



**UNITED STATES
OLYMPIC COMMITTEE**
1 Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

October 19, 2017

American Canoe Association
Wade Blackwood
503 Sophia St. Suite 100
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Re: NGB Recognition and USOC Membership

Dear Mr. Blackwood:

I am pleased to inform you that the United States Olympic Committee's (USOC) Board of Directors, at its October 13, 2017, meeting, approved the American Canoe Association (ACA) as the National Governing Body in the United States for the Olympic sport of Canoe/Kayak. The USOC Board also approved ACA's membership in the USOC as an Olympic Sport Organization member. However, the ACA's recognition as an NGB and membership in the USOC is subject to the following condition:

The ACA must adopt at its October 22, 2017, Annual Membership Meeting the proposed amendments to its Bylaws (the final draft version dated August 24, 2017) submitted to the USOC staff for review.

If the proposed amendments are not approved, then the action of the USOC Board will have no effect and the ACA will not be recognized as the NGB for the Olympic sport of Canoe/Kayak. Further, the ACA will not be admitted as an Olympic Sport Organization member of the USOC. Please report back to the USOC by October 27, 2017, as to whether the amendments were adopted.

Additionally, the USOC Board did not approve the ACA's request for an exemption to Section 8.8 of the USOC Bylaws relating to athlete representation on certain ACA Councils and Committees. Thus, the ACA must comply with all requirements of Section 8.8 and ensure that appropriate athlete representation is achieved on all of its Councils and Committees.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Congratulations and we look forward to working with your organization.

Sincerely,



Rachel Isaacs
Senior Director, NGB Relations

cc: Scott A. Blackmun, USOC Chief Executive Officer
Chris McCleary, USOC General Counsel
Gary L. Johansen, USOC Associate General Counsel
Kacie Wallace, USOC Athlete Ombudsman
Sara Pflipsen, USOC Associate Athlete Ombudsman
Bridget Toelle, USOC Senior Director of Audit
Alan Ashley, USOC Chief of Sport Performance
Rick Adams, USOC Chief of Sport Operations and Paralympics