USRowing Athlete Council, Meeting

30 November 2022 / 8:04PM -8:59PM EST / Virtual Meeting

ATTENDEES

Athlete Council Representatives: Dariush Aghai, Liam Corrigan, Sara Hendershot, Grace Latz, Robin Prendes, Taylor Ritzel, Maddie Wanamaker

Council Representatives Not Present: Daniel Ahr,, Jaclyn Smith

AGENDA:

Annual Survey Check-in

- Once surveys close, create reports for USRowing Board, CHPO, and athletes to relay trends on athlete satisfaction and incorporate survey trends in the Athlete Council 2022 Annual Report
- Overview of initial trends
    - Topics that received the most comments: reviews on the new athlete-centered hybrid system, job placement resources/career development, mental health services, staff and coach reviews, requesting more performance-oriented questions in the survey. Generally positive feedback, but will distill comments and results once survey closes to address both positives and what needs improvement.
- Use feedback on career development questions to initiate winter career workshops. Work with Liam and Maddie to figure out a workshop schedule that works best for athletes in January/February.
- Post-survey interviews with AC representatives. Over a dozen athletes are interested in a follow-up interview. We will delegate interviews between AC representatives to lighten the load and make it easier to schedule.

Q4 Grievance Reporting/Cataloging

- Relay athlete grievances, conversations, questions, etc. to help document how often the AC is utilized. Sara will send out an invite to Q4 Athlete Concern form. Review slack channel, dms, emails, texts, in-person conversations, etc. with athletes to include in this form once it's live.

Trans Policy Athlete Call

- Update to the Trans-athlete policy coming soon. Athletes have requested a call with the USRowing medical committee to better verse themselves on the topic. Dr. Ackerman is invited to the next female athlete rep call (scheduled for 2pm EST December 14), and the AC will schedule a specific window within that meeting to invite male athletes to that conversation.

Para HPC Update

- Discussion on elevating athlete-coach-staff communication, grievance process, and DAS conversations to meet the standard we've set with the HPC.

Upcoming USRowing Board Elections

- Ballots are open for the next three weeks for two open athlete Board representative positions, among other Board positions up for re-election. Focus on engaging the 10-year athlete population in this election. Foster candidate recruitment in future elections to increase engagement further and increase the diversity of athlete perspectives represented at the USRowing Board level.

PTC Coaching Hiring Process

- Process has begun to find a new coach for the Princeton Training Center. Josy has actively leaned on the HPC and currently-training athletes in Princeton for feedback on candidates.
- Projected start date for the position is January 1, 2023

Communication with CHPO, Josy

- Designating contact with Josy to be through Gevvie and Liam to help streamline conversations and keep communication flowing. The goal with this is to not overly burden Josy's time, increase communication within the AC, and create a unified voice as representatives.

Approval of August meeting minutes by all

Meeting concluded at 8:59pm EST

ACTION ITEMS

1. Any help with interpreting survey results would be appreciated. Contact Hendershot if you're interested in assisting.
2. Once the survey closes, schedule one-on-one interviews with assigned athletes. Let Hendershot know if you feel the need to switch with another representative.
3. Start recording/documenting any athlete concerns or grievances to include in the Q4 grievance report. Hendershot will send out an invite to a form to collect your interactions with athletes.
4. Encourage athletes to vote in the upcoming Board election, for both athlete representative positions and regional representatives.

5. Set time for Dr. Ackerman to present on the Trans Athlete Policy and invite male athletes to that conversation.