

College Club Swimming Terminology and Definitions

Organization and Governance

- **U.S. Masters Swimming (USMS)** – the national governing body of adult swimming in the United States and parent organization of CCS.
- **College Club Swimming (CCS)** – the governing body of college club swim programs in the United States. It is a separate entity owned and supported by USMS.
- **USMS Board of Directors** – group of elected USMS volunteers charged with overseeing USMS’s governance.
- **CCS Advisory Board** – group of elected current and former CCS members and other appointed members, including two USMS volunteer representatives, charged with overseeing CCS’s governance.
- **Staff** – USMS National Office staff who manage the operations of USMS, support the governance of CCS, and administer CCS’s infrastructure including the annual budget, rules, liability insurance coverage, event calendar, event registration and results, communications, and championship meet operations.

Clubs

- **CCS club** – a college club registered with College Club Swimming.
- **USMS Bridge club** – a CCS club automatically registered with USMS which the CCS members will be affiliated with during events.
- **USMS club** – a local or regional club registered with USMS in an LMSC (i.e., not a USMS Bridge club).

Swimmers

- **CCS swimmer** – college student, faculty, or staff who is a registered member of a CCS club defined in [article 3.2 of the CCS Governance Handbook](#).
- **USMS Bridge Member** – a USMS membership type for registered CCS swimmers to gain access to their associated USMS benefits.
- **Standard USMS member** – long-standing traditional USMS membership for individuals that is not a bridge, USMS+, or other non-standard membership type.

Events

- **CCS-sanctioned event** – an event that has met certain criteria and is approved by a USMS staff member or CCS Advisory Board member. Times from these events will count toward the CCS results database. Only CCS swimmers may participate in CCS-sanctioned events and have times recorded in the CCS results database. For CCS governance purposes, “CCS-sanctioned” and “CCS-recognized” have the same meaning and are interchangeable per the CCS Governance Handbook.
- **USMS-sanctioned event** – a USMS-insured event that has met certain criteria and is approved by an LMSC sanctions chair. Times from these events will count toward the USMS database. USMS bridge and USMS standard members may participate and acquire official USMS results, recognition, and records at these events.

- **USMS Bridge Event** – a USMS-insured event that is both a CCS-sanctioned event and a USMS-sanctioned or USMS-recognized with participation limited to CCS and USMS members. Times achieved at these events can appear in the CCS or USMS database that corresponds with the swimmers' club affiliation. CCS swimmers will be registered by their CCS club and their results will go into the CCS database. USMS members (including CCS members with a USMS membership) will register individually just like they would for a USMS-sanctioned event, and their results will go into the USMS database.