

POLICIES FOR ZONE BOARDS OF REVIEW

Part Four of the *Rules and Regulations* of USA Swimming and the Required LSC Bylaws were amended in September 2013 to disband the 59 LSC Boards of Review and create in their stead 4 Zone Boards of Review, effective January 1, 2015. The basic format of the Zone BORs is based upon the existing structure of LSC BORs, but with the LSCs in the particular zone contributing the BOR members to a larger pool from which the Zone BOR Chair would select panel members for each individual case. Each Zone has the discretion to develop whatever procedures it deems most appropriate regarding such matters as the following:

- how panel members are selected for a case, e.g., include or exclude members from the same LSC;
- the minimum and maximum number of panel members for each case (we suggest a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 panel members);
- whether hearings are conducted in person or through conference telephone, video conferencing or similar methods (such as using GoToMeeting or even Skype) primarily for panel members to view the witnesses during testimony or counsel during argument;
- the total number of panel members in the Zone BOR pool;
- how panel members are elected or appointed – by each LSC selecting a certain number of athlete and non-athlete (coach and non-coach) members, or an election by the Zone (as the Required Zone BOR Procedures suggest); and
- how the Zone BOR Chair is selected (e.g., appointed by the Zone Directors, elected by the Zone, elected by the Zone BOR members (as the Required Zone BOR Procedures suggest), by rotation among the LSCs, etc.

For LSCs which hold BOR elections in the fall, it is suggested that they need to do so for 2014 not only for these members to serve during the stub year (i.e., until 12/31/14) as LSC BOR members, but also to serve as the LSC's contribution of panel members to the Zone BOR pool. LSCs which elect their BOR members in the spring will simply have their existing BOR members initially serve as the LSC's contribution of panel members to the Zone BOR pool. This will generate far more Zone BOR members than will hopefully be required but will ensure equal representation of every LSC on the Zone BOR, until the Zone determines another method of selection of Zone BOR members and the appropriate number needed. It would appear that 2-5 ZBOR members (at least one of which is an athlete) from each LSC should probably be sufficient.

The Required Zone BOR Procedures, adopted by the USA Swimming House of Delegates, are attached. These Procedures may be amended by the USA-S HOD in the future, as needed.

The customary LSC Board of Review Workshop at Convention is being replaced this year with a Zone Board of Review Workshop. We will be using this time to answer questions about the transition, as well as figure out what additional support is needed between now and January 1.