members
  - C. Announce and publish these nominations
  - D. Distribute, collect, and count the ballots in each election.
- .3 **DUTIES OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – A slate of candidates for election as the officers, Athlete Representatives, At-Large Board Members, or committee chairs or coordinators specified in Section 606.1 and the regular and alternate members of the Board of Review to be elected at the next annual meeting shall be prepared by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee may in its discretion nominate a slate of one person for each position to be filled or may nominate more than one candidate for one or more of the positions. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate a slate of candidates for the Nominating Committee to be elected at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates.
- .4 **PUBLICATION OF NOMINATIONS** – Nominations by the Nominating Committee shall be published by distributing a slate of candidates together with the positions for which they have been nominated to each member of the House of Delegates and to each Group Member not less than twenty (20) calendar days prior to the election. This notice may be combined with the notice of the meeting pursuant to a Section 604.15.1 where convenient. See Section 616.1.5 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 or any three members of the Committee with a minimum of six (6) days notice required. Pertinent provisions of **Section 604.9 through 604.15** also shall apply to the Nominating Committee’s meeting notices.

- .7 QUORUM – A quorum for any meeting of the Nominating Committee shall consist of not fewer than four (4) members. The committee shall act by a majority vote of its members voting in any meeting at which quorum is present.

#### 604.9 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE SESSIONS -

- .1 HOUSE OF DELEGATES - House of Delegates meetings shall be open to all members of STSI and USA Swimming. Issues pertaining to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, tax or similar affairs of STSI shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session that 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.
- .2 HOUSE OF DELEGATES COMMITTEES - All meetings and deliberations of the Ad-Hoc Elections 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 STSI and USA Swimming 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.

604.10 QUORUM - A quorum of the House of Delegates shall consist of those members present and voting.

604.11 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 shall be determined by a two-thirds vote after at least thirty (30) days notice.

- .1 ANNUAL MEETINGS - Issues other than Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and Technical Rules shall be by a majority vote. Issues regarding amendment of these Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and Technical Rules are determined pursuant to Section 611.3.
- .2 REGULAR MEETINGS - Issues, such as championship meet information or ad-hoc committee reports deferred to meetings other than the Annual Meeting that were scheduled or submitted and published in advance of the meetings shall be determined by a majority vote. Issues proposed from the floor at these meetings shall require a nine-tenths (9/10) vote for approval. There shall be no voting on Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, or Technical Rules.
- .3 SPECIAL MEETINGS - Voting shall be determined in the petition calling for the meeting.

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

permitted.

**604.13 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 Executive Secretary, by first class mail, postage prepaid, shall distribute a written ballot to every member of the House of Delegates entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval, and provide a reasonable time (but in no event less than the period specified in Section 604.15.1) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary. Action by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast.

**604.14 ORDER OF BUSINESS AND RULES OF ORDER** - 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 608.5, when applicable
- Unfinished (old) business
- Elections
- New business
- Resolutions and orders
- Adjournment

**604.15 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 616.1.5 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 605 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 605.1 **MEMBERS** - The Board of Directors shall consist of the following officers, committee chairs, coordinators and representatives of STSI, together with those additional members designated in Sections 605.2 and 605.3:
- .1 General Chair
  - .2 Administrative Vice-Chair
  - .3 Senior Vice-Chair
  - .4 Age Group Vice-Chair
  - .5 Treasurer
  - .6 The Coach Representatives (2x)
  - .7 The Athlete Representatives (2x)
  - .8 Technical Planning Chair
  - .9 At-Large Board Members
  - .10 Safety Chair
- 605.2 **AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBER** - One At-Large Trustee of the House of Delegates shall be elected by the House of Delegates to the Board of Directors. The At-Large House Trustee shall hold office from the date of the election through the conclusion of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates following such election or until their successor is elected to the Board of Directors.
- 605.3 **ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES**- Two (2) Athlete Representatives shall be elected, one each year for a two-year term, or until their respective successors are elected to serve on the Board of Directors. At the time of appointment, each 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 STSI or another LSC; and (d) reside in the Territory and expect to reside therein throughout at least the first half of the term. The election of the Athlete Representative shall be conducted annually during the STSI House of Delegates meeting. The balloting shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose by the Senior Athlete Representative or the Athletes Committee, or failing that, at a time and in a manner designated by the Board of Directors. The Athlete Representatives shall be determined by a majority of the Athlete Members and seasonal athlete members in good standing present and voting who are thirteen (13) years of age or older. **MOVED FROM 604.**

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

- .1 The Immediate Past General Chair of STSI, if an Individual Member in good standing.
- .2 Members of the USA Swimming Board of Directors who are Individual Members in good standing.
- .3 USA Swimming Committee Chairs who are Individual Members in good standing.

**605.5 LIMITATIONS** - No more than three (3) members or coaches of any Club Member shall serve on the Board of Directors at any time. This limitation shall be applied separately as to Athlete Members and other Individual Members.

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

- .1 **BOARD MEMBERS** - Each Board Member other than the ex-officio members (see Section 605.3 shall have both voice and vote in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees.
- .2 **NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS** - Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, the ex-officio members shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees.
- .3 **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS** - Individual Members who are not Board Members may attend open meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees and be heard in the discretion of the presiding officer. Unless entitled to vote under another provision of these Bylaws, Individual Members shall have no vote in meetings of the Board of Directors or its committees.

**605.7 DUTIES AND POWERS** - The Board of Directors shall act for STSI and the House of Delegates during the intervals between meetings of the House of Delegates, subject to the exercise by the House of Delegates of its powers of ratification or prospective modification or rescission, except that it shall not remove a Board Member, a Board of Review member or other person elected by the House of Delegates or amend these Bylaws. In addition to the powers and duties prescribed in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations or elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to:

- .1 Establish and direct policies, procedures, and programs for STSI. Implement and interpret the STSI Policies and Procedures and the STSI Technical Rules and direct policies, procedures and programs for STSI. In case of

immediate and urgent need, the Board will act in place of the House of Delegates between meetings of the House of Delegates.

- .2 Oversee the conduct of the officers and staff of STSI of the day-to-day management of the affairs of STSI;
- .3 Elect At-Large Board member when the House of Delegates does not do so in a timely fashion;
- .4 Establish contracts when necessary
- .5 Provide advice and consent to appointments proposed by the General Chair that require advice and consent under these Bylaws or by the STSI Policies and Procedures manual.
- .6 Cause the preparation and presentation to the House of Delegates of the annual budget of STSI and make a recommendation to the House of Delegates concerning the approval or disapproval thereof.
- .7 Receive presentation of the annual audit report pursuant to Section 608.5 and make a recommendation to the House of Delegates concerning the approval or disapproval thereof;
- .8 Call regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.
- .9 Admit eligible prospective Group Members and Affiliated Individual Members.
- .10 Retain such independent contractors and employ such persons as the Board shall determine are necessary or appropriate to conduct the affairs of STSI;
- .11 Appoint other officers, agents, 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, the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual, or as may be provided in the resolutions appointing them, including any powers of the Board of Directors as may be specified, except as may be inconsistent with any other provision of these Bylaws. To the extent not provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may delegate to any officer, agent, committee or coordinator the power to appoint any such subordinate officers, agents, committees or coordinators and to prescribe their respective terms of office, authorities and duties; and
- .12 Remove from office any officers, At-Large Board Member, committee chairs, or committee members or coordinators of STSI who were not elected by the House of Delegates and 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 Article 410 of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. No officer, At-Large Board Member, 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 utilizing the procedures for a formal hearing pursuant to Article 406 of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations to the extent applicable. Should the officer, At-Large Board -Member, committee Chair, 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 Part Four of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

#### 605.8 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

- .1 **AUTHORITY AND POWER** - The Executive Committee shall have the authority and power to act for the Board of Directors and STSI between meetings of the Board and the House of Delegates.
- .2 **MEMBERS** - The members of the Executive Committee shall be the General Chair, who shall act as chair, Administrative Vice-chair, Senior Vice-chair, Age Group Vice-chair, Treasurer, Senior Athlete Representative, and Senior Coach Representative. The presiding officer shall appoint an Individual Member to serve as the secretary of the meeting.
- .3 **MEETINGS AND NOTICE** - Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at any time or place within the Territory when called by the General Chair or any three (3) members of the Committee with a minimum of three (3) days notice required. Pertinent provisions of Sections 607.5 through 607.11 and Section 616.1.5 shall apply to the Executive Committee meetings and notices.
- .4 **QUORUM** - A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of four (4) members of the Committee.
- .5 **REPORT OF ACTION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS** - At the next regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall make a report of its activities since the last Board of Director's meeting for ratification or prospective modification or rescission, provided, however, that any action of the Executive Committee upon which a third party may have relied (e.g., by signing, or authorizing the signing of a contract) may not be modified or rescinded by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

#### 605.9 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS - Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings shall be open to all members of STSI and USA Swimming. Matters relating to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, taxation or

similar affairs shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session which only Board Members or Executive Committee members, respectively, are entitled to attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may decide to go into executive session on any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

605.10 **PARTICIPATION THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT** - Members of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may participate in meetings of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee through conference telephone or similar equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

605.11 **REGULAR MEETINGS** - The Board of Directors shall meet at least three (3) times during the year in association with the scheduled House of Delegate meetings which are the Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates; the regular meeting of the House of Delegates in conjunction with the Short Course South Texas Championship and then in conjunction with the Long Course South Texas Swimming Championship.

605.12 **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.

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

605.14 **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.

Proposed *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 not be allowed without proper notification (at least fourteen (14) days) to the House of Delegates.*

605.15 **PROXY VOTE** - Voting by proxy in any meeting of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall not be permitted.

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

meeting.

**605.17 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 Executive Secretary, by first class mail, post- age prepaid, shall distribute a written ballot to every Board Member entitled to vote on the matter. The ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval, and provide a reasonable time (but in no event less than the period specified in Section 605.17) within which to return the ballot to the Secretary. Action by written ballot shall be valid only when the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed action within the time period specified constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast.

**605.18 NOTICES** -

- .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 616.1.5 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.

**605.19 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.

Roll Call

Reading, correction and adoption of minutes

Report of Executive Committee

Reports of officers

Reports of committees and coordinators

Presentation of the annual budget/adoption of recommendation to the House of Delegates

Presentation of the annual audit report pursuant to Section 608.5 and adoption of its recommendation to the House of Delegates

Advice and Consent to Appointments

Unfinished (old) business

New business

Approval of applications for Group Membership and Affiliated Individual Membership

Elections

Resolutions and orders

## ARTICLE 606 - OFFICERS

606.1 **ELECTED OFFICERS** - The officers and At-Large Trustee shall be elected by the House of Delegates.

- .1 General Chair\*
- .2 Administrative Vice-Chair\*
- .3 Senior Vice-Chair\*
- .4 Age Group Vice-Chair\*
- .5 Treasurer\*
- .6 Technical Planning Chair\*
- .7 Coaches Representatives (2x)\*
- .8 Athletes Representatives (2x)\*
- .9 At-Large Trustee\*
- .10 Safety Coordinator

[STSI Officers \* ]

[The position of Executive Secretary is paid staff and is not an officer]

606.2 **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.** The House of Delegates, at its annual meeting, shall elect the General Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, at Large Board Member, *and the Senior Vice-Chair*, in even-numbered years; and *the Age Group Vice-Chair, the Treasurer, the Technical Planning Committee Chair, and the Safety Committee Chair*, in odd-numbered years.

606.3 **ELIGIBILITY** - Only Individual Members in good standing shall be eligible to hold office and must maintain their eligibility throughout their term of office. An elected officer may hold only one elected office simultaneously unless approved by the House of Delegates (606.5.2).

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

606.5 **OFFICES COMBINED OR SPLIT** -

- .1 OFFICE HELD BY TWO PERSONS - Any office other than General Chair and Treasurer, may be held jointly by two Individual Members. This may be accomplished by the House of Delegates electing co-officers at the time of election. In the case of the Administrative Vice-Chair, the House of Delegates, at the time of election shall designate one to be the successor to the General Chair *in the case of disability or death during their term*; if no such designation is made, the person with the longer tenure in such office or as a Board Member shall serve as the successor.
- .2 OFFICES COMBINED - Any office other than General Chair and Treasurer may be combined with any other office except that the offices of Treasurer may not be combined. This may be accomplished by the House of Delegates so electing at the time of election.

#### 606.6 TERMS OF OFFICE

- .1 TERM OF OFFICE - The terms of office of all elected members of the Board of Directors shall be two years except for the following officers who were elected in 2006: Age Group Chair, Treasurer, Technical Chair, and Safety who will serve an initial term of three years.
- .2 COMMENCEMENT OF TERM - Each person elected to a position shall assume office at the end of the Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates 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 with the exception of the Age Group Chair, Technical Chair, Treasurer, and Safety who may serve 5 years in the same position. A portion of any term served to fill a vacancy in the position shall not be considered in the computation of this successive term limitation.

#### 606.7 DUTIES AND POWERS: The duties and powers of the officers other Board Members and the Executive Secretary 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 STSI, 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 specified in these Bylaws and as may be necessary to permit STSI 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 STSI.

- .2 SECRETARY: The role of STSI Secretary is vested in the position of Executive Secretary, who is the manager of the permanent office of STSI, a non-officer, paid staff position, designated in Article 614 of these Bylaws.
- .3 TREASURER: The Treasurer shall be the principal receiving and disbursing officer of STSI. Except as otherwise directed by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall receive all moneys, incomes, fees and other receipts of STSI and pay all bills, salaries, expenses and other disbursements approved by an authorized officer, committee Chair, coordinator, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, or required to be paid pursuant to Section 610.3.12. When authorized by the Board of Directors, income and expenses may be received and paid by a division, officer, committee or coordinator, provided that the division, officer committee or coordinator promptly submits to the Treasurer an itemized report, duly attested by the division, officer, committee Chair or coordinator and either within the approved budget of such division, officer, committee or coordinator, or authorized by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Finance Committee and will be its Chair. The Treasurer shall issue a report at each regular meeting of Board of Directors and the House of Delegates listing the current budget variances by line item, all receipts, all expenditures and the current fund and account balances for the for the fiscal year to date, together with such other items as the General Chair or the Board of Directors may direct. The Treasurer is responsible for the adequacy of STSI's system of internal financial and accounting controls and is ultimately responsible for STSI's compliance with Section 608.4. The Treasurer shall:
  - A have charge of and supervision over and be responsible for the funds, moneys, securities and other financial instruments of STSI;
  - B cause the moneys, securities and other financial instruments of STSI to be deposited in the name and to the credit of STSI in such institutions as shall be designated in accordance with Section 606.11 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 STSI to be disbursed by checks or drafts, automated debits or wire transfers upon the authorized depositories of STSI, and obtain and preserve proper vouchers for all moneys disbursed;
  - E cause to be kept at STSI's permanent office correct books of account and

other financial records of all its affairs and transactions and such duplicate books of account as the Board of Directors, or the Treasurer shall determine;

- 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 regular financial reports submitted to the Board of Directors and the annual audited financial statement to be exhibited to any member of STSI or USA Swimming;
  - G cause STSI to be in compliance with the requirements of Section 608.4.
  - H have the power to require from the officers, committee chairs, coordinators, staff or agents of STSI reports or statements giving such information as the Treasurer may determine to be appropriate or helpful with respect to any and all financial transactions of STSI;
  - I shall coordinate with the Executive Secretary and make the books and records available and otherwise fully cooperate with those conducting the annual audit of accounts of STSI 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 Secretary for submission to the Board of Directors and USA Swimming national headquarters in accordance with Sections 608.2 and 608.3;
  - 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, performs all the other duties incident to the corporate treasury function.
- .4 **ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-CHAIR:** The Administrative Vice-Chair 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 606.9.) The Administrative Vice-Chair shall chair, and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the division that administers STSI business and affairs. The Administrative Vice-Chair 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.
- .5 **SENIOR VICE-CHAIR:** The Senior Vice-Chair shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the Division that develops and conducts the

senior swimming program of STSI and coordinates all levels of swimming in the Territory, including the development of long-range plans for swimming programs and chairs the annual scheduling meeting at the Annual Meeting. The Senior Vice-Chair serves as a liaison to the Athlete Representatives and the Athletes Committee, and shall be responsible to see that their functions are in accordance with these Bylaws.

- .6 AGE GROUP VICE-CHAIR: The Age Group Vice-Chair shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the Division that develops and facilitates the age group swimming program of STSI.  
*Order, maintain, and distribute awards and team banners for all STSI bid championship meets. After the culmination of the meets, review the amount of awards utilized and cause for an invoice for both the awards and banners, including shipping, to be distributed to the host teams within 30 days.*
- .7 ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES: The Athlete Representatives shall serve as the liaison between the athletes who are members of STSI and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates. The Senior Athlete Representative shall chair the Athletes' Committee.
- .8 COACH REPRESENTATIVES: The Coach Representatives shall serve as a liaison between the coaches who are members of STSI and the Board of Directors and House of Delegates. The Senior Coach Representative shall chair the Coaches' Committee.
- .9 TECHNICAL PLANNING CHAIR - The Technical Planning Chair shall chair, and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the Division which is responsible for long-range planning regarding the swimming programs conducted by STSI, the continuing review and development of the STSI philosophy and for advising other divisions regarding the implementation of that philosophy in the context of STSI's swimming programs.  
*They shall update the STSI Handbook with any changes approved by the House of Delegates and ensure the same is approved by USA Swimming prior to posting on the STSI website*  
*Update the Bylaws with changes approved by the House of Delegates and ensure the same is approved by USA Swimming prior to posting on the STSI website.*
- .10 AT-LARGE BOARD –Board Member - In addition to the inherent powers and duties as a trustee of the Board of Directors, the At-Large Board Member shall serve as the Elections Coordinator and shall have such powers and duties as may be delegated by the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual, the General Chair, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.
- .11 STSI DELEGATES TO USA SWIMMING HOUSE OF DELEGATES

- A Officer and Representative Delegates - It shall be the duty and privilege of the General Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, the Age Group Vice-Chair, the Senior Vice-Chair, the Senior Athlete Representative and the Coach Representatives to attend the USA Swimming annual meeting as representatives of STSI and voting delegates to the USA Swimming House of Delegates. If the Board of Directors determines to send fewer than all of the Athlete Representatives to the USA Swimming annual meeting, the Senior Athlete Representative or the Athlete Representative next most senior in term of office shall attend.
- 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 Swimming annual meeting as delegates representing STSI.
- 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 STSI.
- D Coach Representative Alternates - If a Coach Representative is unable to attend the USA Swimming annual meeting, 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 STSI.

606.8 **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.

#### 606.9 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 Administrative Vice-Chair 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 Administrative Vice-Chair shall vacate the office of Administrative Vice-Chair, 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 Administrative Vice-Chair as Acting General Chair for the duration of the absence.

- .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 House of Delegates or the Coaches Committee, 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 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 with, in the case of a Athlete Representative or a Coach Representative, the advice and consent of the Athletes Committee or the Coaches Committee, respectively. 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.

#### 606.10 OFFICERS' POWERS GENERALLY

- .1 AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS, ETC. –The General Chair and the Treasurer each may sign and execute in the name of STSI deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, agreements or other instruments duly authorized by the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual, 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.

- .2 ADDITIONAL POWERS AND DUTIES - Each officer shall have other powers and perform other duties as may be prescribed by the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual or by the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, the General Chair, the respective division Vice-Chair, the delegating officer or these Bylaws. The division Vice-chairs shall have the additional duties and powers set forth in Section 607.1.
- .3 DELEGATION - Officers of STSI may delegate any portion of their powers or duties to another Individual Member or to a committee composed of Individual Members, except the Treasurer may not delegate duties to the other another person without the consent of the Board of Directors. In addition, the authority to sign checks, drafts, and orders of withdrawal or wire transfers shall not be delegated other than by the Board of Directors. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws and with the consent of the Board of Directors, any officer may delegate any portion of that officer's powers or duties to the paid staff of STSI. A delegation of powers or duties shall not relieve the delegating officer of the ultimate responsibility to see that these duties and obligations are properly executed or fulfilled.
- .4 ASSISTANT AND DEPUTY OFFICERS - The House of Delegates or the Board of Directors may by resolution create the office of deputy to one or more of the elected officers. The resolution or the Policies and Procedures Manual shall the method of election or appointment and define the duties and powers of the respective deputies, which may include the power to act for the officer when the officer is out of the Territory or temporarily incapacitated. The elected officers may appoint one or more assistant officers and define their respective duties.

#### 606.11 DEPOSITORIES AND BANKING AUTHORITY

- .1 DEPOSITORIES, ETC. - All receipts, income, charges and fees of STSI shall be deposited to its credit in the banks, trust companies, other depositories or custodians, investment companies or investment management companies as the Board of Directors may select, or as may be selected by the Finance Committee or any officer or officers or agent or agents authorized to do so by the Board of Directors. Endorsements for deposit to the credit of STSI in any of its duly authorized depositories shall be made in the manner determined by the Board of Directors. All funds of STSI not otherwise employed shall be maintained in the banks, trust companies, other depositories or custodians, investment companies or investment management companies designated by the Board of Directors or any officer or officers or agent or agents authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.
- .2 SIGNATURE AUTHORITY - All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment or transfer of money, and all notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of STSI shall be signed by the Treasurer of STSI, and in the manner

as shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE 607 - DIVISIONS, COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

607.1 DIVISIONAL ORGANIZATION AND JURISDICTIONS, STANDING COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS - The seven divisions of STSI shall each be chaired by a Vice-Chair, the Treasurer, the Technical Planning Chair, the Senior Athletes Representative, and the Senior Coaches Representative, whose respective powers, duties, jurisdiction and responsibilities are described in Section 606.7. Under the chair of each division there are officers, committees, coordinators and direct responsibilities as follows:

.1 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION - Administrative Vice-Chair

Bylaws /Legislation/Rules

Elections

Personnel Records Coordinator \*

Top 16 Tabulation (appointed by the General Chair) Officials Committee\*

.2 AGE GROUP DIVISION - Age Group Vice-Chair

Age Group

USA Swimming Camps/Clinics Coordinator (appointed by the General Chair)

Age Group Time Standards Coordinator \*

Zone Team/All-Star Team

Championship Meet Evaluation Chair \*

Representative to the TAGS Committee \*\*

TSA Information Committee Representative \*\*

TSA Officers and Committee Members \*\*

.3 SENIOR DIVISION - Senior Vice-Chair

Senior Scheduling

Open Water

Meet Directors Chair (appointed by the General Chair)

Senior Circuit Representative (elected as per Senior Circuit Rules)

.4 FINANCE DIVISION - Treasurer

Audit

Budget

Finance

Tax

.5 ATHLETES DIVISION - Senior Athlete Representative

Athlete Representatives to USA Swimming,

TSA, STSI Athletes Committee

.6 COACHES DIVISION - Senior Coach Representative

Coach Representatives to USA Swimming,  
TSA, STSI Coaches Committee

.7 TECHNICAL PLANNING DIVISION - Technical Planning Chair

\*

Club Development Coordinator (appointed by the General Chair)  
Safety Coordinator (Appointed by the General Chair)  
Adapted Swimming Coordinator (appointed by the General Chair)  
Ad-Hoc Committees  
Time Standard Chair  
[\* Appointed by Division Chair]

## 607.2 NON-OFFICER CHAIRS AND THEIR COMMITTEES, COORDINATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

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

A Safety Coordinator - The Safety Coordinator shall be elected by the House of Delegates. Eligibility, terms of office, etc. shall be as provided in Sections 606.2, 606.3 and 606.6.

B Ex-officio Chair - Pursuant to Section 607.3, certain other committee chairs are designated ex-officio by virtue of an office currently held.

C Appointed Chairs and Coordinators - The chairs of all standing committees and all coordinators shall be appointed by the General Chair or the respective Division chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The appointed standing committee Chair or coordinator shall assume office upon appointment or the date designated by the General Chair, and shall serve until sixty (60) days after the next election of a General Chair or until a successor is appointed and assumes office.

D TSA Representatives - TSA Representatives shall be elected immediately after the conclusion of the TSA Meeting by the members of the STSI House of Delegates present and voting.

.2 NON-OFFICER CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS

A The Executive Secretary - The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the registration of Group and Individual Members and shall make the reports

required by Section 608.6, together with such additional reports as may be required by USA Swimming, the Board of Directors, General Chair, or the Administrative Vice-Chair. (See Section 614.3)

- B Officials Chair – The Officials Chair shall chair the Officials Committee which is responsible for recruiting, training, certifying, and supervising officials for STSI. The Officials Chair shall be a referee certified by STSI and each of the Officials Committee shall be certified officials of STSI.
- C Safety Coordinator - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancement and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USA Swimming safety education information to all Group Members, athletes, coaches and officials of STSI. The Safety Coordinator shall develop safety education programs and policies for STSI and make recommendations regarding same, and the implementation thereof to the applicable division Vice Chair, to the Board of Directors through the Technical Planning Chair. When approved by the Board of Directors, the Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for the coordination of their implementation by the club members. The Safety Coordinator shall make the reports required pursuant to Section 608.7.
- D Athletes Committee Chair - The Senior Athlete Representative shall chair and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the Athletes Committee, which shall be responsible for such activities (a) delegated to it by the Board of Directors or the General Chair or (b) undertaken by the Committee as being in the best interests of the Athlete Members, STSI, USA Swimming and the sport of swimming.
- E COACHES COMMITTEE CHAIR - The Senior Coach Representative shall chair and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the Coaches Committee, which shall undertake such activities (a) delegated to it by the Board of Directors or the General Chair or (b) undertaken by the committee as being in the best interests of the Coach Members, STSI and the sport of swimming.

### 607.3 MEMBERS AND EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES -

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors, members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the respective division vice-Chair and the Chair of the committee. All committees have athletes appointed to make –up at least 20% of the committee. Three committees: finance, BOD, and BOR have a minimum age of 18. For all other committees, the minimum age is 16 years. i.e., division vice-Chair shall be an ex-officio member (with voice and vote) of each standing committee within the respective division. The ex-officio members and other designated members of certain standing committees shall be as follows:

- .1 ATHLETES COMMITTEE - The Athletes Committee shall consist of all the

Athlete Representatives of all member clubs present at any meeting. The Senior Athlete Representative shall be the Chair of the committee at any STSI or TSA meeting; the athlete representative or the senior athlete present shall be the Chair at Junior and Senior national meetings.

- .2 AUDIT COMMITTEE - The members of the Audit Committee shall be the At-Large Board Member, who shall serve as Chair, the General Chair and the athlete representative. Three additional members from the LSC will participate on the audit committee.
- .3 BUDGET COMMITTEE - The members of the Budget Committee shall be the General Chair, the Treasurer, who shall serve as Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, the Senior Athlete Representative, the Senior Coach Representative, the Age Group Vice-Chair and the Senior Vice-Chair.
- .4 COACHES COMMITTEE - The members of the Coaches Committee shall consist of the Coach Representatives and such additional Coach Members as may be determined by the Coach Representatives. The Senior Coach Representative shall be the Chair of the committee.
- .5 FINANCE COMMITTEE - The members of the Finance Committee shall be the General Chair, the Treasurer, who shall serve as Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, the Senior Athlete Representative, the Senior Coach Representative, the Age Group Vice-Chair, and the Senior Vice-Chair.
- .6 OFFICIALS COMMITTEE - The members of the Officials Committee shall be the Officials Chair, who shall serve as Chair, and at least four other members each of whom shall be a certified official of STSI. The four additional members shall represent different geographical areas of the LSC.
- .7 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - The members of the Personnel Committee shall be the At-Large Board Member, who shall serve as Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, and the Treasurer.
- .8 SAFETY COMMITTEE - The members of the Safety Committee shall be the Safety Committee Coordinator, who shall serve as the Chair and all the Safety Representatives from the STSI member clubs.
- .9 MEET DIRECTORS COMMITTEE - The members of the Meet Directors committee shall be any STSI meet directors who have directed at least three (3) competitions within the previous twelve (12) months. The Chair shall be appointed by the General Chair.
- .10 CHAMPIONSHIP MEET EVALUATION COMMITTEE - The members of the Championship Meet Evaluation Committee shall be the Age Group Vice-

Chair, who shall serve as Chair, the Administrative Vice-Chair, the Senior Vice-Chair, the Safety Coordinator, the Officials Chair, and the Meet Directors Committee Chair. The General Chair or the respective Division Vice-Chair may appoint the specified additional members and any other members deemed appropriate or necessary for any of the foregoing standing committees, except the Athletes, Coaches and Personnel Committees. Committee members appointed pursuant to the preceding sentence, shall hold their appointments at the pleasure of the appointing officer or successor.

#### 607.4 DUTIES AND POWERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

- .1 **AUDIT COMMITTEE** - The Audit Committee is authorized to, and it shall be its duty to, (a) annually recommend an independent auditor to the Board of Directors, (b) review and negotiate the services to be performed by the independent auditor, (c) receive and review the audit and other reports submitted by the independent auditor and (d) submit the audit and other reports and make recommendations to the House of Delegates with regard thereto.
- .2 **BUDGET COMMITTEE** - The Budget Committee is authorized and obligated to consult with the officers, committee chairs and coordinators and prepare and present a proposed budget for consideration and approval by the House of Delegates. The officers, committee chairs and coordinators shall provide promptly such financial information (current and projected) and budget proposals as the Budget Committee may request. The proposed budget may contain alternatives. The Budget Committee shall meet concurrently with the Finance Committee.
- .3 **FINANCE COMMITTEE** - The Finance Committee is authorized and obligated to develop, establish where so authorized or recommend to the Board of Directors and supervise the execution of policy regarding the investment of STSI's working capital, funded reserves and endowment funds, within the guidelines, if any, established by the House of Delegates. The Finance Committee shall also regularly review STSI's equipment needs (both operational and office) and the various methods available to finance the acquisition of any needed equipment, make a determination of the best financing method for STSI and make recommendations to the Budget Committee and the House of Delegates.
- .4 **OFFICIALS COMMITTEE** - The Officials Committee is authorized and obligated to recruit, train, test, certify, evaluate, retest, re-certify and supervise officials for STSI and such other activities as may be necessary or helpful in maintaining a roster of qualified, well-trained and experienced officials of the highest caliber.
- .6 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** - The Personnel Committee is authorized and

obligated to negotiate and set wages, compensation and other terms of employment, conduct an annual performance review, recommend hiring and termination of STSI's paid staff (whether employees or independent contractors), within established, budgetary guidelines and policies and to review and approve the scope of duties delegated to the staff. The Personnel Committee shall also establish quality, survey and performance instruments to facilitate its oversight of STSI's paid staff.

- .7 MEET DIRECTORS COMMITTEE- The Meet Directors Committee is authorized to, and it shall be its duty to, review, revise and refine all proposed legislation regarding meet administration and meet operations before the legislation is voted upon by the House of Delegates.
- .8 CHAMPIONSHIP MEET EVALUATION COMMITTEE - The Championship Meet Evaluation Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations for STSI championship meet formats, etc.
- .9 SAFETY COMMITTEE – The Safety Committee shall be responsible for coordinating safety enhancements and training opportunities as needed and for the dissemination of USA Swimming safety education information to all Group Members, athlete, coaches, and officials of STSI. The Safety Committee shall develop safety education programs and policies and their implementation to the applicable division Vice-chair(s) and the Board of Directors. When approved by the Board of Directors, the Safety Committee shall be responsible for the coordination of their implementation by Club Members. The Safety Chair with the assistance of the committee members shall prepare and transmit the reports required pursuant to section XXXXX.
- .10 TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE – The Technical Planning Committee shall be responsible for long-range planning for the swimming programs conducted by STSI and for advice regarding the technical aspects of those programs and of the sport of swimming generally.

#### 607.5 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) and, when applicable, coordinators shall be as follows:

- .1 Preside at all meetings of the respective division, committee or subcommittee;
- .2 See that all duties and responsibilities of the coordinator or the respective division, committee or sub-committee in his charge are properly and promptly carried out;
- .3 Appoint such committees or sub-committees as may be necessary to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the coordinator or division or committee,

respectively;

- .4 Communicate with the respective division, coordinator, committee or subcommittee members to keep them fully informed.
- .5 Keep the General Chair, the respective division vice-Chair or committee Chair and the staff of STSI's office informed of the respective coordinator, division, committee or subcommittee actions and recommendations;
- .6 Appoint a member as secretary of the division, committee or subcommittee charged with taking minutes of each meeting and forward reports or minutes of all meetings to STSI's office;
- .7 Refer to the Board of Directors any recommendation for action which would establish or change policies or programs for STSI, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by the Board of Directors; and
- .8 Perform the other specific duties as listed in the STSI Policies and Procedures Manual or as may be delegated by the General Chair, the respective division vice-Chair or committee Chair, the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

#### **607.6 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 STSI's Policies and Procedures Manual, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or the officer, coordinator or Chair pursuant to whose powers such committee or subcommittee was created.

**607.7 REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS** - Regular and special meetings of divisions, committees or subcommittees of STSI shall be held as determined by the respective Vice 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.

**607.8 MEETINGS OPEN; EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS** - Meetings of divisions, committees and subcommittees other than the Personnel Committee shall be open to all members of STSI and USA Swimming. Matters relating to personnel, disciplinary action, legal, taxation and similar affairs shall be deliberated and decided in a closed executive session, which only the respective members are entitled to attend. By a majority vote on a motion of a question of privilege a division, committee or sub-committee may decide to go into executive session on

any matter deserving of confidential treatment or of personal concern to any member of the division, committee or subcommittee.

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

- .1 **MEMBERS** - Each division, committee and sub-committee member shall have both voice and vote in the respective meetings.
- .2 **NON-VOTING COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE 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.
- .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.

**607.10 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.

**607.11 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.

**607.12 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 the members or of the committee or subcommittee.

**607.13 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.

**607.14 PROXY VOTE** - Voting by proxy in any meeting of a division, committee or sub-committee of STSI shall not be permitted.

607.15 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 STSI. Separate notices need not be given for regular meetings that are scheduled well in advance. (See Section 616.1.5 for the various forms of notice.)
- .2 INFORMATION - The notice of a meeting shall contain the time, date and site.

607.16 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

607.17 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.

607.18 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 within the discretion of the Board of Directors. (See Section 606.9 for provisions applicable to elected committee chairs and coordinators.) In the event of a vacancy or permanent incapacity the General Chair, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors and the respective division vice-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.

607.19 DELEGATION - With the consent of the Board of Directors or the respective division Vice-Chair, a committee or subcommittee Chair or a coordinator may delegate a portion of their powers or duties to another officer of STSI, or to another committee, subcommittee or coordinator, or, with the consent of the Board of Directors and the Personnel Committee, to the paid staff of STSI. Notwithstanding

any delegation, the ultimate responsibility for the delegated duties and obligations shall remain with the delegator.

**607.20 APPLICATION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF REVIEW -** Sections 607.5 through 607.16 shall apply to the Executive Committee, and any other committee of the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates, unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, in the resolution creating the committee. These provisions shall also apply to Board of Review meetings, but shall not apply to its hearings or deliberations.

## ARTICLE 608 - ANNUAL AUDIT, REPORTS AND REMITTANCES

- 608.1 **MINUTES** - The Secretary shall, within thirty (30) days after each meeting of the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates, transmit a copy of the minutes of the meeting to the respective members and to USA Swimming national headquarters.
- 608.2 **FINANCIAL AND FEDERAL TAX REPORTS** - The Secretary shall forward to USA Swimming 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 STSI and the report thereon prepared in accordance with Section 608.5, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the audit report and shall advise USA Swimming 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 STSI under the IRS Code shall be included with the annual audit report sent to USA Swimming national headquarters.
- 608.3 **STATE AND LOCAL REPORTS AND FILINGS** - The Secretary shall cause to be made all reports and non-tax filings and shall requisition from the Treasurer checks with which to pay any applicable fees required by its state of incorporation and by any other state or municipality in which it operates.
- 608.4 **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION** - STSI shall cause to be made available at STSI's permanent office during regular business hours to anyone requesting to see a copy of STSI's federal income tax and information returns for each of the last three years, and a copy of the materials submitted by USA Swimming to include STSI in USA Swimming's group exemption ruling as required pursuant to IRS Code section 6104 and any similar requirements of applicable state or local laws.
- 608.5 **SEMI-ANNUAL AUDIT** – A Semi-annual audit of the accounts, books and records of STSI shall be completed every six months and the reports will be presented at the House of Delegates meeting at the October and February meeting. The balance sheet, the statement of income and expenses, check register and bank statements and other records as is deemed appropriate shall be made available to the audit committee.
- 608.6 **MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION REPORTS** - The Executive Secretary, or a designate, shall forward in a timely manner all required reports to the Executive Director of USA Swimming. This report shall be accompanied by a remittance of the appropriate membership and registration fees due to USA Swimming. The Executive Secretary shall make periodic summary reports to the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates.

## 608.7 SAFETY REPORTS

- .1 **INCIDENT/OCCURRENCE REPORTS** - An occurrence report providing all of the information requested by applicable USA Swimming form should be completed at the time of the occurrence by the meet director, officer, coach or club officer with copies to USA Swimming national headquarters, the Safety Coordinator and the Administrative Vice-Chair of the STSI office
- .2 **REPORTS OF INJURIES** - The Safety Coordinator shall present a report concerning swimming-related injuries within the Territory at each House of Delegates and Board of Directors meeting.
  - A **House of Delegates Reports** - The report to the House of Delegates shall be written and shall provide in summary form the pertinent information including whether the injured party is a member of STSI and USA Swimming, 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 STSI and its members to reduce the likelihood of a reoccurrence and the status of that recommendation. The written report shall include a review of the pertinent statistical information provided by USA Swimming 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 Swimming 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 STSI and its members.
- .3 **SAFETY EDUCATION** - The Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for disseminating safety information flowing from USA Swimming Headquarters and, with the assistance of the Committee members, exploring safety education opportunities and developing a safety education program tailored to STSI and its members and Territory.

**608.8 MAILING ADDRESS** - STSI shall notify in writing USA Swimming national headquarters of any change in its regular mailing address within 14 days of the change.

**608.9 REPORTS GENERALLY** - STSI shall make all reports and remittances to USA Swimming as specified in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations 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 Swimming national headquarters. The General Chair, the Executive Secretary, and the Treasurer shall be collectively responsible for seeing that all required reports and remittances are made.

## ARTICLE 609 - MEMBER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

- 609.1 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS** - STSI, in furtherance of Article 301 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, shall respect and protect the right of every Individual Member who is eligible under STSI, USA Swimming 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 STSI, USA Swimming and FINA requirements. Before any Individual Member is denied the right to participate in a competition, the individual shall have the right to request and have a hearing before, and a determination of, the Board of Review or the National Board of Review. If the Individual Member is permitted to participate subject to a protest, a hearing and determination may take place after the competition is concluded.
- 609.2 CLUB MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS** - STSI shall respect and protect the right of every Club Member which is eligible under STSI, USA Swimming 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 STSI, USA Swimming 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 610 - BOARD OF REVIEW ORGANIZATION,

610.1 INTRODUCTION - USA Swimming was organized as the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming under the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, , as amended by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act of 1998, both federal laws. These laws require USA Swimming to establish and maintain provisions for the swift and equitable resolution of all disputes involving any of its members. This Article, together with Section 602.2 and Article 609, and Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules are intended to provide a clear statement of member responsibilities, liabilities for infractions thereof and a mechanism for resolving in an orderly and fair way all manner and kinds of disputes that may arise among its members in connection with the sport of swimming. Accordingly, STSI has established the Board of Review (the “Board”) 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 Swimming Code of Conduct or otherwise violate the policies, procedures, rules and regulations adopted by USA Swimming or STSI, or conduct that may bring USA Swimming, STSI or the sport of swimming into disrepute. This Article, together with Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, is intended to provide a uniform method of appeal from any decision, act or failure to act to which a member of STSI 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 and Part Four of the Rules shall be construed accordingly.

### 610.2 BOARD OF REVIEW ORGANIZATION

- .1 ESTABLISHMENT - The Board of Review of STSI shall be independent and impartial.
- .2 MEMBERS - The Board of Review shall have five (5) members and three (3) alternate members. The Board of Review, and any panel hearing a case, shall have a sufficient number of athlete members to constitute at least 20% of its membership. The House of Delegates may increase the number of regular or alternate members by resolution but subsequent to the adoption of these Bylaws may only decrease the number of regular or alternate members upon the expiration of the term of office of any incumbent members. When a matter is being heard by less than the full Board of Review, the panel hearing the case shall include a sufficient number of athlete members so as to constitute at least 20% of the hearing panel. No hearing shall proceed without the required athlete representation.
- .3 ELECTION; TERM OF OFFICE; ELIGIBILITY
  - A Election – The House of Delegates shall biennially elect regular and alternate members of the Board of Review. Three regular and two alternate members

shall be elected in even-numbered years and four regular and two alternate member in odd years.

- B Term of Office - The term of office shall be two years. Each member shall assume office upon appointment and shall serve until a successor is chosen.
  - C Eligibility - Each member of the Board of Review shall be an Individual Member of STSI and USA Swimming. 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 of the STSI Board of Review (the “Chair”), who must be a regular member, shall be elected biannually by majority vote of the regular members of the Board of Review. The Chair shall biannually appoint a Vice-Chair and a Secretary of the Board of Review, each of whom must be regular members. The Chair may appoint a Presiding Officer, who must be a regular member of the Board, to preside over one or more pending cases.
- .5 MEETINGS - The Board of Review shall meet for administrative purposes as necessary to elect the Chair, to adopt rules and procedures and to conduct other business that 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 regular members. When meeting for administrative purposes, those provisions of Article 607 that are specified in Section 607.20 shall apply to the Board of Review.
- .6 PARTICIPATION THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT - Members of the Board of Review may participate in a meeting or hearing of the Board of Review, and any hearing may be conducted, in whole or in part, through conference telephone or similar equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by these means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting or hearing.
- .7 QUORUM - A quorum for any administrative meeting of the Board of Review shall be fifty percent (50%) of its regular members, including athlete members.
- .8 RESIGNATIONS - Any regular or alternate member of the Board of Review may resign by orally advising the Chair or by submitting a written resignation to the Chair, 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.
- .9 INCAPACITIES AND VACANCIES – Determination of Vacancy or Incapacity - In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chair, a Presiding

Officer or any panel or other members of the Board of Review, the LSC shall have in place reasonable written and published rules consistent with the laws of the state of Texas to determine when such membership on the Board of Review becomes vacant or a Chair, Presiding Officer, or member becomes incapacitated. 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 of the House of Delegates.

- .10 SUBSTITUTIONS FOR MEMBERS - In the event that a member of the Board of Review or a Presiding Officer is unable or unwilling to promptly 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, the Vice- Chair; or failing that, the General Chair) shall appoint another member, or, if none of the members are available, a disinterested Individual Member to act in the member's place and stead in respect of that circumstance.
- .11 ADVICE; ATTORNEY AS PRESIDING OFFICER -
  - A Legal and Other Advice - Where appropriate or helpful, the Chair or Presiding Officer may consult the USA Swimming General Counsel, the Chair of the USA Swimming Rules or Officials Committees or of the Bylaws Subcommittee or an attorney (who need not be a member of STSI, USA Swimming or the Board of Review) retained by the Board of Review or the Chair regarding any issue raised by a proceeding.
  - B Attorney as Presiding Officer - The Board of Review or the Chair may retain an attorney (who need not be a member of STSI, USA Swimming or the 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 not participate in the deliberations of the Board of Review or the designated panel, or 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 shall consult with the General Chair and the USA Swimming General Counsel. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to pay any fee and expenses charged by the attorney and approved by the Chair.

### 610.3 GENERAL -

- .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 Review,
- B Establish policies, procedures and guidelines,
- C Elect the Chair in accordance with Section 610.3.4,
- D Elect or provide for the appointment of other officers, agents, committees or coordinators to hold office for terms, and to have the powers and duties, specified,
- E Call regular or special meetings of the Board of Review,
- F Retain attorneys, agents, and independent 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 (see 610.2.11C) and
- G take such action as may otherwise be appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs, the achievement of its purpose 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 reasonable rules and procedures consistent with the corporation laws of the LSC with respect to any matter within its jurisdiction or appropriate, necessary or helpful in the administration and conduct of its affairs. Such rules and procedures shall have the same force and effect as if they had been adopted as part of these Bylaws.

.3 **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 the regular membership of the Board of Review. The views of any dissenters shall be included in the record of the proceeding if requested by the dissenters. The exercise of the Board of Review's authority and power shall lie solely in its discretion and the interests of justice and the sport of swimming. However, the Board of Review shall exercise its power in response to a timely Petition filed with it, subject, in appropriate circumstances, to the power and discretion of the Chair or Presiding Officer to dismiss a Petition with permission to re-file 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.

- .4 **TIMELINESS OF PETITION** - The Board of Review need not exercise its jurisdiction with respect to a Petition 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 Petition is received (as determined under Article 406.1 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. A determination not to exercise its jurisdiction as a result of the un-timeliness of a Petition may be made by the Chair alone and may be the subject of a request for rehearing and, thereafter, appeal to the National Board of Review pursuant to Article 408 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.
- .5 **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 Petition, Request for a Re- hearing 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 Re- view 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.

## ARTICLE 611 - ORGANIZATION, AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND DISSOLUTION

- 611.1 NON-PROFIT AND CHARITABLE PURPOSES** - As stated in Section 601.2, STSI 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, STSI 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 STSI 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.
- 611.2 DEDICATION OF ASSETS, ETC.** - The revenues, properties and assets of STSI are irrevocably dedicated to the purposes set forth in Sections 601.2 and 611.1 of these Bylaws. No part of the net earnings, properties or assets of STSI shall inure to the benefit of any private person or any member, officer or director of STSI.
- 611.3 AMENDMENTS** - Any provision of these Bylaws not mandated by USA Swimming may be amended only at an Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, by a majority vote of the members present and voting. Amendments so approved shall not take effect until reviewed and approved by the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee. These Bylaws shall be deemed amended ninety (90) days after the conclusion of any annual meeting of USA Swimming at which the corresponding provisions of Part Six of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations are amended (or such later effective date established in the amending USA Swimming legislation) to the extent that such amendment affects a provision required to be included herein or is itself required to be included herein, unless STSI shall have requested permission of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee not to have such amendment take effect with respect to these Bylaws.
- 611.4 DISSOLUTION** - STSI 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 STSI shall not inure to the benefit of any private individual, unincorporated organization or corporation, including any member, officer or director of STSI, but shall be distributed to USA Swimming, Inc., to be used exclusively for educational or charitable purposes. If USA 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 STSI 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 612 - INDEMNIFICATION

- 612.1 **INDEMNITY** - STSI shall indemnify, protect and defend, in the manner and to the full extent permitted by law, any Indemnified Person in respect of any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether or not by or in the right of STSI, and whether civil, criminal, administrative, investigative or otherwise, by reason of the fact that the Indemnified Person bears or bore one or more of the relationships to STSI specified in Section 612.3 and was acting or failing to act in one or more of those capacities or reasonably believed that to be the case. Where specifically required by law, this indemnification shall be made only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination, in the manner provided by law, that indemnification of the Indemnified Person is proper in the circumstances. STSI may, to the full extent permitted by law, purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any Indemnified Person against any liability that could be asserted against the Indemnified Person.
- 612.2 **EXCLUSION** - The indemnification provided by this Article 612, shall not apply to any Indemnified Party whose otherwise indemnified conduct is finally determined to have been in bad faith, self-dealing, gross negligence, wanton and willful disregard of applicable laws, rules and regulations, of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct or these Bylaws or who is convicted of a crime (including felony, misdemeanor and lesser crimes) involving sexual misconduct, child abuse, violation of a law specifically designed to protect minors or similar offenses, or who is found by the Board of Review or the National Board of Review to have committed actions which would be the basis for a conviction and, in each case, the otherwise indemnifiable conduct (or failure to act) was, or was directly related to, the predicate acts of the conviction or finding.
- 612.3 **INDEMNIFIED PERSONS** - As used in this Article 612, "Indemnified Person" shall mean any person who is or was a Board Member, Board of Review Chair, Vice-Chair, Presiding Officer or member, Group Member Representative, officer, official, coach, committee Chair or member, coordinator, volunteer, employee or agent of STSI, or is or was serving at the direct request of STSI as a director, officer, Group Member Representative, meet director, official, coach, committee Chair or member, coordinator, volunteer, employee or agent of another person or entity involved with the sport of swimming.
- 612.4 **EXTENT OF INDEMNITY** - To the full extent permitted by law, the indemnification provided in this Article shall include expenses (including attorneys' fees, disbursements and expenses), judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement, and, except as limited by applicable laws, these expenses shall be paid by STSI in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding. If doubt exists as to the applicability of an exclusion to STSI's obligation to indemnify, STSI may require an undertaking from the Indemnified Person obliging him to repay such sums if it is subsequently determined that an exclusion is applicable. In the case of

any person engaged in the sport of swimming for compensation or other gain, if STSI determines that there is reasonable doubt as to such person's ability to make any repayment, STSI shall not be obligated to make any payments in advance of the final determination. This indemnification shall not be deemed to limit the right of STSI to indemnify any other person for any such expenses to the full extent permitted by law, nor shall it be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which any Indemnified Person may be entitled under any agreement, vote of members or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in an official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

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

## ARTICLE 613 - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- 613.1 **ROBERT'S RULES** - The rules in the then current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern STSI 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 STSI, the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors or its divisions, committees, etc., may adopt or as set forth in the next paragraph.
- 613.2 **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.
- 613.3 **SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER** - [This Section reserved for future use.]

## ARTICLE 614 - PERMANENT OFFICE AND STAFF

- 614.1 OFFICE - STSI shall maintain an office in the Territory for the storage and maintenance of the books and records and equipment of STSI and for other purposes as may be determined by the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors in accordance with these Bylaws.
- 614.2 STAFF - STSI shall retain paid staff at the STSI 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 and the Treasurer. 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 paid staff shall be established by the Board of Directors, except the Executive Secretary's duties shall be determined by these Bylaws.
- 614.3 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - The Executive Secretary is paid staff and responsible for the following:
- .1 Registers athletes with USA Swimming. Submits electronic media to national headquarters, updates registrations on a monthly basis.
  - .2 Registers non-athlete members with USA Swimming. This includes officials, coaches, administrators, and others. Verifies safety requirements have been met for coach members. Maintains safety requirements verification and expiration date using USA Swimming software. Submits registration data on non-athlete members to national headquarters along with a check for the amount due for non-athlete registration dues. Upgrades non-coach members to coach member status when safety requirements have been met and proof of such requirement has been received in the permanent office.
  - .3 Registers all club members with USA Swimming from within our LSC. Gathers applications, collects annual dues, and dispenses membership information to all member clubs. Additional funds are collected from affiliate members who also receive copies of all correspondence from the STSI office and meet information from clubs hosting meets. Submits club registration information to national headquarters along with funds for annual registration.
  - .4 Maintains an office with the records and files of STSI, including an inventory of all STSI equipment. All equipment belonging to STSI is housed in this office (e.g., copier, computer and etc.). Archival life of three years will be maintained for athlete, non- athlete, club, and general correspondence.
  - .5 Attends and records the minutes of all STSI board meetings. Presents minutes to the board for approval.

- .6 Sends to the national headquarters all required correspondence (e.g., printing, telephone, athlete travel, etc.)
- .7 Answers daily correspondence regarding registration of clubs, athletes, non-athlete members, and other miscellaneous correspondence from national headquarters. Order annual supplies from national headquarters.
- .8 Receives sanction fees from clubs requesting sanctions.
- .9 Makes regular deposits of funds collected from sanctions, registrations, surcharges and other miscellaneous income
- .10 Assists general chair and other members of the Board of Directors in the daily operation of the LSC as required.
- .11 Verifies registrations for national meets
- .12 Is the registration database manager for the LSC.
- .13 Perform a recon for all teams prior to the swim meet to verify that all participating swimmers are current members of USA Swimming.

614.4 **APPROPRIATIONS** - The Budget Committee shall include in its proposed budget a line item for the costs of STSI's Office inclusive of the compensation and benefits costs of the paid staff. Once appropriated by the House of Delegates, the Treasurer shall be responsible, together with the General Chair, for the administration of those funds.

## ARTICLE 615 - MISCELLANEOUS

- 615.1 **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 Texas become, illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of these Bylaws shall continue in full force and effect. It shall be the duty and obligation of USA Swimming to keep STSI informed of any changes in law requiring STSI compliance.
- 615.2 **FISCAL YEAR** - The fiscal year of STSI shall correspond to the calendar year.
- 615.3 **TAX STATUS; INTERPRETATION OF BYLAWS** - It is intended that STSI 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 STSI 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.
- 615.4 **STSI SEAL** - The STSI corporate seal shall be circular in form and shall bear the name of STSI and words and figures denoting its organization under the laws of the State of Texas and the year thereof and otherwise shall be in such form as may be required the laws of the State, the Articles of Incorporation or as shall be approved from time to time by the Board of Directors.
- 615.5 **BONDING** - The Executive Secretary, the Treasurer, Zone Head Coach, and any other STSI volunteer handling significant sums of cash for the LSC shall be bonded annually by the LSC. These bonds must be listed as a line item in the Annual Budget.

## ARTICLE 616 - DEFINITIONS, CONVENTIONS AND RULES OF INTERPRETATION

### 616.1 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 STSI positions and not to USA Swimming or another organization.
- .3 **PRINCIPAL RULE OF INTERPRETATION** - The principal substantive rule of interpretation applicable to these Bylaws is set forth in Section 615.3.
- .4 **RULE OF INTERPRETATION APPLICABLE TO ARTICLE 610** - Article 610 shall be interpreted generously in order to achieve the intent expressed in Section 610.1.
- .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 STSI shall be deemed given or delivered upon the postmark date for all purposes under these Bylaws.
  - B **Notice by Fax or Email** - Notice given and writings delivered by facsimile or electronic mail shall be deemed given or delivered upon oral, telephonic, electronic or written confirmation of recipient for all purposes under these Bylaws.
  - C **Notice by Telephone** - Notice given by telephone shall be deemed given only when actually transmitted to the person entitled thereto for all purposes under these Bylaws. (Thus, for example, a message left on an answering machine or similar equipment or with a person other than the intended recipient shall not be notice given prior to the actual receipt by the intended recipient.)
  - D **Last Known Address** - For all purposes under these Bylaws, the last known

address of a member of STSI shall be the address given in the latest application for registration or membership in STSI and USA Swimming filed with the Executive Secretary; or the address given in a written notice of change of residence filed with the Executive Secretary. In all other cases the records maintained by the Executive Secretary of STSI 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.

616.2 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 610 are set forth in Section 610.2. For an additional definition applicable solely to Article 612, see Section 612.3:

- .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 any other individual actively participating in the affairs of STSI or the sport of swimming and who is in good standing as an Individual Member of STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.A.)
- .2 "Affiliated Group Member" shall mean any organization which supports the sport of swimming and the objectives and programs of STSI and USA Swimming, but which does not have Athlete Members and Coach Members, which is in good standing as a Group Member of STSI and USA Swimming, and which is neither a Club Member or Seasonal Club Member of STSI. (See Section 602.1.1.B.)
- .3 "Affiliated Group Member Representative" shall mean the individual appointed to represent an Affiliated Group Member in the House of Delegates. See

Section 604.1.1.

- .4 "Affiliated Individual Member" shall mean any individual interested in the objectives and programs of STSI who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory, who is in good standing as a member of STSI and USA Swimming and who is not an Active Individual, Athlete or Coach Member. (See Section 602.1.2.D.)
- .5 "Article" shall mean the principal subdivisions of these Bylaws.
- .6 "Articles of Incorporation" shall mean the document filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas pursuant to which STSI was formed.
- .7 "At-Large Board Member" shall mean the Board Member designated as such. (See Section 605.2.)
- .8 "At-Large House Member" shall mean the Individual Member elected by the House of Delegates to the Board of Directors and thus a member of the House of Delegates. (See Section 604.1.2.)
- .9 "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 STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.A.)
- .10 "Athlete Representative" shall mean the Athlete Member elected to represent athletes in the House of Delegates and on the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 604.1.3.
- .11 "Board Member" shall mean a member of the Board of Directors, including the At-Large member. Where the contexts requires, the term not include the Athlete Representatives or the Coach Representatives.
- .12 "Board of Directors" shall mean the Board of Directors of STSI.
- .13 "Board of Review" shall mean the investigative and judicial body of STSI established pursuant to Section 610.3.
- .14 "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.
- .15 "Bylaws" shall mean these Bylaws as adopted by, and in effect for, STSI.
- .16 "Club" shall mean an organization that has athletes and coaches engaged in the sport of swimming.

- .17 "Club Member" shall mean any club or other organization, which is in good standing as a Group Member of STSI and USA Swimming 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 STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.1.A.)
- .18 "Club Member Representative" shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Club Member in the House of Delegates pursuant to Section 604.1.1.
- .19 "Club Safety Coordinator" shall mean the Active Individual Member designated by each Club Member to serve as its liaison with STSI and USA Swimming concerning safety matters. (See Section 602.2.3.)
- .20 "Coach Member" shall mean any individual, whether or not affiliated with a Group Member, who has satisfactorily completed all safety and other training required by STSI and/or USA Swimming and who is in good standing as a member of STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 604.1.4.)
- .21 "Coach Representative" shall mean the Coach Member elected to represent the coaches in the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors. (Section 604.1.4.)
- .22 "Executive Committee" shall mean the committee of the Board of Directors, which may act, for the Board of Directors between meetings. (See Section 605.7.)
- .23 "FINA" shall mean the Federation Internationale de Natation, the international governing body for the sport of swimming.
- .24 "Group Members" shall mean Club Members, Seasonal Club Members and Affiliated Group Members.
- .25 "Group Member Representative" shall mean the individual appointed to represent a Group Member in the House of Delegates. See Section 604.1.1.
- .26 "House of Delegates" shall mean the House of Delegates of STSI as established by Article 604 of these Bylaws.
- .27 "Immediate Past General Chair" shall mean the individual who is the immediate past General Chair of STSI, except when that person became immediate past General Chair by virtue of the House of Delegates taking action pursuant to Section 604.4.10, the Board of Directors taking action pursuant to Section 605.6.12 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.

- .28 "Individual Members" shall mean Athlete Members, Coach Members, and Active Individual Members, and Life Members and Affiliated Individual Members.
- .29 "IRS Code" shall mean the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law, and shall, when appropriate, also include a reference to the Treasury Regulations issued hereunder.
- .30 "Life Member" shall mean any individual who is a life member of USA Swimming and who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the Territory and who is in good standing as a member of STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.F.)
- .31 "Local Swimming Committee" or "LSC" shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in the USA Swimming Rules. STSI is a Local Swimming Committee.
- .32 "Member" shall mean a Group Member or an Individual Member.
- .33 "National Board of Review" shall mean the Board of Review of USA Swimming established pursuant to Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Where the context requires, a reference to the National Board of Review shall include a reference to the USA Swimming Board of Directors when that body is acting upon an appeal from the National Board of Review.
- .34 "Nominating Committee" shall mean the committee of the House of Delegates charged with nominating candidates for elective offices of STSI.
- .35 "Policies and Procedures Manual" shall mean the policies and procedures manual of STSI, as amended, adopted by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.
- .36 "Parliamentary Authority" shall mean the authority and any special rules of order designated in Article 613.
- .37 "Seasonal Athlete Member" shall mean any individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined between May 1st and August 31st in a registration year and is in good standing as a Seasonal Athlete Member of STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.2.E.)
- .38 "Seasonal Club Member" shall mean any organization which has joined STSI

and USA Swimming between May 1st and August 31st of a registration year and is in good standing as a seasonal club member of STSI and USA Swimming. (See Section 602.1.1.C.)

- .39 "Section" shall mean the subdivisions of the Articles of these Bylaws.
- .40 "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 604.1.3.
- .41 "Senior Coach Representative" shall mean the Coach Representative senior in term of office. (See Section 604.1.4.)
- .42 "Standing Committee" shall mean a committee of STSI listed in Sections 607.1, 607.2 or 607.3.
- .43 "STSI" shall mean the Texas not-for-profit corporation to which these Bylaws pertain.
- .44 "STSI Office" shall mean the permanent office of STSI maintained in accordance with Article 614.
- .45 "TAGS" shall mean the Texas Age Group Swimming Championship Meet.
- .46 "Territory" shall mean the geographic territory over which STSI has jurisdiction as a Local Swimming Committee. (See Section 601.3.)
- .47 "TSA" shall mean the Texas Swimming Association.
- .48 "USA Swimming" shall mean USA Swimming, Inc., a Colorado not-for-profit corporation which is the national governing body for the United States for the sport of swimming.
- .49 "USA Swimming Board of Directors" shall mean the Board of Directors of USA Swimming.
- .50 "USA Swimming Rules and Regulations" shall mean the published rules and regulations, as adopted and amended by USA Swimming.
- .51 "USA Swimming House of Delegates" shall mean the House of Delegates of USA Swimming.

.52 "USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee" shall mean the Rules and Regulations Committee created pursuant to 506.5 of Part Five of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

## APPENDICES TO THE LSC BYLAWS

### APPENDIX A – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT RESOLVING

#### INTRODUCTION

The form of the LSC Bylaws was substantially revised by USA Swimming in September of 1995 and again in September 2008; however, the basic structure used for resolving disputes has not materially changed. Members (and non-members) of USA Swimming who disagree with a decision or an action of taken by a meet official or any other LSC officer or who have a swimming-related dispute with another member may appeal those decision, or may submit those disputes, for resolution to the LSC Board of Review (formerly, the Review Section). The Board of Review is responsible for resolving these disputes quickly, fairly and with *due process*.

The purpose of this Appendix is to help with the details of preparing and filing complaints and appeals, and handling a Petition as a Board of Review member. Violation and interpretations of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming (the “Rules”)and the Bylaws of the LSC can have serious consequences or involve relatively minor matters. The consequences can range from being barred from membership due to inappropriate recruiting to whether a club should be penalized for being slow in distributing final meet results. Yet, to the people involved, each dispute, each incident is just as important as the other.

Because serious matters are being handled by the Board of Review, several sections of Article 610 of the Bylaws were relocated to Part Four of the Rules, thus making them more accessible to the membership. Many of the sections may appear to be written in “legalese,” but that was done to insure that--as much as possible--they would be interpreted uniformly, consistently and correctly. While the language may be technical, the ideas behind the Board of Review provisions are simple and basic. Anyone with a problem should receive a fair, impartial hearing and have the problem resolved promptly and with *due process*.

The rules and procedures set forth in Article 610 of the LSC Bylaws and Part Four of the Rules are meant to provide:

- a quick and effective remedy for the Petitioner and the Respondent;
- a hearing by objective unbiased persons, at first a panel of the elected members of the Board of Review, consisting of at least three and five members, including at least one athlete member (Article 406.2.2 of the Rules).
- several levels of appeal are provided; from the initial Board of Review panel to a rehearing by all the members of the Board of Review (or at least seven members, (Article 406.3.1 of the Rules) with at least twenty percent (20%) athlete representation; and an appeal of the decision to the National Board of Review (Article 408 of the Rules); all the way to an appeal to the United States Olympic Committee under its Constitution in cases where an athlete is denied the right to compete in international competition.

## COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT COMPLAINTS AND THE BOARD OF REVIEW PROCESS

### WHAT IS DUE PROCESS?

Procedural due is the administration of applicable rules and regulations so that no member is denied his or her legal rights and the application of those rules and regulations in conformance with the fundamental and accepted legal principles. It is the way you would want to be treated if you were charged with misconduct. It includes:

- Notice, in writing, if at all possible, of the specific things that you are being charged with doing or not doing;
- The opportunity to defend yourself against the charges and the right to cross-examine witnesses against you;
- A reasonable amount of time to prepare and present your position;
- The right to have an attorney represent you, if you wish;
- A hearing before disinterested, fair and knowledgeable persons at a time and under circumstances that give everyone a full and fair opportunity to present their position;
- Notice of how to appeal from a decision that you feel is wrong.

### WHAT KIND OF COMPLAINTS CAN BE DECIDED BY THE LSC BOARD OF REVIEW?

The responsibility of the LSC Board of Review is broad but does not cover every possible dispute that might come up. Article 403.1 of the Rules provides the list of the kinds of complaints that must go directly to the LSC Board of Review. For example, if a decision is made which affects your ability to compete in swim meets or how you place in swim meets and you think the decision is wrong you may appeal to the Board of Review. If you are prevented from participating in the administration of the sport of swimming or being an official you may appeal to the Board of Review. If a decision is made by the LSC that affects your ability to coach swimmers you may appeal to the Board of Review. However, there are some matters that should be submitted directly to the National Board of Review. See Article 403.1 and 403.2 of the Rules to determine where your complaint should go. Remember that the LSC Board of Review does not involve itself in disputes involving the administration of individual clubs unless it affects the ability of members to participate in competition.

### WHAT KIND OF COMPLAINTS WILL BE DECIDED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW?

Article 403.2 list the kinds of complaints that must, or in some cases, may go directly to the National Board of Review. They include most matters where members of more than one LSC are involved: matters which come up at a regional, national or international swimming competition; matters involving sexual misconduct, and matters in which the National Board of

Review determines that a fair hearing will not be held quickly enough at the LSC Board of Review level to do justice to the affected parties.

## HOW DO I CONDUCT A BOARD OF REVIEW HEARING?

The LSC Bylaws and Part Four of the Rules have sections that explain hearing procedures. Article 406 of the Rules provides a detailed outline of the steps to be taken and procedures to be used when a Petition is filed. The purpose of the Article remains the same as before, *i.e.*, to give **due process** to **any** individual or **any** entity, club or organization participating in **any** activity of any kind of the LSC or – USA Swimming not just athletes, but coaches, officers, committee chairs and members, officials, clubs, volunteers and all classes of members as well.

The process can be summarized as follows:

A The Petitioner must provide a written Petition to the Chair of the Board of Review setting forth Petitioner's complaint against Respondent(s). (See Section 610.6.1 A.) [If the LSC has a filing fee, this should be noted here.] (Check to see if your LSC has an office that will transmit the Petition to the Chair of the Board of Review and follow up to find out when the Chair actually received the Petition.)

B The Chair of the Board of Review *may* appoint someone to investigate or mediate to see if the dispute can be resolved without a formal hearing. It is not unusual to have disputes cleared up when an impartial party listens to both sides and tries to mediate a dispute. This kind of informal resolution is to be encouraged; however, the investigating party should not also serve on the Board of Review panel hearing the case.

C A written Notice of Hearing must be prepared by the Board of Review Chair and delivered to the Respondent or its counsel. (See Article 406.4.1A of the Rules and the suggested form of Notice of Hearing which is attached hereto as in Appendix B.)

D A written response of the Petition may be filed by each Respondent. (See Article 406.4.1B of the Rules)

E Petitioner may file a written Reply to Respondent's Response (See Article 406.4.1C of the Rules.)

F A hearing must be scheduled by the Chair to take place no less than thirty (30) days and no longer than sixty (60) days from the date when the Chair of the Board of Review transmits the Notice of Hearing.

G A hearing shall then be held (if **everyone** involved agrees the Petition can be considered based only upon the written statements that have been submitted without a formal hearing where witnesses are heard; otherwise, the parties must be allowed the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses and otherwise be heard at the hearing.). Use common sense in conducting the hearing. (See Article 406.4.1D of the Rules) Make all parties feel that they have a

fair chance to state their position, present evidence and witnesses, cross-examine the other side's witnesses, and that the Board has an open mind as it listens to their position. In all events please **give the athlete the benefit of the doubt!**

H The Board of Review must decide the matter within fourteen (14) days after the conclusion of the hearing. (If time is not critical, it may be advantageous to delay the decision for a few days after the hearing to give full consideration to all the facts presented in a hearing rather than making a ruling immediately upon conclusion of the hearing.)

I The Board must send copies of its decision to all Petitioners and Respondents (or their respective counsel) and to the LSC General Chair and Secretary. (See Article 406.1.1E of the Rules)

J In the Board's decision, the parties must be given a statement telling them what they must do to request a rehearing before the full Board of Review (if applicable) or to appeal the Board of Review's decision and how long they have to appeal.

THE MEET DIRECTOR JUST TOLD ME THAT MY SWIMMER'S PROOF OF TIME IS NOT ADEQUATE AND THE SWIMMER WON'T BE IN THE EVENT LATER THIS MORNING. THE MEET DIRECTOR IS WRONG AND WE CAN'T WAIT FOR A HEARING FROM THE BOARD OF REVIEW. WHAT DO I DO?

First, you should review the meet information to see if it provides for any kind of appeal such as the Eligibility Jury provided for at the National Championships. (Article, 207.12 of the Rules.) If you still believe your swimmer is being improperly kept out of the meet you should ask for an emergency hearing from the Board of Review. The Bylaws give the Board of Review a great deal of flexibility in handling emergency situations. Get on the telephone to the Chair of the Board of Review or the LSC General Chair and make arrangements to set up an emergency hearing under Article 406.4.2 of the Rules.

The Federal law which created National Sports Governing Bodies such as USA Swimming states that an athlete cannot be suspended from competition, *even temporarily*, without the opportunity for a hearing.

Members of the Board of Review should keep in mind their responsibility to conduct emergency hearings whenever they are at a swim meet and should alert the Meet Manager of their presence. The Chair of the Board of Review should always make arrangements in advance to see that a panel can be available at championship meets.

A meeting at the swim meet or an exchange of information by telephone, email, and fax can be arranged to permit a timely decision even if the athlete must compete under protest. (See Section 102.11 of the Rules..)

After the meet is concluded, a full formal hearing may be conducted at the request of the Petitioner or the Respondent.

HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO APPEAL A DECISION OF THE LSC BOARD OF REVIEW TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW?

An appeal must be taken within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written decision of the LSC Board of Review.

## APPENDIX B – BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

SAMPLE LSC NOTICE OF HEARING  
(Form may, and should, be modified to fit the actual circumstances)

### NOTICE OF HEARING

**To:** [INSERT RESPONDENT'S NAME(S) AND MAILING ADDRESS(ES)]

**SUBJECT:**

You are charged with having committed the following acts [or with having failed to act in circumstances] which are detrimental to the objectives, programs or ideals of USA Swimming and which tend to bring disrepute upon the sport of swimming:

[Insert details of charge; may be a summary if Petition is unnecessarily lengthy.]

This charge is based upon a Petition that was filed by  
[Insert Petitioner's name(s). Attached is a copy of the Petition filed with the South Texas Swimming Board of Review.

**ANSWER:**

You are requested to file an answer in writing to these charges with the Presiding Officer of the Board of Review whose mailing address is [Insert Name and Address of the Chair of the Board of Review or other person designated as the Presiding Officer in this case]  
and to [Insert Petitioner's name(s) and address(es) or that of its counsel, if so requested.]

at least ten (10) days prior to the date of hearing that is set in this Notice of Hearing. The hearing will proceed whether or not you file this reply.

**HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE:**

The initial date set for the hearing is (insert date, time and place of hearing) or to such other date, time or place as the Presiding Officer continues, adjourns or reschedules the hearing. You are requested to appear at that time with counsel and any witnesses. [This part would need to be rephrased if the proceeding were to be conducted entirely in writing or in writing with only oral argument at a hearing.]

**HEARING AUTHORITY:**

The power and authority of the South Texas Swimming Board of Review is established, and this hearing shall be held pursuant to, Part Four of the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming and Article 610 of the Bylaws of STSI. A copy of Article 610 is enclosed for your information.

**HEARING BODY:**

The hearing body will be the following three(3), four (4), or five (5) member panel of the Board of Review of South Texas Swimming, Inc. [insert names of members of the Board of Review designated to serve on this panel] or such other persons as are appointed pursuant to the Bylaws of STSI and the Rules of USA Swimming.

[This should be rephrased if the initial panel is the full Board of Review.]

**POSSIBLE PENALTIES:**

The Petitioner has requested that (here insert what the Petitioner has asked for). In addition the Board of Review, pursuant to Article 404.1.1 of the Rules of USA Swimming, has a broad range of sanctions, penalties and suspensions that it may impose on you if it believes that such are appropriate either in addition to or in lieu of those that the Petitioner is seeking.

**APPEAL:**

If you are dissatisfied with the decision of the Board of Review, you must file a request for a rehearing before the full Board of Review within fourteen (14) days of your receipt of the decision, unless the initial panel was the full Board of Review or had at least seven (7) members. The request must be filed with the Chair of the Board of Review [here give name and address]. [If your LSC has imposed a filing fee applicable to a request for a rehearing, this should be noted here.] Your request must be granted if the decision was rendered by a panel of six (6) or fewer members and the decision was not unanimous. Otherwise the Board of Review may either grant or deny a rehearing in its discretion. If the decision is not subject to a request for a rehearing, a rehearing request is denied, or the decision affirmed on a rehearing, an appeal may be made to the National Board of Review. The appeal must be filed with the USA Swimming Executive Director along with a filing fee of \$250.00 within thirty (30) days after the postmark date of the Decision of the Board of Review. (Article 408.1.1 of the Rules.) The address of the USA Swimming Executive Director is USA Swimming, Inc., 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5770.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

You are entitled to be represented by counsel at your own cost, or by such other representative as you may choose, to have witnesses testify in your behalf, to question witnesses testifying at the hearing and to submit any and all evidence in your defense, including hearsay and documentary evidence, so long as it is relevant to the issues. You are entitled to ask that the hearing date be reasonably rescheduled so that you may attend, secure witnesses or otherwise respond. Please direct all questions or correspondence to Chair of the Board of Review of South Texas Swimming, Inc., [insert name] at [insert mailing address].

Dated (Insert date on which notice is mailed)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Board of Review

[If the notice is signed by the designated Presiding Officer, the title