2026-27 USRowing Call for Nominations

USRowing invites nominations from members to join our team and submit their candidacy for the Board of Directors and Committees, including the Referee Regional Coordinator positions.

Nominations for the following positions are due **Saturday, November 21, 2026,** unless noted**.**

Board Positions:

1. Elected by the **Organizational Members** in their respective regions: the **Western Region** on the **Board of Directors**. This position is for a four-year term of office.
2. Elected by the "Athlete Members" as defined in USRowing Bylaws 11(A)]: two (2) **Athlete Representatives** to the **Board of Directors** as defined in USRowing Bylaws Section 26(C).
3. One **At-Large Director** to the **Board of Directors** is up for election by those Directors defined in Sections 26(A)-(C) of the Bylaws for a four (4)-year term of office. **Nominations for the At-Large Director position are due January 15, 2027.**

Committees:

1. **One (1) At-Large Referee Committee** member is up for selection by the USRowing Chief Executive Officer. This position is for a three-year term of office.
2. **Referee Regional Coordinators:** Elected by referees in their given region, the **Southeast** and **Southwest Referee Regional Coordinator** positions are up for election. These positions are for a three-year term of office. Regions for the Referee Regional Coordinator positions are defined on page five (5) of this document.
3. **Two (2) Athlete Representatives** to the **USRowing Athlete Council** are up for election by the Athlete Council. These positions are for a four-year term of office. **Nominations for the At-Large Director position are due January 15, 2027.**
4. **Two (2) At-Large Representatives** to the **High Performance Committee** are up for election by the USRowing Board of Directors in office at the time. These positions are for a four-year term of office. One (1) At-Large HPC Member must be a coach or representative of a high performance club, and one (1) At-Large HPC Member must be coach or representative of a U19 rowing program or club.
5. **Two (2) At-Large Representatives** to the **Para High Performance Committee** are up for election by the USRowing Board of Directors in office at the time. These positions are for a four-year term of office.

Nominations
Interested parties should declare their intent by submitting the nomination form and disclosure form with all required materials no later than the date indicated above to USRowing and acknowledge acceptance of the responsibilities and duties of the position that they seek by signature on the nomination form.

All prospective candidates must have been individual members of USRowing as of July 1, 2026 (except for the At-Large Board candidates), and complete the requirements of the USRowing SafeSport policy, which includes a criminal background check and SafeSport Training, prior to running for office.

Voting Process
Ballots for the Athlete Representative positions to the Board of Directors will be distributed on December 1, 2026. Completed ballots must be submitted for receipt no later than December 21, 2026. The term shall commence on January 1, 2027. In order to vote, athletes must meet the criteria published in the Bylaws.

> **Athlete Members [USRowing Bylaws: Article II, Section 11(A)]**
> "Athlete Members" shall consist of those individuals who meet the definition of "NGB 10 Year Athlete" in the USOPC Bylaws.
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> "USOPC 10 Year Athlete" means an athlete who has been selected by their NGB to represent the United States in a Delegation Event or other International Qualifying Competition within the previous 10 years. For USRowing's purposes, Athlete members shall consist of those individuals who meet the following definition of "athlete": an individual who has represented the United States in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, World Championships, or World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals (open events) within the preceding ten (10) years ("Athlete Member").
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> The 10-year measure will constitute athletes representing the United States from 2017-2026.

Ballots for the member-elected **Western Regional Board Position** will be distributed after the Date of Record (December 18, 2026) and before January 2, 2027. Completed ballots must be submitted for receipt no later than February 1, 2027. The term shall commence on the first Monday of March 2027. In order to vote, members must be in good standing by December 1, 2026.

Ballots for the **Southeast** and **Southwest Referee Regional Coordinator Positions** will be distributed to referees in those respective regions after the Date of Record (December 18, 2026) and before January 2, 2027. Ballots must be received no later than February 1, 2027. The term shall commence on the first Monday of March 2027. In order to vote, members must be in good standing by December 1, 2026.

I. Introduction

Per the USRowing Bylaws, individuals who serve on the USRowing Board of Directors govern our organization. Opportunities for elected service and leadership exist in the areas defined below.

Members of USRowing are encouraged to participate in this electoral process, both as voters and as potential candidates. Here are important details to help you cast your vote or be on the ballot yourself.

Regional Directors to the Board shall be elected by vote of the Organizational Members residing in their respective regions as follows (each, a "Region"):

- **Northeast Region:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
- **Atlantic Region:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- **Central Region:** Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- **Western Region:** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Prospective candidates must submit the Nomination Form with all required materials no later than the date indicated above to USRowing and acknowledge acceptance of the responsibilities and duties of the position that they seek by signature on the Nomination Form. All prospective candidates must be individual members of USRowing as of July 1, 2026, with the exception of the At-Large Representatives to the Board of Directors.

The attached materials outline the above positions, as well as the responsibilities of each group.

II. USRowing Board of Directors

The Bylaws require that members of the Board (excluding At-Large Directors) must:

- **Have competed in, coached, or directly served rowing;**
- **Be a member of one or more member organizations, and**
- **Be an individual member of the association as of July 1, 2025, with the exception of the At-Large Representatives to the Board of Directors.**
- **Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age**

The Board established non-binding criteria for individuals that it believes would best contribute to the overall direction of USRowing through board service. The criteria are as follows:

- Ten or more years of experience at a board governance level in business or at a non-profit organization.
- For those candidates with business experience, a senior executive with talent management and HR experience; financial management responsibility; and/or marketing & sponsorship experience would be preferred.

- For those candidates with non-profit experience, a high-level volunteer with a history of leadership and volunteer organizational success.
- A collaborative, team-oriented, and collegial approach to board service that places the interests of the organization ahead of individual or constituent interests.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

- **Set the policies of the Association.**
- **Establish the annual budget of the Association and monitor the financial operations of the Association.**
- **Evaluate the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.**
- **Serve on at least two (2) subcommittees in addition to the quarterly meeting requirements.**
- **Board Athlete Representatives also will serve on the USRowing Athlete Council.**
- **Exercise such other powers as may be vested by law.**

Time and Financial Commitment

Four quarterly meetings are held annually to conduct the business of the Association. These may be on a weekday or on a Saturday. The board also meets by phone as needed. Two consecutive unexcused absences from in-person board meetings results in automatic removal of a board member under the Bylaws. Excused absences are granted by the full board for a limited number of reasons. Board members also serve on at least two committees in addition to board service. Moreover, athlete representatives on the board also serve on the USRowing Athlete Council, which is a significant time commitment. Thus, it is critical that any candidate make a serious commitment to board participation. **All directors must fund their own travel to meetings, with travel funding provided to athlete representatives.**

Who Votes in the Board Election?

Regional Board Representatives are elected by organizational members, within their respective region, in good standing as of **December 1, 2026** (e.g., clubs, colleges, high schools.) Under the Bylaws, each organization has one vote, which is not weighted. The following regional positions are up for re-election:

- Western

At-Large Directors:

- One At-Large Director to the Board of Directors is up for election by those Directors defined in Sections 26(A)-(C) of the Bylaws for a four (4) year term of office.

Athlete Representatives: Athlete Representatives are elected by Athlete Members, as defined by the USRowing Bylaws at the time of the election. "Athlete Members" shall consist of those individuals who meet the definition of "NGB 10 Year Athlete" in the USOPC Bylaws. "USOPC 10 Year Athlete" means an athlete who has been selected by their NGB to represent the United States in a Delegation Event or other International Qualifying Competition within the previous 10 years.

For USRowing's purposes, Athlete members shall consist of those individuals who meet the following definition of "athlete": an individual who has represented the United States in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, World Championships, or World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals (open events) within the preceding ten (10) years ("Athlete Member").

The 10-year measure will constitute athletes representing the United States from 2017-2026.

"USOPC 10 Year+ Athlete" means an athlete who has been selected by their NGB to represent the United States in a Delegation Event or other International Qualifying Competition but not within the previous 10 years.

- Two (2) Directors elected in accordance with Section 48(C) and who shall be either "NGB 10 Year Athletes" or "NGB 10 Year+ Athletes" (as those terms are defined in the USOPC Bylaws) at the time of their respective elections ("Board Athlete Representatives"); provided, however, that both Board Athlete Representatives shall be NGB 10 Year Athletes if necessary to meet the requirements of paragraph (E) of this Section 26 below.

All candidates must meet the NGB 10 Year Athlete and/or NGB 10 Year+ Athlete requirements, as well as meet all applicable eligibility requirements including assessment of any disqualifying conflicts or periods of ineligibility from the U.S. Center for SafeSport or USADA.

Deadline
Nominations for the Western Region position must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Saturday, November 21, 2026.** Nominations for the At-Large position must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Friday, January 15, 2027.** The Nomination Form is available at www.usrowing.org.

Current USRowing Board of Directors Term Chart

Taylor Ritzel	Female Athlete Rep	Dec-26	2nd Term
Dariush Aghai	Male Athlete Rep	Dec-26	2nd Term
Sharon Weinbar	Western Region Rep	Mar-27	2nd Term
Robert Zagunis	At-Large Rep	Mar-27	1st Term
Marnie Stahl	Central Region Rep	Mar-28	2nd Term
Mary Cranston	At-Large Rep	Mar-28	1st Term
Grace Latz	Team USA Athlete Council Alternate Rep	Dec-28	1st Term
Robin Prendes	Team USA Athlete Council Rep	Dec-28	2nd Term
David Huntigton	Northeast Region Rep	Mar-29	1st Term
Steven Pritzker	At-Large Rep	Mar-29	2nd Term
Donald Reynolds	At-Large Rep	Mar-30	2nd Term
Stephen N. Ciraolo	Atlantic Region Rep	Mar-30	2nd Term

III. Referee Committee/Referee Regional Coordinators

In order to be considered for the Referee Committee or as a Referee Regional Coordinator, you must be a current USRowing member as of July 1, 2026. Members of the Referee Committee and Referee Regional Coordinators shall hold a USRowing Referee's license.

Composition

The Referee Committee shall be composed of 11 members including five At-Large Members and six Regional Referee Coordinators. The term for At-Large Representatives begins January 1, 2027. The term for Regional Referee Coordinators shall commence on the first Monday of March 2027. The following positions are up for election:

- One (1) At-Large Representative
- Southeast
- Southwest

Responsibilities

The purpose of the Referee Committee is to support the Chief Executive Officer in administering and supervising USRowing referees and recommending changes to the Rules of Rowing. Members of the Referee Committee shall hold a USRowing Referee's license. The Regional Referee Coordinators represent the general interests of referees in their region and promote recruitment of new officials.

Time Commitment

Bi-weekly meetings. Regular support for the regional regattas and regional referees is required.

Who Votes?

At-Large Representative: At-Large Referee Committee Members are selected by the USRowing Chief Executive Officer.

Referee Regional Coordinators: Referees in their respective regions vote for their Referee Regional Coordinators. Regions for the Referee Regional Coordinator positions are defined in the Referee Internal Operating Procedures as indicated below:

Regional Boundaries for the USRowing Regional Referee Coordinators

- *Mid-Atlantic* – DE, DC, MD, NJ, PA, VA, WV
- *Midwest* – IN, IL, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, OK, SD, WI
- *Northeast* – CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT
- *Northwest* – AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY
- *Southeast* – AL, AR, GA, FL, KY, LA, MS, NC, PR, SC, TN, TX, and the Virgin Islands
- *Southwest* – AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, NM, UT

Deadline

Your nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Saturday, November 21, 2026.** The nomination form is available at www.usrowing.org.

IV. USRowing Athlete Council

The purpose of the Athlete Council is to support the mission of USRowing and to act as a liaison between the athletes and the Board and staff of USRowing. Such purpose may include but shall not be limited to: (i) handling and addressing confidential athlete issues; (ii) advising the Board on athlete issues; (iii) acting as a resource for the Board and staff on athlete issues and perspectives; and (iv) providing USRowing athlete perspectives and issues to the USOPC USA TeamAC through the USA TeamAC Representatives. The Board and staff shall be entitled to rely on recommendations of the Athlete Council on matters directly affecting the interests of rowing athletes

The following positions are up for election:

- Two (2) At-Large Athlete Representatives to the USRowing AC

Time Commitment

The USRowing Athlete Council shall meet in person or by telephone conference or other communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. On average, one monthly conference call and additional meetings as needed.

Who Votes?

At-Large Athlete Representatives are selected by the USRowing Athlete Council in office at the time of selection. These positions are for a four-year term of office.

Deadline

Your nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Friday, January 15, 2027.** The self-nomination form is available at www.usrowing.org.

V. High Performance Committee

The purpose of the High Performance Committee shall be to advise and support the Chief High Performance Officer (the "CHPO") of USRowing regarding the plans and program for the teams that are selected to represent the United States in international competition. The purpose of the HPC shall be specifically focused on competition at the Senior, U23 and U19 World Rowing Championships, Summer Olympic Games and Pan American Games and shall not encompass the purposes of the Para High Performance Committee, as defined by Article V of the By-Laws, which shall be governed by a separate charter. Each member of the HPC shall be bound by the same duties of care and loyalty applicable to the Board of Directors of USRowing (the "Board"), including, but not limited to, duties relating to confidentiality, conflicts of interest and adherence to SafeSport rules and regulations set forth in written undertakings executed by such members as well as the written policies of USRowing.

As provided in the By-Laws, one-half of the At-large members of the HPC and PHPC Standing Committees (or as close to one-half as the total composition of the At-large members permits) shall be elected every four years in each of (i) the December immediately following the Summer

Olympic Games and (ii) the third December following the Summer Olympic Games, by a vote of those Directors in office at that time; provided, however, that at least one third (33.3%) of the voting members of each of the foregoing Standing Committees (collectively, the "Performance Committee Athlete Representatives") shall meet the athlete representation standards set forth in Section 8 of the USOPC Bylaws and be elected by a vote of the Athlete Council following each AAC election. The term of office for the representatives described in this section shall commence on January 1 following their respective elections.

HPC Athlete Representatives also serve on USRowing's Athlete Council. The purpose of the Athlete Council is to support the mission of USRowing and to act as a liaison between the athletes and the Board and staff of USRowing. Such purpose may include but shall not be limited to: (i) handling and addressing confidential athlete issues; (ii) advising the Board on athlete issues; (iii) acting as a resource for the Board and staff on athlete issues and perspectives; and (iv) providing USRowing athlete perspectives and issues to the USOPC AAC through the AAC Representatives. The Board and staff shall be entitled to rely on recommendations of the Athlete Council on matters directly affecting the interests of rowing athletes

The following positions are up for election:

- Two (2) High Performance Committee At-Large Representatives
    - One (1) At-Large HPC Member seat shall be designated for a coach or representative of a high performance club;
    - One (1) At-Large HPC Member shall be designated for a coach or representative of a U19 rowing program or club.

Time Commitment

The HPC shall meet in person or by telephone conference or other communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. On average, one monthly conference call and one to two in-person meetings each year. The USRowing Athlete Council shall meet in person or by telephone conference or other communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. On average, one monthly conference call and additional meetings as needed.

Who Votes?

HPC At-Large Representatives are selected by the USRowing Board of Directors in office at the time. These positions are for a four-year term of office.

Deadline

Your nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Saturday, November 21, 2026.** The self-nomination form is available at www.usrowing.org.

VI. Para High Performance Committee

The purpose of the Para High Performance Committee shall be to define the plans and programs for the training and selection of teams to represent the United States in international competition at the para level only. The purpose of the PHPC shall not encompass the purposes of the High Performance Committee or the Junior High Performance Committee, each as defined by Article V of the By-Laws, which shall be governed by separate charters.

The PHPC shall provide advice, guidance and suggestions to the Para High Performance Director (the "PHPD"), as may be requested by the PHPD from time to time, concerning the development, integration and operation of all aspects of the Para National Team system. Such system encompasses para programs that include, without limitation, pre-elite athlete development, high performance camps and coaching identification and development.

Each member of the PHPC shall be bound by the same duties of care and loyalty applicable to the Board of Directors of USRowing (the "Board"), including, but not limited to, duties relating to confidentiality, conflicts of interest and adherence to SafeSport rules and regulations set forth in written undertakings executed by such members as well as the written policies of USRowing.

As provided in the By-Laws, one-half of the At-large members of the HPC and PHPC Standing Committees (or as close to one-half as the total composition of the At-large members permits) shall be elected every four years in each of (i) the December immediately following the Summer Olympic Games and (ii) the third December following the Summer Olympic Games, by a vote of those Directors in office at that time; provided, however, that at least one third (33.3%) of the voting members of each of the foregoing Standing Committees (collectively, the "Performance Committee Athlete Representatives") shall meet the athlete representation standards set forth in Section 8 of the USOPC Bylaws and be elected by a vote of the Athlete Council following each AAC election. The term of office for the representatives described in this section shall commence on January 1 following their respective elections.

PHPC Athlete Representatives also serve on USRowing's Athlete Council. The purpose of the Athlete Council is to support the mission of USRowing and to act as a liaison between the athletes and the Board and staff of USRowing. Such purpose may include but shall not be limited to: (i) handling and addressing confidential athlete issues; (ii) advising the Board on athlete issues; (iii) acting as a resource for the Board and staff on athlete issues and perspectives; and (iv) providing USRowing athlete perspectives and issues to the USOPC USA TeamAC through the USA TeamAC Representatives. The Board and staff shall be entitled to rely on recommendations of the Athlete Council on matters directly affecting the interests of rowing athletes

The following positions are up for election:

- Two (2) Para High Performance Committee At-Large Representatives

<u>Time Commitment</u>

The PHPC shall meet in person or by telephone conference or other communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other, as deemed necessary by the Chair. The PHPC shall meet regularly as determined by the Chair or as requested by the PHPD, but in no event less than six (6) times per year. The USRowing Athlete Council shall meet in person or by telephone conference or other communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. On average, one monthly conference call and additional meetings as needed.

Who Votes?

PHPC At-Large Representatives are selected by the USRowing Board of Directors in office at the time. These positions are for a four-year term of office.

Deadline

Your nomination must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Saturday, November 21, 2026.** The nomination form is available at www.usrowing.org.