

2022 USS CONGRESS PROPOSALS SUMMARY AND ACTION

	REVIEW WORKGROUP:	PROPOSED BY:	PROPOSAL:	ACTION:	RATIONALE:
1	Competition and Events	Juice Ortiz	Develop a race series for western states. Develop a network of parents and business professionals to grow speedskating. Unsure if this fits the proposal guidelines. If it does, please provide some guidance. If it does not, we welcome any feedback or connections to individuals that could help. Perhaps tie this into Learn-to-Skate somehow.	NA	Guidance and feedback being offered to help move this forward, but not considered a proposal for this task force to take any action on.
2	Coaching	Katherine Adamek	I suggest that US Speedskating add a requirement for mental skills training to the current level 1, 2, and 3 Coaching Education Curriculum. The Positive Coaching Alliance offers 3 online courses (1 course for each coaching level) to assist USS coaches in replacing the "win at all costs" coaching model with the Double-Goal Coach model; a model that prioritizes both winning and teaching life lessons through sport which are ultimately more important than winning on the scoreboard.	Approved with edits	Require all Level 1 (new and in progress) to complete the segment "Coaching for Winning and Life Lessons". Require all Level 2 coaches to complete course segment "Developing the Triple-Impact Competitor" Highly recommend course 3 as a preferred CE credit. Fostering the development of more complete coaches and emphasizing ALL values of sport (friendship, fun, physical health, healthy competition etc). This aligns with USS's approach to the ADM.
3	Officials	Katherine Adamek	I suggest that US Speedskating add a requirement for mental skills training to the current Level 1 Officials Education Curriculum. The Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) offers an online course to assist officials in creating a positive culture in youth sports by promoting the principles of Mastery; Never Too Tigh, Never Too Low; and Honoring the Game.	TBD	Task Force will conduct a 'trial run' to get more feedback from officials. Task Force to clarify cost and long-term availability of the course. If implemented it will be a recommendation at Level 1 and a requirement at Level 2/3 pending feedback. We want to ensure that new officials see a value in the course and not just add an additional requirement. We also want to ensure that our volunteer officials do not encounter additional cost attached to their time commitment.
4	Long Track	Katherine Adamek	I suggest that US Speedskating add a requirement for Jr National, Jr National Development, and Jr World Team athletes to complete an online course in mental skill development. The Positive Coaching Alliance offers an online course that teaches athletes the mental skills needed to succeed as a Triple Impact Competitor. By understanding the concepts of making themselves, their teammates, and their sport better athletes can develop the mental skills needed to create a culture of positivity both in sport and in life.	TBD	LT Task force would like to take action on this item. We may not make it a requirement this year but intend to provide services at camps/clinics. Our intention is also to work with the USOPC about their intentions moving forward in this area. They may actually be implementing something soon as well.
5	Long Track and Short Track	Melissa Koenig	Add a Masters Club Championship to the Age Group National Competitions	Denied	ST - The AGN already has a club championships and this would add another layer of scoring for the CS. LT - Task force didn't see the need to add an additional award for the Masters - Masters already compete towards a club championship - let's make that a bigger priority before we start breaking club championships into different divisions
6	Long Track and Short Track	Melissa Koenig	Provide flexibility in the race groupings for Masters at US Age Group Nationals (primarily this proposal addressed ST but could potentially be applied to LT as well). At close of registration USS will send a survey to all Masters registered for the event. Athletes will have 48hrs to respond with ranked choices for how the groupings will be done - majority wins. Formats to be considered shall include the following: 1) Age Grouping - provide the specifics of how the age groups will be formed based on number of registered athletes (e.g., 10-year, 20-year, 5-year, etc.); 2) Ability - divide group into smaller racing groups based on seed time; 3) Whole gender - (e.g., all Master Women race as one racing group).	TBD	ST - In order to skate more races, the groups will have to be larger. The STFF would like to ask the Master's Task force to vote on either the Age grouping or Ability grouping. Please note that with ability grouping, we would still be able to create a classification by Age Group. LT - Task force believed there was flexibility to combine groups at AGN, holding a survey 2 days before the championship to determine the format seemed to not give enough time to event planners i.e. competition stewards and planning for race time schedules - the masters mentioned doing this to try and get more racing in - we thought there maybe other avenues to explore if this is truly the ultimate goal
7	Long Track and Short Track	Daniel Frederick	I would like to begin a dialogue with USS that would allow for the development of a Trade Team (specifically for Junior and Neo Senior age athletes). This would be a "team" in name only for funding/sponsorship acquisition purposes and not affect the participating athletes personal coaching, training site, or the USS athlete agreement (in general, there would need to be some limited changes to the Athlete Agreement)	Approved	ST - We are in support of continuing a dialogue. LT - Task force has no objection to this and would be in support of removing any road blocks for juniors and neo seniors to acquire funding for a sponsored team - however, this is a little outside the "jurisdiction of the task force and more directly involving the marketing department
8	Long Track and Short Track	Jonathan Winter	The general proposal is to allow Junior E skaters to race in some capacity at nationals both ST and LT. Current rules do not allow this and caused a number of skaters to stay home. Options include: 1) To allow Junior E skaters to race at nationals in the Junior E category; 2) If #1 is not accepted, to allow anyone with a Junior D time to race Junior D (regardless of age)	Denied	ST - The removal of Division E was in accordance with our ADM guidelines. LT - Task force wants to continue to offer the Future of Speed Camp as a replacement event for the Jr. E division. Both camps went extremely well and we'd like to give them more time to improve and develop. Also, below is a statement written by Chris Needham explaining the philosophy behind this decision: <i>US Speedskating has taken a stance supporting Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) through the creation of the US Speedskating American Development Model (ADM). The ADM is designed to support athletes at different stages of development by focusing on what they need in each stage to support success at the next stage. The ADM is designed to foster long term success for athletes. US speedskating has made changes to competition formats to fall in line with the ADM. These changes are designed to modify the way we train athletes at different stages of development. One of these changes was removing Junior E from Age Group Nationals and not allowing Junior E athletes to skate up even if they have qualifying times for older age groups. We did this because focusing on going fast or achieving certain times at young ages brings the focus away from where we want it to be in building a solid foundation of fundamental movement skills along with fundamental skating skills. We continue support the Junior E age group racing in local and regional competitions however they will not be allowed to compete in Short or Long Track Age Group Nationals. We will continue to offer age appropriate camps for young athletes and continuing education opportunities for interested coaches.</i>
9	Short Track	Tom Miller	The make up of races for Age Group Nationals should be the same standard as USS National Meets. The differences between 1500m USSQ Tables, Age Group Championship, and the regional table for mid-long distance makes no sense.	Approved	To be in line with Qualification tables
10	Short Track	Tom Miller	Progression from Semi to Final - The all final system was great at nationals this year. One thing I would like you to reconsider though is your "fastest to A/B semi or final. When you have heats, quarters, or semis that are uneven in numbers, and after you pick the next fastest 3rds, the rest of the field for seeding to the next round should also be by fastest times. It isn't fair for the skaters in a heat/quarter/semi with more people who are faster compared to a skater in a smaller heat/quarter/semi not to have a chance to progress to just one level up.	Denied	Consistency with the Qualification tables and following ISU rules for ranking and seeding.
11	Short Track	Katherine Adamek	I suggest that US Speedskating add a requirement for Jr National, Jr National Development, and Jr World Team athletes to complete an online course in mental skill development. The Positive Coaching Alliance offers an online course that teaches athletes the mental skills needed to succeed as a Triple Impact Competitor. By understanding the concepts of making themselves, their teammates, and their sport better athletes can develop the mental skills needed to create a culture of positivity both in sport and in life.	Approved/TBD	We think this is a good idea but think this could be part of the Coaches curriculum and a possible recommendation to athletes but not a requirement.
12	Short Track	Miky Burdekin	Creation of a master's classification system. A master's classification will be used to construct 4 levels. That have different and increasingly difficult qualification standards that include results and time standards. A time standard table is also included in the proposal.	TBD	If the Masters Task Force wants to manage it, we would be in favor of having a level system for the Masters.
13	Short Track	Melissa Koenig	Add the option for a Masters Mixed relay at Short Track Nationals	Approved	Masters would have to sign up upon registration and there would need at least 8 participants to run the relay. Masters would not be able to participate in the gender relay offered to the rest of AGN.
14	Short Track	Melissa Koenig	Moving forward, National Records for Masters should be in 5 year age groups	Approved	However, all the existing records would be retired.