February 10, 2022

Dear NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport, Sports Science Institute and Office of Inclusion:

We, the undersigned members of the swimming community, support and welcome transgender and nonbinary athletes in our sport.

With this letter, we express our support for Lia Thomas, and all transgender college athletes, who deserve to be able to participate in safe and welcoming athletic environments. We urge you to not allow political pressure to compromise the safety and wellbeing of college athletes everywhere.

We ask the following: 1) do not adopt USA Swimming’s current policy mid-season; 2) establish clear and consistent guidelines for developing and adopting new eligibility policies, and ensure those policies are adopted and communicated well in advance of the season; and 3) ensure that transgender and nonbinary athletes are directly engaged in the policy development process.

We love swimming for the lifelong, invaluable lessons it has taught us about hard work, discipline, and the power of being part of a team. No one should be denied the opportunity to have their life changed through swimming simply because of who they are.

There are very real, documented threats to women’s swimming, including but not limited to rampant sexual abuse, and an inequitable number of women’s coaches within USA Swimming. The NCAA also faces its own deep and historical challenges with gender equity, as outlined in the detailed report released last year focused on the stark differences between NCAA D1 men’s and women’s basketball. We can and should address these challenges. Transgender women are not and have never been a part of these challenges to women’s swimming, and sidelining them from sport does nothing to protect women athletes.

What makes our sport great is the strength in the diversity of our athletes. No one swimmer is the same. We learn from each other, are inspired by one another, and support one another. We will not be silent as members of our swim community are unfairly targeted by discriminatory policies.

Signed,
1. Kenneth Castro Abrams, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
2. Aaron Ach, Princeton University Swimming & Diving
3. Claire Adams, Team USA, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
4. Madeline Alagia, Rhodes College Swimming & Diving
5. Stephanie Amberg, UCLA Swim & Dive, North Bay Aquatics
6. Michael Ambrosio, Goucher College Swimming & Diving
7. Lauren Anderson, American University Swimming & Diving
8. Gail Anderson, Kenyon College Swim & Dive
9. Maddie Annis, Williams College Swimming & Diving
10. Lauren Antonowich, Washington University in St. Louis Swimming
11. Grace Ariola, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
13. Macey Arnold, University of North Carolina Swimming & Diving
14. Hannah Aylward, Carleton College Swimming & Diving
15. Cecina Babich Morrow, Kenyon College Swim & Dive
16. Jeremy Babinet, University of Michigan Swimming & Diving
17. Schuyler Bailar, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
18. Al Bailey, University of North Dakota Swimming & Diving
19. Abigail Benkert, Cornell University Swimming & Diving
20. Meredith Bergman, Carleton College Swimming & Diving
21. Zachary Bergman, Colby College Swimming & Diving
22. Alyssa Berman, Swarthmore College Swimming
23. Jonathan Bernard, Xavier University Swimming
24. Elizabeth Bernardy, Smith College Swimming & Diving
25. Jessica Blake-West, Brown University Swimming & Diving
26. Madison Blaydes, University of Wisconsin-Madison Swimming & Diving
27. Jordan Blitz, Cornell Swimming & Diving
28. Ellen Bloom, University of Minnesota Swim & Dive
29. Natalie Bodenhamer, Knox College Swimming & Diving
30. Karen Gerken Book, Rice University Swimming
31. Malia Borg, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
32. Jack Boyd, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
33. Lauren Brady, Ithaca College Swimming & Diving
34. Jacquelyn Braggin, UC Davis Swimming & Diving
35. Olivia Bray, Team USA
36. Allyson Bremer, Rice University Swimming, USA Swimming
37. Kendall Brent, Yale University Swimming & Diving
38. Kelly Brock, University of Kansas Swimming
39. Mac Brower, Bowdoin College Swimming & Diving
40. Brigita Burgess, Yale University Swimming & Diving
41. Brigid Burke, East Carolina University Swimming/Diving
42. Savannah Butler, Harvard Swimming & Diving
43. Sarah Campbell, Kenyon College Swim & Dive
44. Jennifer Fredsall Cantwell, University of Utah Swimming & Diving
45. Gillian Caverly, Cornell Swimming & Diving
46. Allison Chang, Cornell Swimming & Diving
47. Daniel Chang, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
48. Caroline Chapon, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
49. Michelle Chintanaphol, Yale Swimming
50. Kait Chura, Rice University Swimming
51. Emma Coakley, Team USA (triathlon), University of Louisville Swimming & Diving
52. Lauren Cogar, Knox College Swimming & Diving
53. Cody Conte, SUNY Brockport Swimming & Diving
54. Anna Cook, University of Rochester Swimming & Diving
55. Val Corrente, Worcester Polytechnic Institute Swimming & Diving
56. Izabel Coxfaxo, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
57. Jameson Crandell, Cornell Swimming & Diving
58. Kayde Cross, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
59. Emily Culver, Carleton College Swimming & Diving
60. Miki Dahlke, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
61. Kevin Dai, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
62. Alexis Danchak, American University Swimming & Diving
63. Ren DeBrossd, Kenyon College Swim & Dive
64. Hadley DeBruyn, University of Pennsylvania Swimming & Diving
65. Kathryn Didion, Princeton University Swimming & Diving
66. Tyler DiMarco, American University Swimming & Diving
67. Robert Doles, Harvard Swimming
68. Leif Jorgensen Duus, St. Olaf College Swim & Dive
69. Sam Dyer, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
70. Kristi Edleson, University of Pennsylvania Swimming & Diving
71. Nathalie Eid, Yale University Swimming & Diving
72. Anastasia Erley, Swarthmore College Swimming
73. Alexandra Ernst, Rice University Swimming
74. Katherine Evans, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
75. Shannon Exley, American University Swimming & Diving
76. Eva Fabian, Team USA, Yale University Swimming & Diving
77. Natalie Fahey, USA Swimming, Southern Illinois University Swimming & Diving
78. Eleanor Felton, American University Swimming & Diving
79. Liam Fitzgerald, Princeton University Swimming & Diving
80. Emily Fogle, Purdue University Swimming & Diving
81. Sophie Fontaine, Yale University Swimming & Diving
82. Megan Foran, Northeastern University Swimming & Diving
83. Emily Fogel, Purdue University Swimming
84. Luke Foster, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
85. Patrick Frith, Yale University Swimming & Diving
86. Maddy Frost, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
87. Taylor Garcia, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
88. Daniela Georges, University of Arizona Swimming & Diving
89. Rebekah Getman, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
90. Grace Giddings, University of Pennsylvania Swimming & Diving
91. Amelia Gilchrist, Brown Swimming and Diving
92. Grant Goddard, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
93. Brandon Goldman, Louisiana State University Swimming & Diving
94. Isabella Goldsmith, UCLA Swimming & Diving
95. Kara Gordon, Washington University in St. Louis Swimming & Diving
96. Lucy Gramley, US Masters Swimming, Brown University Water Polo
97. Evan Grey, Georgetown University Swimming & Diving
98. Taylor Grey, University of Virginia Swimming & Diving
99. Owen Griffin, Knox College Swimming & Diving
100. Haley Griffin, University of New England Swimming
101. Madeline Groves, Swimming Australia
102. Katie Grover, UCLA Swim & Dive, Swim Atlanta
103. Elaina Gu, Princeton University Swimming & Diving
104. Sofia Guarnieri, University of Rochester Swimming & Diving
105. Vivian Guo, Swarthmore College Swimming
106. Sarah Haase, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
107. Caylee Hamilton, Indiana University, Purdue University, Indianapolis Swimming & Diving
108. Samantha Harding, Team Canada, University of Minnesota Swim & Dive
109. Matti Harrison, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
110. Malak Hassouna, American University Swimming & Diving
111. Eszter Heins, UC San Diego Swimming & Diving
112. Iszac Henig, Yale Swimming
113. Carlo Hensch, Harvard Swimming & Diving
114. Luca Hensch, Harvard Swimming and Diving
115. Ezren Herzog, Knox College Swimming & Diving
116. Lucas Hess, Brown University Swimming & Diving
117. Erica Hjelle, Team USA, Georgetown University Swimming & Diving
118. Deborah Ho, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
119. Kelsey Hojan-Clark, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
120. Katharine Holmes, Hartwick College Swimming & Diving
121. Katelyn Holmquist, University of Minnesota Swimming
122. Nathan Holty, Ohio State University Swim & Dive
123. Madison Horton, University of Michigan Swimming & Diving
124. Logan Houck, Team USA, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
125. Janet Hu, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
126. Charlotte Hylinski, Yale University Swimming & Diving
127. Laurel Jin, Yale University Swimming & Diving
128. Ellen Johnson, American University Swimming & Diving
129. Olivia Johnson, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
130. Jacob Johnson, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
131. Ryan Jolley, American University Swimming & Diving
132. Wilson Josephson, Carleton College Swimming & Diving, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
133. Carter Kale, College of William & Mary Swimming
134. Hannah Kannan, University of Pennsylvania Swimming & Diving
135. Arik Katz, Team USA, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
136. Artie Kerchmar, Loras College Swimming & Diving
137. Erin Kiley, Ithaca College Swimming & Diving
138. Edward Kim, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
139. Soodong Kim, Cornell Swimming and Diving
140. Lily Koenig, American University Swimming and Diving
141. Delayni Kornak-Kotarba, Wayne State University Swimming & Diving
142. Zack Kundel, Smith College Swimming & Diving
143. Lindsey L’Roy, University of Tennessee Swimming and Diving
144. Karin Langer, Carleton College Swimming & Diving
145. Anna Lee, UC Davis Swimming & Diving
146. Anisa Lester, Carleton College Swimming & Diving
147. Sian Lewandowki, Macalester Swimming
148. Janelle Lief, Western New England University Swimming
149. Danielle Liu, Yale University Swimming & Diving
150. Zella Lobo, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
151. Sydney Lofquist, USC, University of Wisconsin Swimming and Diving
152. Mackenzie Logan, University of Nevada Las Vegas Swim & Dive
153. Connor Lohman, Brown University Swimming and Diving
154. Kennedy Lohman, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
155. Valentina Lohr, Cornell University Swimming & Diving
156. Sarah Magid, Carleton College Swimming
157. Alisha Mah, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
158. John Manchester, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
159. Paul Maneri, University of Pennsylvania Swimming & Diving
160. Maddie Mara, American University Swimming & Diving
161. Mackenzie Marrs, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Swimming & Diving
162. Summer Martin, Dartmouth College Swimming & Diving
163. Journey Martinson, Cal Poly Swimming & Diving
164. Zoe Mattingly, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
165. Christine McCulla, United States Coast Guard Academy Swimming
166. Elizabeth McCulla, University of Delaware Swimming & Diving
167. Emma McGill, Seattle University Swimming
168. Abby McIlraith, Smith College Swimming & Diving
169. Katie McKay, University of North Carolina Swimming & Diving
170. William McNelis, Brown University Swimming & Diving
171. Kelly Meierotto, University of Alaska Swimming
172. Emily Meilus, Virginia Tech Swimming & Diving
173. Mia Meister, University of New England Swimming
174. Johanna Mellis, College of Charleston Swimming & Diving
175. Briana Meyer, UCLA Swim & Dive
176. Alex Meyers, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
177. Cori Michibata, Johns Hopkins University Swimming
178. Jake Mier, Vassar College Swimming & Diving
179. Annika Miller, Knox College Swimming & Diving
180. Emily Mitchell, Wheaton College Swimming & Diving, EDGE Swim Club
181. Katie Money, Auburn Swimming
183. Quinn Murphy, Yale University Swimming & Diving
184. Andie Myers, University of Pennsylvania Swimming & Diving
185. Zoe Myers-Bochner, Swarthmore Swimming
186. Jacob Nason, Washington University in St. Louis Swimming & Diving
187. Jenny Natelson, Colorado College Swimming & Diving
188. Elisabeth Nesmith, Smith College Swimming & Diving
189. Matthew Newton, Connecticut College Swimming & Diving
190. Carmen San Nicolas, University of Miami Swimming & Diving
191. William Nicholson, Macalester College Swimming
192. Melina Nilson, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
193. Mackenzie Niness, Villanova University Swimming & Diving
194. Nicholas Nocita, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
195. Lucie Nordmann, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
196. Annie Norris, Lehigh University Swimming & Diving, Athletes’ Executive Committee (AEC) of USA Swimming
197. Francesca Noviello, Princeton Swimming & Diving
198. Kaela Nurmi, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Swimming & Diving
199. Joelle Ohr, Cornell Swimming & Diving
200. Charlotte O’Leary, Yale University Swimming & Diving
201. Claire O’Mara, Yale University Swimming & Diving
203. Courtney Otto, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
204. Addie Paige, Colby College Swimming & Diving
205. Ava Palfreyman, Ithaca College Swimming & Diving
206. Julia Papp, Cornell Swimming & Diving
207. Jaeehe Park, American University Swimming & Diving
208. Russell Payne, University of Minnesota Swimming
209. Jacob Pebley, Team USA
210. Ray Pedersen, Bates College Swimming & Diving
211. David J. Pfeifer, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
212. Lauren Pich, Cornell Swimming & Diving
213. Kaitlyn Pierce, Knox College Swimming & Diving
214. Sofie Pietrantonio, Williams College Swimming & Diving
215. Sophie Piette, University of New England Swimming
216. Lauren Pitzer, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
217. Reid Pope, Brown University Swimming & Diving
218. Katie Priest, Williams College Swimming & Diving
219. Cathleen Pruden, Mount Holyoke College Swimming & Diving
220. Mary Pruden, Columbia University Swimming & Diving
221. Jay Pulitano, Sarah Lawrence College Swimming, Team New York Aquatics
222. Anna Rakowski, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
223. Sofia Rauzi, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
224. Lyndsey Reeve, Pennsylvania State University Swimming & Diving
225. Ginger Ren, Yale University Swimming & Diving
226. Noah Richter, University of Kentucky Swimming & Diving
227. Olivia Rieur, Middlebury Swimming & Diving
228. Amy Roach, Carleton College Swim & Dive Team
229. Kate Rogers, Yale University Swimming & Diving
230. Lauren Rohde, Swarthmore College Swimming
231. Eric Ronda, Harvard Swimming
232. Charlotte Rosenberg, Brown University Swimming & Diving
233. Olivia Rubino, Ithaca College Swimming & Diving
234. Javier Ruisanchez, Puerto Rico National Team
235. Sadie Runeman, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
236. Saya Ryan, Washington University in St. Louis Swimming & Diving
237. G Ryan, Team USA, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
238. Helaina Sacco, Colby-Sawyer College Swimming & Diving
239. Emily Sanders, Rice University Swimming
240. Mariele Saunders-Shultz, Bucknell University Swimming & Diving
241. Nicholas Schlader, Loras College Swimming & Diving
242. Jon Schlafer, Brown University Swimming & Diving
243. Marly Schrom, Carleton College Swimming & Diving
244. Courtney Schultz, St. Olaf College Swimming & Diving
245. Allison Schumacher, University of Minnesota Swimming & Diving
246. Lauren Schutz, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
247. Brayden Seal, Ohio State Swimming
248. Deborah Seiler, UC Davis Swimming & Diving
249. Stephanie Shao, Yale University Swimming & Diving
250. Kelly Sherman, Yale University Swimming & Diving
251. Cailley Silbert, Yale University Swimming & Diving
252. Jordan Silbert, Cornell University Swimming & Diving
253. Gabrielle Sims, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
254. Maddy Sims, Northwestern Swimming
255. Ishani Singh, Yale University Swimming & Diving
256. Kendra Sirianni, Loras College Swimming & Diving
257. Breanne Siwicki, University of Minnesota Swimming
258. Delaney Smith, Williams College Swimming & Diving
259. Sean Smith, Rutgers University Swimming & Diving
260. Milana Socha, Carleton College Swimming & Diving, Northwestern University Swimming & Diving
261. Amy Socha, Tufts University Swim & Dive
262. Gavin Springer, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
263. Amanda Stadermann, Washington University in St. Louis Swimming & Diving
264. Neal Stepp, Texas Christian University Swimming & Diving
265. Leah Stevens, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
266. Sylvie Stoloff, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
267. Laura Strachan, Swarthmore College Swimming
268. Alyssa Stringer, Knox College Swimming & Diving
269. Jessica Student, Slippery Rock University Swimming
270. Erica Sullivan, Team USA, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
271. Scarlett Sun, Georgetown University Swimming & Diving
272. David Swensen, University of Massachusetts Swimming & Diving
273. Astrid Swensen, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
274. Sarah Swinnerton, Ithaca College Swimming & Diving
275. Steve Tan, Harvard Swimming and Diving
276. Hayden Tavoda, UC Berkeley Swimming & Diving
277. Lindsay Temple, Princeton University Swimming & Diving
278. McKenna Tennant, Yale University Swimming & Diving
279. Zach Thomas, Columbia University Swimming & Diving
280. Mikaela Thompson, Harvard Swimming and Diving
281. Ella Tierney, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
282. Grace Tierney, University of Wisconsin-Madison Swimming & Diving
283. Katie Trace, The Ohio State University Swimming and Diving
284. Jack Tribble, University of Minnesota Swimming and Diving
285. Sophia Tsai, Cornell Swimming & Diving
286. Mackenzie Tucker, Swarthmore College Swimming
287. Susannah Tuder, USA Swimming
288. Laura Turpen, Tulane University Swimming & Diving
289. Caitlin Tycz, Yale University Swimming & Diving
290. Arlyn Upshaw, Terrapins Swim Team, UCLA Swimming & Diving
291. Margaret Vaitkus, Northern Michigan University Swimming & Diving
292. Graham Walker, Kenya Swimming Federation, University of Denver Swimming & Diving
293. Eliana Wallock, Ithaca College Swimming & Diving
294. Matthew Warren, Cornell Swimming & Diving
295. Mimi Watts, American University Swimming & Diving
296. Katherine Wehrman, Smith College Swimming & Diving
297. Sarah Welch, Brown Swimming
298. Dani Wheeler, Nebraska Wesleyan Swimming
299. Jordan Wheeler, University of Texas Swimming & Diving
300. Eric Whisenant, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
301. Morgan Whyte, Carleton College Swimming
302. Aidan Williams, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
303. Demetra Williams, Cornell Swimming & Diving
304. Kim Williams, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
305. Sarah Wilson, Bowdoin College Swimming & Diving
306. Julia Wilson, Kenyon College Swim & Dive
307. Julie Witczak, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Swimming & Diving
308. Annie Wixted, Swarthmore College Swimming
309. Sebastian Wolff, Cornell Swimming & Diving
310. Emily Woo, Smith College Swimming & Diving
311. Verity Wray-Raabolle, Macalester College Swimming & Diving
312. Cheryl Xiang, Yale University Swimming & Diving
313. Gensi Xu, Knox College Swimming & Diving
314. Maxim Yakubovich, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
315. Christian Yeager, Harvard University Swimming & Diving
316. Samantha Yeo, USA Swimming, Team Singapore, University of Michigan Swimming/Diving
317. Colten Young, Princeton University Swimming & Diving
318. Valerie Yoshimura, Harvard Swimming and Diving
319. Emily Zhang, George Washington University Swimming
320. Amy Zhao, Yale University Swimming & Diving
321. Grace Zhao, Stanford University Swimming & Diving
322. Maddy Zimmerman, Yale University Swimming & Diving