

**Federación Puertorriqueña de Deportes Acuáticos  
(Puerto Rico Aquatics)**

**CONSTITUTION**

Puerto Rico Aquatics is the organization recognized by the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee, the Puerto Rico Department of Sports and Recreation, and World Aquatics (AQUA), as the governing body for the disciplines of swimming, water polo, artistic swimming, diving, and open-water swimming.

With such recognition, Puerto Rico Aquatics is responsible for establishing, maintaining, and operating this organization with the highest degree of efficiency. Puerto Rico Aquatics also manages its affairs independently and without regard to undue influence from third parties or governments.

In compliance with its responsibilities, Puerto Rico Aquatics drafted the Constitution to govern its activities in alignment with its goals, demanding loyalty and solidarity from all its members.

**Article I**

**Name**

This organization will be known in Spanish as “Federación Puertorriqueña de Deportes Acuáticos” and in English as “Puerto Rico Aquatics,” for an unlimited time, registered with the Department of State in accordance with the laws of the Government of Puerto Rico. It will be the successor in law to the Puerto Rican Swimming Federation, Inc.

**Article II**

**Address**

Its offices will be located in the city of San Juan, Puerto Rico, in the vicinity of the San Juan Natatorium, or in any town in Puerto Rico approved by a two-thirds vote by the delegates of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**Article III**

**INTERPRETATION**

In the event of doubt of interpretation, gaps or omissions, or discrepancies between the provisions of this Constitution, the final interpretation of the Assembly of Delegates will prevail, as provided in Article VII, item 8 of this Constitution.

## **Article IV**

### **Objectives**

The objectives of Puerto Rico Aquatics will be:

1. To encourage the practice of water sports such as swimming, water polo, artistic swimming, diving, and open-water swimming in Puerto Rico, among other competitive disciplines, through the planning, organization, execution, and evaluation of sports activities, programs, and projects.
2. To promote and improve water sports in each of its disciplines in accordance with the laws and regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics and of the organizations to which it is attached.
3. To protect and promote the mutual interests of its members and athletes.
4. To institute, regulate, and issue awards for all national championships sponsored by Puerto Rico Aquatics in the disciplines of swimming, water polo, artistic swimming, diving, and open-water swimming, as well as for all competitions with other affiliated associations and federations (from other countries) in which Puerto Rico Aquatics participates.
5. To act as the highest authority that regulates the development of water sports, in accordance with the Constitution, upon analysis thereof.
6. To ensure that the rules and regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics and of the organizations to which it is attached are strictly observed with regard to the practice of the five water sports in Puerto Rico.
7. To maintain strict observance of safety standards in all facilities used by Puerto Rico Aquatics for its activities.
8. To select the national team that will represent Puerto Rico in all competitions in which Puerto Rico Aquatics decides to send representation with the collaboration of the technical committee of each discipline.
9. To ensure the implementation of development programs for high-performance athletes in each discipline.
10. To oversee and supervise the committees of each discipline to ensure the implementation of competitive activities that add value to the development of water sports.
11. To promote the practice of swimming in all disciplines to ensure a massive participation of youth in Puerto Rico.

12. To perform all actions that are necessary and convenient for the healthy practice of water sports.
13. To certify by regulation the **instructors, coaches, assistant coaches, and judges** involved in the practice of swimming, water polo, diving, artistic swimming, and open-water swimming. Said certification will be a basic requirement for all the aforementioned functions.

## **Article V**

### **Members**

Puerto Rico Aquatics will be composed of teams that will be governed by the Constitution, its rules and regulations, and those of the organizations to which Puerto Rico Aquatics is attached. The membership requirements will be as follows:

1. To submit the following: the names and addresses of the facilities where the practices will be held, along with the physical and mailing addresses, if different; the names and number of members and directors; the disciplines to which the team will belong, and the names of its coaches or trainers.
2. To submit a written statement in which the team undertakes to comply with the Constitution of Puerto Rico Aquatics and with the rules and regulations of the committee of each discipline and of the organizations to which it is attached, following and implementing any decision approved by virtue thereof. Members must always comply with and implement the World Aquatics Constitution and World Aquatics Rules, as well as the directives and decisions of the World Aquatics and CAS bodies.
3. To submit a copy of its regulations and to certify that it had at least ten (10) new swimmers before applying, who must not be affiliated with other teams.
4. To have competition officials certified in their disciplines, as provided by the regulations of their respective technical committees, and, in the case of a new team or a team that currently does not have such officials, to comply with said requirement as soon as the first course for officials of each technical committee is held and such officials become certified.

All applications must be filed with the general secretary of Puerto Rico Aquatics, who shall remit them to the Executive Committee for further assessment. The Executive Committee shall submit for approval at an ordinary or extraordinary general meeting all applications filed with at least ten (10) days' notice.

5. The Executive Committee shall review all approved applications in December of

each year to verify that they still meet the aforementioned requirements for continued membership.

6. Puerto Rico Aquatics members may exercise their voting rights at the general meetings only if they comply with the following conditions:

They shall have a minimum of ten (10) affiliated athletes.

They shall pay their annual membership fee set by Puerto Rico Aquatics and comply with all other financial obligations.

They shall fully comply with the rules enshrined in the World Aquatics Constitution, notably complying with and implementing the decisions taken by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), by World Aquatics (notably taken by the Congress, the Bureau, the Executive and/or judicial panels), as well as supporting World Aquatics and Puerto Rico Aquatics in their efforts to achieve their objectives.

**A. SWIMMERS:**

Puerto Rico Aquatics is required to accept the definition of 'swimmer' specified in the rules of the organization to which it is attached, in accordance with the rules in force at the time of application. In addition, swimmers will:

- a. Be certified as such by the Registration Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- b. Fill out an application that Puerto Rico Aquatics will provide to confirm their date of birth and the team to which they belong, if any. Said application must be certified by the Registration Committee.
- c. Include with the application a copy of the birth certificate duly certified by the authorities of the country in which the applicant was born, or such other documents as may be required by the regulations or by the Registration Committee to verify the date and place of birth.
- d. Include with the application the registration fee imposed by Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- e. Acknowledge and accept strict compliance with the Constitution and the rules and regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**B. AFFILIATED SWIMMERS:**

A swimmer affiliated with a team is a swimmer who is registered with a team according

to the team's books and the Registration Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics. No swimmer may be registered with more than one team.

Affiliated swimmers will be able to score points in competitions.

**C. INDEPENDENT SWIMMERS:**

An independent swimmer is a swimmer who is not registered with any team or who is in the process of joining Puerto Rico Aquatics. These swimmers will have up to six (6) months to complete the affiliation process.

**D. SWIMMERS IN TRANSITIONAL STATUS:**

A swimmer in transitional status is a swimmer who has requested to be transferred from one team to another. The transition period is twelve (12) months, during which the swimmer will not be able to score points.

The date used to calculate the twelve-month period will be the date on which the duly completed application is received by the Registration Committee.

Upon completion of the twelve-month transition period, the parent, guardian, or swimmer (if of age) must submit a letter requesting affiliation with the new team.

If the president or assigned official of the original team refuses to sign the change request for unjustified reasons, the swimmer, parent, or guardian may appeal to the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics for a final decision.

The rules to participate as an independent swimmer in swimming, water polo, artistic swimming, diving, and open-water swimming tournaments may be modified upon request to the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

The Registration Committee shall refer to the Executive Committee all requests arising from a permanent transfer, for a final decision.

Swimmers requesting to be transferred to another team within ninety (90) calendar days from the last day of the National Championships may request to become affiliated swimmers.

**A. Delegates to the Assembly:**

Each team affiliated with Puerto Rico Aquatics shall elect among its members two (2) delegates and one (1) alternate to represent them in the meetings or assemblies of Puerto Rico Aquatics. Permanent delegates have the right to speak and vote, whereas alternates may not vote unless a permanent delegate is absent.

Each team shall appoint its delegates in writing through a certification issued by its president or authorized representative. Any team or member may replace their delegates at any time by written communication signed by the president and addressed to the general secretary of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**B. Delegates-at-Large:**

At a meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting, the Assembly of Delegates shall elect two (2) permanent delegates-at-large and one (1) alternate-at-large by secret ballot and by a majority vote, who will serve for a term of four (4) years.

Permanent delegates-at-large have the right to speak and vote, whereas alternates-at-large may not vote unless a permanent delegate is absent. These delegates do not participate in their election.

**C. Honorary Members:**

Honorary membership will be limited to all past presidents or exceptional members of Puerto Rico Aquatics who, at the time of appointment, are actively participating in the programs of Puerto Rico Aquatics. The immediate past president will automatically become an honorary member during the tenure of the new president. Honorary membership will be limited to five (5) members.

Elections for honorary membership will be held at the Assembly of Delegates immediately after the Annual General Meeting, where honorary members may be nominated by the president or by any of the delegates. Honorary members will be elected by secret ballot and by a majority vote.

Honorary members will have a voice in the decisions of Puerto Rico Aquatics as well as the right to propose and second motions, but not the right to vote.

**D. Associate Members:**

An associate member is defined as an individual interested in water sports and committed to obey the Constitution and the rules and regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics and of the organizations to which it is attached, whose admission will be approved by the Assembly of Delegates. Candidates for associate members shall:

- a. Complete the application form provided by Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- b. Certify that they are not competitors.
- c. Have the right to speak, but not to propose or second motions, or vote on matters pertaining to Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- d. Pay an annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) payable to Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**E. Delegates Representing Coaches:**

1. Coaches shall elect two (2) permanent delegates and one (1) alternate to represent them in the meetings and assemblies of Puerto Rico Aquatics.
2. Permanent delegates will have the right to speak and vote, whereas alternates may not vote unless a permanent delegate is absent.
3. Delegates must pay the fee assigned by the Assembly of Delegates.
4. Each team in Puerto Rico Aquatics shall nominate up to two (2) coaches to participate in this election.
5. New coaches will be elected prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Assembly of Delegates to allow their participation.
6. The Association of Coaches will have a seat on the Executive Committee and will have the right to speak and vote.
7. Every four (4) years, the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall hold an election of coaches prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

**F. Delegates Representing Athletes:**

1. Athletes shall elect two (2) permanent delegates and one (1) alternate to represent them in the meetings and assemblies of Puerto Rico Aquatics.
2. Permanent delegates will have the right to speak and vote, whereas alternates may not vote unless a permanent delegate is absent.
3. The Association of Athletes will have one seat in the Executive Committee and will have the right to speak and vote.
4. Delegates must be 18 years of age or older to participate in the meetings and assemblies of Puerto Rico Aquatics.
5. Each team in Puerto Rico Aquatics shall nominate up to two (2) athletes to participate in this election.
6. Every four (4) years, the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall hold an election of athletes prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

**Article VI**

**Executive Committee**

**1. COMPOSITION:**

The Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics will be composed of twelve (12) members, namely: a president, a vice president, a general secretary, a treasurer, and an assistant treasurer. Each of these officers will be elected for a term of four (4) years, for a maximum of two consecutive terms or eight (8) continuous years. One (1) athlete and one (1) coach, elected prior to the general meeting of the Executive Committee, will also be members. In addition, there will be five (5) directors representing each discipline: swimming, water polo, artistic swimming, diving, and open-water swimming. (Amendment to the Ordinary General Meeting of July 31, 2000)

Each discipline shall nominate up to three candidates to be evaluated by the Executive

Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics. The Executive Committee shall elect one candidate to be the representative of their discipline based on the advice and consent of the majority of its members who were elected by the Assembly of Delegates.

Each of the aforementioned directors will be the president of the technical committee of their discipline.

In the event of vacancy of an elected member of the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics due to resignation or death, the order of succession to the positions in said Committee will be respected in the first instance. In such an event, the president, with the advice and consent of the Board, shall provisionally fill the vacancy until the Assembly of Delegates holds an election to fill said vacancy.

This decision will be the personal decision of the permanent president.

## **2. ELECTIONS:**

Puerto Rico Aquatics shall hold elections every four (4) years to select the members of the Executive Committee. Regulations on the election procedure will be provided, always in compliance with the principles set forth herein.

The Assembly of Delegates shall hold elections to select a president, a vice president, a general secretary, a treasurer, and an assistant treasurer.

Candidates will be elected by a majority vote (50% + 1). Abstentions and invalid votes will not be counted. In the event of a tie, a second vote will be conducted. If there are more than two candidates, the lowest-scoring candidates will be eliminated, and the process will be repeated until only two candidates remain.

Elections will be held in November at the Annual General Meeting every four (4) years. The Annual General Meeting will be the last meeting chaired by the outgoing president. The new members of the Executive Committee will be sworn to perform their responsibilities and duties.

The officers of the Executive Committee will be elected by secret ballot and by a simple majority vote at the Annual General Meeting every four (4) years if there is more than one candidate.

In October, vacancies will be announced for positions within the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics. Said announcement will be open for two weeks to allow the submission of applications to the general secretary of Puerto Rico Aquatics. At the Annual General Meeting, a ballot with all the nominees for the various positions of the Executive Committee will be provided, and voting will be by roll call of the member teams of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

Upon the roll call, the votes will be counted, and each candidate or group of candidates will have the right to an observer during counting. A simple majority of the votes cast by



our delegates will be required for any candidate to be elected.

The president-elect shall appoint the Olympic alternate, who will not be subject to voting due to their appointment by the president-elect.

### **3. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS:**

#### **a. President:**

The president may call meetings of the Executive Committee and the Assembly of Delegates and shall perform such duties as are inherent to their position. In addition to their other duties, the president shall be the Olympic permanent delegate of Puerto Rico. The president shall attend all meetings of the Committee and report to the Assembly of Delegates and the Executive Committee on all matters pertaining to such meetings. The president is a member of all the committees attached to Puerto Rico Aquatics, except for the Audit and Registration Committees.

The president shall review and report to the Assembly of Delegates on the progress of the administration of Puerto Rico Aquatics and on all program policies formulated by the Assembly of Delegates. They shall also take all necessary actions if the Assembly of Delegates and the Executive Committee cannot act immediately. However, any action taken under such circumstances must be justified within the framework of the standards established by the Constitution, as well as by the general policy of the Assembly of Delegates, and must be reported to the Executive Committee and the Assembly of Delegates at their next ordinary general meeting.

#### **b. Vice President:**

The vice president shall assume the duties of the president if they are absent or unable to act. They shall be the custodian of the property of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

In addition to the duties set forth in the Constitution, the president may assign other specific duties to the vice president. These assigned duties will be of such a nature or at such a level of responsibility that they will comprise the most important activities of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

#### **c. General Secretary:**

The general secretary shall be the custodian of the records of Puerto Rico Aquatics, process all official correspondence, keep a complete record of all activities held under the auspices of Puerto Rico Aquatics, call meetings of the Board of Directors and the Assembly of Delegates, as well as prepare and circulate minutes.

d. Treasurer:

The treasurer will receive all collections from Puerto Rico Aquatics. They shall be the custodian of all monetary assets and disburse the obligations of Puerto Rico Aquatics. At the Annual General Meeting, they shall provide a balance sheet, a statement of revenue and expenses, and a cash flow report for the period ending on July 31 of each year. The treasurer shall chair the Finance Committee. At each ordinary general meeting of the Assembly of Delegates, they shall provide a balance sheet and a statement of revenue and expenses. Within 30 days of the Annual General Meeting, the treasurer shall submit to the Audit Committee all books, vouchers, records, check books, and other documents to be duly audited by said Committee. They shall also submit a report to the Annual General Meeting.

e. Assistant Treasurer:

The assistant treasurer shall assist the treasurer in all their functions, specifically with regard to accounting records and monthly and annual reports. They shall replace the treasurer in the event of absence or in any task assigned by the treasurer.

f. Olympic Alternate:

The Olympic alternate will assume the duties of the Olympic delegate if they are absent or unable to perform their duties.

g. Directors:

Directors will be nominated by the president with the advice and consent of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee who have been elected by the Assembly of Delegates.

Directors shall chair the technical committees of the disciplines they represent. They will be appointed for a term of four (4) years.

Directors must have technical knowledge of the disciplines they represent in order to perform their duties in such disciplines.

They will have the right to speak and vote in the meetings of the Executive Committee.

h. Meetings

The Executive Committee shall hold at least two (2) meetings a month, or as many as necessary, whether called by the president or by the members of the Executive Committee. Such meetings must be held within five (5) days of being requested. If the president does not call such a meeting, members may do so

within five (5) days of being requested.

The general secretary must keep minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee, and all voting will be by a majority of the voting members present. Exceptions will apply when a different vote is required.

A quorum will consist of three or more elected members of the Board of Directors.

Any person wishing to bring a matter to the attention of Puerto Rico Aquatics may write to the general secretary of Puerto Rico Aquatics stating the situation to be evaluated by the Executive Committee. If necessary, the Executive Committee may allow the person to present their situation to the Assembly of Delegates.

i. Duties and powers of the Executive Committee:

- a. Review and report to the Assembly of Delegates on the progress of the administration.
- b. Prepare the budget and submit it to the Assembly of Delegates at the ordinary general meeting in November.
- c. Perform all administrative functions of Puerto Rico Aquatics related to contracting.

The contracting of professional services must be approved by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee.

When several private persons or legal entities provide the same required service, at least three (3) bids must be evaluated, taking into consideration the related time and cost.

The Executive Committee may not necessarily award a bid based on its cost, since the services offered, the interests of Puerto Rico Aquatics, and the development of our athletes must be evaluated.

All contracts involving one-fourth (25%) or more of the assigned budget must be voted on at a meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

- d. Be in charge of athlete development plans and competitions.
- e. Evaluate and authorize the transfer, sale, and/or purchase of personal property belonging to Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- f. Delegate the inherent powers of the Executive Committee to the committees, officers, and employees.

- g. Exercise all administrative functions of Puerto Rico Aquatics, including the hiring of employees and professional services.

## **Article VII**

### **Assembly of Delegates**

The Assembly of Delegates will be composed of all team delegates, delegates-at-large, associate members, honorary members, and officers of the Board of Directors.

In addition to the powers and faculties prescribed in the Constitution, the Assembly of Delegates will be authorized to:

1. Approve the admission of new teams.
2. Enforce penalties imposed for any violation of the Constitution or regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics and of any organization to which it is attached.
3. Elect delegates-at-large as provided in the Constitution, as well as the officers of the Executive Committee and the members of the Registration Committee.
4. Remove, by a two-thirds vote of the delegates, any officer of the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics who has ceased to be useful in their capacity as an officer due to neglect of duty, misconduct, or decision-making contrary to the best interests of Puerto Rico Aquatics. Any member of the Assembly of Delegates who exhibits conduct detrimental to Puerto Rico Aquatics or any of its member teams, or to swimming, will be subject to suspension and potential expulsion by a two-thirds vote of the delegates. In the event of any accusation or complaint, the defendant may submit evidence in their favor at a general meeting called for such purpose.
5. Hold ordinary general meetings in May and November of each year.
6. Call extraordinary general meetings upon request by one-third of the permanent delegates to the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics, which must be held with at least ten (10) days' notice by [mail] to all delegates. The president may also call extraordinary general meetings if necessary and pertinent.
7. Approve the allocation of funds for all international competitions in which the national team participates, in any division.
8. Approve, explain, define, and interpret any provision of the Constitution and any rules and regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics, if required.

9. Approve the annual budget.

The general secretary of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall give at least (10) days' notice by email of every meeting (with the minutes pending approval attached) to each delegate, alternate delegate, honorary member, associate member, and officer of the Executive Committee registered with Puerto Rico Aquatics. Each member team shall notify the general secretary of Puerto Rico Aquatics of any change of address of any of its delegates.

A majority of the member teams will constitute a quorum in the meetings of Puerto Rico Aquatics if the number of delegates is at least one-third of the delegates. If no quorum is required at the beginning of a meeting, a 30-minute wait will be granted, after which the members present will constitute a quorum.

If an extraordinary general meeting is requested while a competition is being held, such request must be signed by the delegates of a majority of the teams that are present on that day, which will constitute a quorum, and the matter in question must be related solely and exclusively with decisions on the competition.

The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Assembly of Delegates of Puerto Rico Aquatics will be as follows:

- a. Roll Call
- b. Debate Rules
- c. Reading of Previous Minutes
- d. President's Report
- e. Treasurer's Report
- f. Committee Report
- g. Pending Items
- h. Election of Officers (when elections are held)
- i. New Items
- j. Closure

### **Article VIII**

All meetings of Puerto Rico Aquatics must be conducted in accordance with recognized rules of parliamentary procedure. A parliamentary advisor may be hired when the matter so warrants.

### **Article IX**

#### **Technical Committees**

Puerto Rico Aquatics is made up of five technical committees that represent each

discipline.

- a. The president of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall be an ex-officio member of all technical committees.
- b. The Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall elect the president of each technical committee upon evaluation of the candidates for each discipline, and each president shall be the director of their discipline at Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- c. Each technical committee must draft operation regulations to be submitted and ratified by the Assembly of Delegates of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

All amendments must be approved by the Executive Committee and then ratified by the Assembly of Delegates, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

- d. Each technical committee may appoint other subcommittees for the proper functioning of its programs. It may have a records committee, a competition management committee, and a registration coordinator. The functions of each committee must be clarified in the regulations of each discipline.
- e. Technical committees will hold their meetings as often as necessary and shall submit to the Executive Committee written minutes certified by the secretary of each committee.
- f. Any technical committee may institute, locate, conduct, and direct any competition sponsored by Puerto Rico Aquatics as well as any other competition including the championship competition of Puerto Rico Aquatics. All competitions will be in accordance with the Constitution and the regulations of Puerto Rico Aquatics and of the organization to which it is attached, as far as possible.
- g. The president of each committee shall appoint a registration and finance coordinator;
- h. Prepare and annually review the program of each discipline for all categories;
- i. Suggest to the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics the candidates for the technical and executive committees of the international organizations;
- j. Prepare the annual budget for each discipline and submit it to the Finance Committee;
- k. Obtain funds for national and international activities for which no funds or limited funds are allocated to Puerto Rico Aquatics, in coordination with the Finance Committee;
- l. Provide the treasurer of Puerto Rico Aquatics with evidence of the funds

disbursed for each sport, in coordination with the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics;

- m. Establish regulations for participants, coaches, referees, and officers on matters such as disciplinary actions, child abuse, and sexual harassment;
- n. Prepare an ongoing training program for officials, referees, and technical support personnel. Train the administrative support personnel of all participating teams, in coordination with the Executive Committee;
- o. Develop a short- and long-term general plan focused on the massification of sport with the aim of increasing the participation and quality of members in coordination with the Executive Committee;
- p. Recommend referees and judges to qualify internationally and prepare a program for competitions and trainings to be attended by referees, officials, and judges in coordination with the Executive Committee;
- q. Any controversy arising between the technical committees will be resolved by the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- r. No technical committee will be subordinate to any other committee.

#### **Swimming Technical Committee:**

The Technical Swimming Committee will be chaired by the president of the Committee, who will be appointed by the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics with the advice and consent of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee who were elected by the Assembly of Delegates.

The president of the Technical Committee and the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall appoint a maximum of ten (10) other members of the Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members, who shall keep the minutes of the Committee.

#### **Water Polo Technical Committee:**

The Water Polo Technical Committee will be chaired by the president of the Committee, who will be appointed by the Executive Committee with the advice and consent of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee who were elected by the Assembly of Delegates.

The president of the Technical Committee and the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall appoint a maximum of ten (10) other members of the Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members, who shall keep the minutes of the

Committee.

**Diving Technical Committee:**

The Diving Technical Committee will be chaired by the president of the Committee, who will be appointed by the Executive Committee with the advice and consent of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee who were elected by the Assembly of Delegates.

The president of the Technical Committee and the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall appoint a maximum of ten (10) other members of the Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members, who shall keep the minutes of the Committee.

**Artistic Swimming Technical Committee:**

The Artistic Swimming Technical Committee will be chaired by the president of the Committee, who will be appointed by the Executive Committee with the advice and consent of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee who were elected by the Assembly of Delegates.

The president of the Technical Committee and the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall appoint a maximum of ten (10) other members of the Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members, who shall keep the minutes of the Committee.

**Open-Water Swimming Technical Committee:**

The Open-Water Swimming Technical Committee will be chaired by the president of the Committee, who will be appointed by the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics with the advice and consent of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee who were elected in the Assembly of Delegates.

The president of the Technical Committee and the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics shall appoint a maximum of ten (10) other members of the Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members, who shall keep the minutes of the Committee.

**Article X**

**Standing Committees**

**1. Registration Committee:**

The Assembly of Delegates shall elect the three (3) members of the Registration



Committee at the Annual General Meeting.

**Duties:**

To register and certify the swimmers and teams of Puerto Rico Aquatics, according to the Constitution. Any decision made by the Registration Committee may be appealed only to the Executive Committee of Puerto Rico Aquatics, for a final decision.

**2. Finance Committee:**

This Committee will be chaired by the treasurer of the Executive Committee and the finance coordinators of each discipline.

It will prepare a budget at the beginning of the year and ensure the safety of the funds belonging to Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**3. Audit Committee:**

This Committee shall audit all books and vouchers of Puerto Rico Aquatics and report to the Annual General Meeting.

It will be composed of three (3) members who will be elected by the president and ratified at an ordinary general meeting in November of each year.

Puerto Rico Aquatics shall conduct external audits on an annual basis. Such audits will be circulated to all the delegates of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**4. Masters Committee:**

This Committee will be composed of one (1) president appointed by the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics with the full consent of the Executive Committee.

The president of Puerto Rico Aquatics and the president of the Committee shall appoint the other members.

The Masters Committee shall plan its activities in coordination with the Executive Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members to keep the minutes.

**5. Health Committee:**

The president of this Committee will be appointed by the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics, and they shall appoint the other members.

The Health Committee shall plan its activities in coordination with the Executive Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members to keep the minutes.

The functions of this Committee will be to prevent, evaluate, supervise, and guide the physical and mental health of the participants of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

#### **6. Technical Committee on Methodology:**

The president of this Committee will be appointed by the president of Puerto Rico Aquatics, and they shall appoint the other members.

The Technical Committee on Methodology shall plan its activities in coordination with the Executive Committee.

A secretary will be elected from among its members to keep the minutes.

This Committee will be in charge of the development of high-performance work models, the monitoring of athletes, the organizational structure, and the projection of results, among other functions.

### **Article XI**

#### **Competencies**

1. Puerto Rico Aquatics will hold annual national championships in swimming, water polo, diving, artistic swimming, and open-water swimming. Technical committees must give at least thirty (30) days' notice of all championship competitions to the members of Puerto Rico Aquatics, in coordination with the Executive Committee, with the understanding that only by force majeure would such a notice be invalidated.
2. Championship competitions must be supervised by a championship committee appointed by the technical committee of each discipline.
3. The championship committee of each discipline shall select the officials in charge of all championship competitions.

### **Article XII**

#### **National Teams**

All swimmers who aspire and are selected to represent Puerto Rico in any competition of any of the water sport disciplines must:

- a. Be a duly registered member of Puerto Rico Aquatics.
- b. Be an active participant in regular competitions sponsored by the technical

committees of Puerto Rico Aquatics. With exceptions to this rule, the following are noted:

1. Those who for reasons of study or force majeure are outside Puerto Rico, but who maintain their residence in Puerto Rico and remain active in the practice of sports.
2. Any other meritorious case which, in the opinion of the respective technical committee, must be resolved by the Executive Committee.
3. Be up to date with the dues of the team or program to which it belongs.

### **Article XIII**

#### **Finance**

1. Before January 15 of each year, each team or member must pay to the treasurer the annual dues established by Puerto Rico Aquatics. Each applicant team must submit the total annual dues with their membership application.
2. Each independent member must pay the dues established by Puerto Rico Aquatics.
3. Failure to pay dues or any other authorized charges within the established term will prevent the delinquent team from having representation at any competition sponsored by Puerto Rico Aquatics or at any meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.

A continuing debt of dues or other charges for a period of three (3) months may result in the forfeiture of membership. To participate in the National Championships, all teams must be up to date at the start of the competitions.

4. The Registration Committee will not accept applications from swimmers or participants who fail to pay the registration fee and follow the requirements.
5. Funds collected (with the exception of dues) for any particular discipline will be earmarked and used for the needs of such discipline.
6. Independent swimmers must pay Puerto Rico Aquatics a fee set by the Executive Committee.

### **Article XIV**

#### **Amendments**

Amendments to the Constitution may be submitted by any delegate to the Assembly of

Delegates at any meeting of Puerto Rico Aquatics. Thirty (30) days' notice will be given to all delegates of Puerto Rico Aquatics before such amendments are discussed and voted upon. All amendments must be approved by a two-thirds vote.

## **Article XV**

### **Recognition of World Aquatics (AQUA)**

Puerto Rico Aquatics recognizes that World Aquatics is the only world-renowned organization that governs world aquatics at an international level and in the event there is any inconsistency between this Constitution and the World Aquatics Constitution and/or the World Aquatics Rules, the latter two shall prevail.

Puerto Rico Aquatics shall fully comply at all times with the World Aquatics Constitution and World Aquatics Rules, the Wada Code, the decision and directives of the Aquatics Bodies, as well as the decisions of the CAS.

## **Article XVI**

### **REGULATIONS**

Upon approval by the Assembly of Delegates, the Executive Committee may adopt, amend, and repeal its regulations, as it deems appropriate for a better promotion and development of the sports, without contravening the laws of Puerto Rico, the Constitution of the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee, the Olympic Charter, or the provisions of this Constitution.

## **Article XVII**

### **Transitory Provisions**

The Constitution will enter into force at the beginning of the ordinary general meeting of the month of May 2024.

Once the Constitution is approved, several members of Puerto Rico Aquatics will be appointed to develop the necessary regulations for the proper functioning of our sports and administration.

## **Article XVIII**

### **Dissolution**

In the event of dissolution, Puerto Rico Aquatics will grant the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee all assets, liabilities, and bank accounts under its full custody.

The Puerto Rico Olympic Committee will deliver the assets, liabilities, and bank accounts to Puerto Rico Aquatics if it is organized again.

**Article XIX**

**Approval AND SIGNATURE**

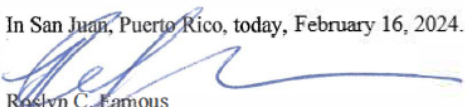
The Constitution was amended and approved on \_\_\_\_\_ by the Assembly of Delegates of Puerto Rico Aquatics with a total of \_\_\_\_\_ votes in favor and \_\_\_\_\_ votes against. Signed today, \_\_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_\_, by: \_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Puerto Rico Aquatics.

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH**

I, Roslyn C. Famous, a professional translator with an M.A. in Translation and an associate member of the American Translators Association, hereby certify that I have revised the translation and, to the best of my knowledge and abilities, the foregoing is a true and faithful rendering into English of the Spanish text, made at the request of the interested party.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today, February 16, 2024.

  
Roslyn C. Famous  
LINGVOX TRANSLATION STUDIO, LLC  
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