

Breadbasket Zone

Breadbasket Zone Annual Meeting

Thursday, August 27, 2026

USMS Annual Meeting

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. 2025 unfinished tasks
 - a. LMSC Standards completed?
 - b. New sanctioning process
3. Topics from 2026 Zone meeting with Samantha Kraft
4. Slack App
5. Results of 2026 Zone Swim Championships in CO
6. Future site hosts for Zone Championships
7. Breadbasket Zone Rep
8. Other topics as needed

Breadbasket Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)

Colonies Zone

Committee Members

Jeremy Gross, Vice Chair.

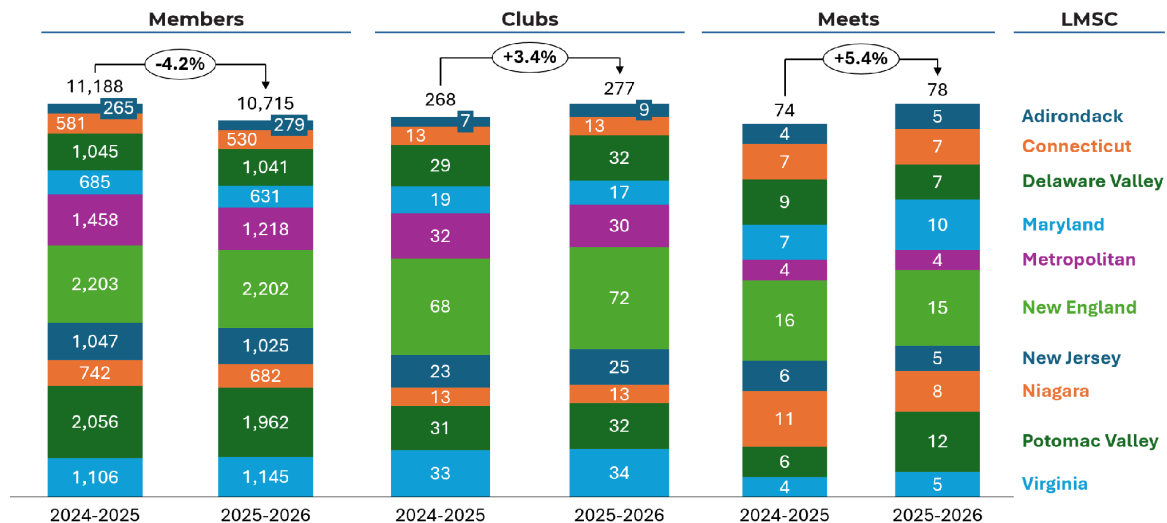
Voting Members: All USMS 2026 annual meeting delegates from the Colonies Zone.

Ex-Officio: Jessica Reilly

Introduction

Colonies Zone membership is down by 473 members, or 4.2% versus this time in 2025. While 8 of the 10 LMSC's had a decline in membership, roughly half of the loss (240 members) came from the Metropolitan LMSC as a result of the departure of one of their larger teams.

The Colonies Zone also ran 78 meets in the past 12 months, an increase of 4 meets over the 2024-2025 season. Thanks to all the Meet Directions, Sanction Chairs, Top-10 recorders and other USMS volunteers involved with organizing these meets for our members.



Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. Zone Communications

- The zone chair fielded questions from and checked in with LMSC officers, and participated in the USMS Development Committee as well as joint calls with all Zone Chairs across USMS. The primary focus of these calls was to foster increased communications between the Zone Chairs and the LMSCs and establishing the best method for USMS to allow the Zone Chairs to cascade USMS information (and questions) to the LMSCs.
- The current and past Zone Chair (Doug Sayles) and LMSC officers from NE, DV, PV, and NJ coordinated with each other and facility reps to plan and

host SCV and SCM Zone Championships and discuss potential future meet venues.

- c. Coordinated July meeting of LMSC reps with USMS BOD members.
2. Webmaster Ray Novitske maintained the [zone website](#).
3. Recorder Chris Stevenson updated [zone records files](#) for each course.
4. Maintained the [Colonies Zone Facebook Group](#).
5. Zone Championships: 2025-2026 Season Recap
 - a. [SCM: December 5-7, 2025, Boston University \(Boston, MA\)](#)
278 registered swimmers & 43 teams in 2025 vs 371 & 53 in 2024. The meet was hosted by the New England LMSC as has been the case for many years. The meet moved from its long-standing usual location at WPI to Boston University this year.
 - b. [SCY: April 10-12, 2026, George Mason U. \(Fairfax, VA\)](#)
370 registered swimmers & 57 teams in 2025 vs 669 & 69 in 2024 and 285 & 57 in 2023 at JRSSC (VA). The meet technically saw a decline in swimmers this year vs 2024 when “The Harvard Meet” also served as the Zone Championship Meet. This year’s meet did see a big jump in attendance vs. 2023 when the meet was hosted at the Jeff Rouse Swim Center. 2026 was the first year SCY Zones returned to GMU in the post-Covid era. Some LMSC subsidies were made to ensure a meaningful donation was made to George Mason Swimming for their time in hosting and working the meet.
 - c. LCM: No championships held.
6. Zone Championships: 2026-2027 Season Preview
 - a. SCM: The Colonies Zone will once again look for the New England LMSC to host the annual SCM Zone Championship meet. At this time, no date or venue has been confirmed.
 - b. SCY: Colonies Zone and LMSC Officers have been in touch with GMU about returning the SCY Zone Championship meet to their pool in 2027. They are open to hosting again, but no dates have been confirmed at this time.

Colonies Zone Annual Meeting Agenda:

Thursday, August 27 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm EDT

1. Call to Order & Welcome
2. Reports (Chair, Webmaster, Recorder, USMS At-Large Director)
3. Zone Service Award
4. Zone Championships
5. Expenses / Budget (if needed)
6. New Business
7. LMSC Updates
8. Adjourn

Colonies Zone Meeting

Thursday, August 27, 2026 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting

Great Lakes Zone

Committee Members

Caitlin Gagnon, Chair

Matthew Harris, Allegheny Mountain Chair

Molly Hoover, Illinois Chair

Cameron Owen, Indiana Chair

Susan Ehringer, Kentucky Chair

Ann Marshfield, Lake Erie Chair

Chad Steed, Michigan Chair

Caitlin Gagnon, Ohio Chair

Mary Schneider, Wisconsin Chair

Introduction

Listed below are the reports from each LMSC within the Great Lakes Zone.

Allegheny Mountain:

- New website launch, team unify SEO has been an issue
- Tri State Long Course Meet, cancelled due to low sign ups
- 5K event

Illinois

- Some turnover and new faces on the board, membership coordinator took over newsletter
- State Meet was in Illinois, over 600 entries

Indiana

- Indiana is looking into the possibility of a short course meters zone championship

Kentucky

- 9 meets sanctioned, 2 cancelled
- Supporting officials by paying them
- Sanction changeover issues because the sanctions chair can't edit so changes mean starting from scratch
- USA Swimming wants to duel sanction an open water swim on October 1

Lake Erie

- Total Membership: 468 as of 8/11/26 – a decrease of 11 from 2025
- How many clubs: 8
- Swim Meets: 1 SCM, 1 LCM, 3 SCY, 1 Open Water Swim
- One SCY meet was cancelled due to winter weather
- LE LMSC pays for pool rental and coaches for continued outdoor practices at the Avon
- Aquatic Center during September. All USMS registered members are welcome. Cost is
- \$10 drop in. Practices are Saturday and Sunday mornings.

- Financial health: LE LMSC has deficit of \$2000 for 2025.
- The LMSC has \$30,000+ in the bank.
- Relay 2026 & NCC : We will send 3 to Relay and 1 to NCC.
- LE LMSC updated its Governing By-Laws, awaiting approval from the membership for revised
- Code of Regulations.
- One after meet social – rescheduled due to meet cancellation.

Michigan

- Report Pending

Ohio

- 3 meets, 2 more coming in the fall
- Grown up swimming huge, will translate to USMS membership

Wisconsin

- In the past year we had about 560 members, which is a stabilization of our member numbers over the last few years.
- Our finances are stable, with no unforeseen spending, and careful monitoring of our spending to budget.
- Wisconsin had 8 short course yard meets, 1 short course meter meet, 1 fitness event, 1 virtual meet, 1 long
- course meter meet, and 1 Recognized meet. One of the short course meets was a first time host. The meets were well attended, and most of them featured either individual or relay “fun” (non-conforming) events, or both individual and relay “fun” events.
- We had good participation at USMS short course nationals, and finished second among Regional teams. We also had swimmers attend the middle distance open water event in Minnesota, and long course USMS Nationals.
- Our methods of communication are our website, a monthly email sent to all members stressing upcoming events and important dates, and our bi-monthly newsletter.
- A number of our current board members have all served multiple years, but we were successful in recruiting
- several new members. We still need to involve additional members and mentor them to take over leadership positions.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. Michigan incoming chair Corrin Buck discussed the possibility of a Long Course Zone Championship in Holland, MI in August, but due to lead time and expense could not secure the support needed from enough LMSCs to go forward. This will be discussed for next year to allow more lead time.
2. Cameron Owen, Indiana Chair, discussed the possibility of a Short Course Meter Zone Championship with Caitlin Gagnon, Zone Chair, and will send an Indiana representative to speak at the meeting.

Action Items

1. Long Course Zone Championship Discussion
2. Short Course Zone Championship Discussion

Agenda

1. Call meeting to Order
2. Approve 2025 meeting minutes
3. Zone report by Chair
4. LMSC reports
5. Election for Zone Chair
6. New Business
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn

Great Lakes Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)

Northwest Zone

Chair: Jill Wright (SR)

Committee Members: Kent Hamilton (AK), Robert Heath (IW), Mark Brooke (MT), Paul Windrath (OR), Linda Chapman (PN), Jim Clemmons (SR), Aaron Norton (UT).

Ex-Officio: At-Large Director Robert Heath (IW), Secretary and Awards Sally Dillon (PN), Webmaster Dave Cabrey (IW), Record Keeper Steve Darnell (OR), Chatter newsletter editor Christina Fox (OR), and Treasurer Ken Winterberger (AK).

Introduction: The Northwest Zone covers an area of 1,175,954 square miles (about twice the area of Alaska), which includes all of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and 3 counties in Nevada. The are seven LMSCs, as Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and parts of Nevada are combined to form Inland Northwest (IW), Oregon (OR), Pacific Northwest (PN), and Snake River (SR) LMSCs.

The Northwest Zone currently lists 82 USMS members serving on its LMSC leadership teams. 17

Zone members serve on USMS committees. The board conducts Zoom calls in December, March, and June, in addition to the USMS Annual Zone Meeting (August). Meeting minutes are posted on the NW Zone and USMS websites. As of July 31, the zone has 4356 members and 49 clubs. Snake River is the smallest LMSC with 121 members, and Pacific Northwest is the largest with 1674 members. The Zone publishes a newsletter four times a year. It is posted on the Zone website at www.northwestzone.org.

Discussions and Projects since the last Annual Meeting

1. Bids were approved for the following 2026 zone championships:
 - a. SCM - Oregon Masters, Portland, OR January 25, 2026 (replaced a cancelled 11/2025 event)
 - b. SCY - Blue Wave Aquatics, Seattle, WA, on April 11-12, 2026
 - c. OW - Kroc Masters, Around the Tubbs, Couer d'Alene, ID on July 18, 2026
 - d. A 2026 SCM bid has been submitted from Puget Sound Masters for Nov. 21-22 and will be voted on during our August 2026 meeting.
2. The Zone delegates arrived in Kansas City a day early. We met as a group for dinner and held a meeting the following morning. Topics included: Hot topics on the USMS Annual Meeting agenda. LMSC Standards, attending USMS Relay, encouraging more participation on USMS committees.
3. USMS led coaching and ALTS clinics were held this year in Vancouver, WA (Nov 15) and Boise (April 24-26).
4. With our zone having a healthy bank balance, a committee of 4 Zone members discussed and recommended revisions to the Zone's financial policies. The changes were approved at the March meeting.
5. Dave Cabrey met with other LMSC webmasters to update USMS email aliases.
6. Many thanks to Zone volunteers:
 - a. Dave Cabrey, for keeping our Northwest Zone website up to date.
 - b. Steve Darnell, for keeping SCY, SCM and LCM records up to date.

- c. Christina Fox, for editing and publishing the Northwest Zone Chatter quarterly.
- d. Ken Winterberger, for keeping our zone finances in order.
- e. Sally Dillon, for taking on secretarial duties and zone award management.

Annual Meeting Action Items

- 1. Approval of SCM Zone championship bid.
- 2. Checking/correcting financial updates from 2023-2026 for accuracy.

Northwest Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 9:00pm - 10:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)

Oceana Zone

Karen Harris, Chair

Introduction

The Oceana Zone includes the Pacific and Hawaii LMSCs. From one end to the other the zone is over 2,700 miles, the greatest end to end distance of any zone. The zone committee meets annually during the USMS Annual Meeting and conducts other business, as needed, by phone, email or a virtual program such as Zoom. This year's meeting will be conducted on a virtual (Zoom) platform as part of the 2026 USMS Annual meeting.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. **Membership and Clubs:** As of 8/12/2026 in the Pacific LMSC there are 9,537 USMS members. There are 120 recognized clubs. This is slightly up from 9,406 last year.

As of 8/13/2026, the Hawaii LMSC has 601 USMS members which is slightly less than 663 members last year. Hawaii has 15 active clubs, which includes workout groups.

2. **Pacific LMSC:**

Pacific hosted a full schedule of pool (13) and open water (5) events. We hosted an ALTS clinic earlier in May. We are looking to finalize our Annual Celebration and Meeting in November with Board elections to take place.

3. **Hawaii LMSC:**

The Hawaii LMSC supported Clubs and Meets as follows:

The HI LMSC paid for all Clubs and Workout groups that had more than 10 members

The HI LMSC paid for pool fees for meets and had 1 USA/USMS Meet on Oahu this year.

We also had many open water races on both Oahu and Big Island, including 3 Triple Crown ocean races and 1 Kona 2.4 mile, but they were not USMS sanctioned. There was 1 relay representing HIMA at LCM Nationals in Sacramento, Mixed Free 70+.

Future Activities:

A swim meet is scheduled at University of Hawaii on November 8th at 1:00 pm

Still working on getting more activities for the Hawaii LMSC
Our Annual meeting is Nov 11th, 2026

Action Items

- Approval of 2025 Zone meeting minutes.

Agenda

Thursday, August 27th, 6:00pm Pacific Time (3:00pm Hawaii Time)

- Introductions
- Approval of Last Year's minutes
- Reports of the LMSCs
- Review of proposed rule/legislation changes that may be of interest to the Zone
- Succession planning - Oceana Zone Chair (election in 2027)
- New Business
- Adjournment

Oceana Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 9:00pm - 10:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)

South Central Zone

South Central Zone Committee Members

Jacky Merianos (NT), Chair; Kevin Lunsford (GU), Sanctions Chair; Linda Visser (GU), Top Ten Recorder; Kirsten Hoffman (OK), All Time Zone Records; Susan Ingraham (ST), Zone Championship Meet Records; Nicole Christensen (GU), Webmaster; Nicole Christensen (GU), Open Water Chair.

South Central Zone Championship Meet Advisory Committee: Jacky Merianos (NT); Lynn Morrison (NT), Nicole Christensen (GU), Susan Ingraham (ST)

South Central Zone Member At-Large Director: Nicole Christensen (GU)

Zone LMSC Leadership

LMSC	Chair	Vice Chair
Arkansas	Bonnie Adams	Laura Fox
Gulf	Nicole Christensen	Stacey Eicks
North Texas	Jacky Merianos	Cindy Myer
Oklahoma	Brad Portway	Janet Latham
South Texas	Jeff Campbell	Stacy Abrams

Introduction

Welcome to the 2026 South Central Zone Annual Meeting. The South Central Zone includes the following LMSCs: Arkansas, Gulf, North Texas, Oklahoma and South Texas. Our Zone Committee meets annually in conjunction with the USMS Annual Meeting and conducts all other Zone business as needed, by email and/or Zoom calls. We look forward to a productive and informative 2026 Annual Zone Committee meeting.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. The South Central Zone and Southern LMSC continued their discussions regarding Southern's transition into our Zone. With unanimous support from all parties (including the South East Zone), the Southern LMSC and the South Central Zone formally submitted a proposed legislative amendment to the Legislation Committee. The committee adopted it for approval, and it will advance to a House of Delegates vote at the 2026 USMS Annual Meeting.
2. This year, our Zone centralized two key LMSC roles — Sanctions Chair and Top

- Ten Recorder. All LMSCs now report to the Zone level for these functions. Our Zone Sanctions Chair, Kevin Lunsford, and our Top Ten Recorder, Linda Visser, serve and maintain communication with all five LMSCs in the Zone.
3. At our 2025 Annual Meeting, the Zone voted to introduce a Fall SCM Zone meet. Our inaugural meet will take place this November.
 4. We had a successful 2026 SC Zone Spring Championships in March with 170+ swimmers. Thank you to WMST for another wonderful Zone Championship meet!
 5. Our 2026 SC Zone Open Water Grand Prix Challenge is underway, with three races complete and one more to go in October.

Action Items

1. Review bids and vote on 2027 South Central Zone Championship locations.

Agenda

1. Call to Order & Introductions
2. Zone Chair Report
3. Presentation: 2025 SC Zone Jesse Coon Award
4. Presentation and discussion: 2026 Zone expenses
5. Zone Leadership Reports (Sanctions, Top 10, Records and Webmaster)
Zone Championship Committee Report
6. Presentation, discussion and vote: 2027 Zone Championships Meet bids
7. Zone Open Water Report: 2026 Grand Prix report & discussion on 2027 Grand Prix
8. Discussion: HOD to vote on Southern LMSC to join South Central Zone
9. New business
10. Adjourn

South Central Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)

Southeast Zone

Britta O’Leary, Zone Chair

The committee is comprised of representatives from each of the seven LMSC’s within the Zone: Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southeastern and Southern.

Introduction

The Southeast Zone Committee meets annually, in person or virtually, to conduct business and discuss issues relevant to the Zone. The Zone has been operating between annual meetings via email amongst the Zone chair and the LMSC chairs and recently switched to Slack as the primary platform for communication.

Discussions and Projects

Since Last Annual Meeting

1. The zone leadership and LMSC leaders of the seven LMSCs were invited and started using Slack as the primary platform for communication.
2. The 2026 LCM zone championship was awarded to RAM with their LCM Meet held in Cary, NC on August 15-16, 2026.
3. The Southern LMSC has an active proposal to become part of the South Central Zone with the Legislation Committee that was recommended for adoption
4. LMSC leaders from within the zone met on July 28th via Zoom with members of the USMS Board of Directors and staff to discuss various local and national issues and initiatives.
 - a. From USMS: Ed Coates (President), Trey Taylor (At-Large Director, SE Zone), Jessica Reilly (Sr. Director, Business Operations)
 - b. From SE Zone: Britta O’Leary (SE Zone Chair), Tom Murphy (FGC LMSC Chair), Vesna Shelnutt (GA LMSC Chair), Sara Dunn (NC LMSC Chair), Erika Braun (NC LMSC Secretary and USMS Secretary), DeLise Coleman (GA LMSC Vice-Chair).
5. As of this writing; six of seven LMSC’s in the Southeast Zone membership numbers are slightly behind registration numbers from the previous year, but fully expect to meet or exceed last year’s registration numbers by year end.
6. Current Southeast Zone Membership Status

			2026 Effective 07/24/2026		
LMS	Members	Clubs	Members	Clubs	%
	2025	2025	2026	2026	
Florida	2,472	65	2,237	65	90.4
Florida Gold	1,308	22	1,166	18	89.2
Georgia	1,026	42	914	39	89.0
North Carolina	1,757	46	1,707	46	97.2
South Carolina	641	17	615	14	95.9
Southeastern	996	41	977	40	98.0
Southern	294	15	303	11	103.1
TOTALS	8,494	248	7,919	233	

7. The LMSC's to offer a variety of meets throughout the year. During the 2025/26 season (to-date) our swimmers had 34 meets to choose from within the zone, including the 2026 USMS Spring Nationals in Greensboro, NC. Additionally, 6 Open Water Meets, including 2 USMS National Championships OW events, were offered.

We currently have 8 additional meets in 2026 recognized or sancitoned.

Action Items

1. Utilize Slack to improve inter-LMSC communication and exchange of ideas and best practices.
2. Continue to seek ways to increase our membership numbers through Patricipation in LMSC meet and events.
3. Seek additional opportunities within the Zone to offer more SCM meets – subject to pool availability.

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of [2025 Southeast Zone Annual Business Meeting Minutes](#)
3. Zone Reports (Chair, Webmaster, Top Ten and Records).
4. LMSC Reports (LMSC Chairs – FG, FL, GA, SC, NC, SE, SO)

5. Review upcoming 2026/2027 meet schedule
6. Discuss the future of the three Zone Championships.
 - a. We have received a bid from FLL to host the 2026 SCM zone championship (final confirmation 8/20)
 - b. We have received a bid from Auburn to host the 2027 SCY zone championship.
7. Input on Slack communication: what communication or exchange would you like to see? Everyone is invited to post and interact.
8. Old Business
9. New Business
 - a. Legislation proposal (recommended for adoption) to bring the Southern LMSC under the South Central Zone
 - b. Southeast Zone at-large representative candidate – [Tom Murphy](#) (Florida Gold Coast)
10. Open the floor for discussion.
11. End meeting.

Southeast Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)

Southwest Zone

Committee Members

Diana Dolan LaMar, Chair; Becky Cleavenger, Secretary for Meeting

Kenny Brisbin, Southern Pacific LMSC Chair, Barbara Dunbar, San Diego-Imperial LMSC Chair, Barbara Sloan, Arizona LMSC Chair, Rebecca (Bex) Friedberg New Mexico LMSC Chair

Ex-Officio: [List names, separated by commas, here. Do not hit return. (unknown)]

The Southwest Zone Committee meets annually prior to the USMS Annual Meeting. Each LMSC Zone Chair provides an overview of the year and Zone Championship Meets and locations are determined for the upcoming year.

Introduction

Welcome to the Southwest Zone Annual Meeting and Agenda. Southwest Zone includes Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial and the Southern Pacific LMSCs. This committee meets annually at the USMS Convention. We conduct other business on an as needed basis during the year by email or phone calls.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. Diana Dolan LaMar was elected as the new Southwest Zone Chair. The next election will occur at the 2027 Annual Southwest Zone Meeting.
2. The LMSC Chairs met with Jeff Commings in July 2026 to obtain an updated USMS Board report. LMSC Chairs shared information with Jeff regarding LMSC updates and news.

Action Items

1. LMSC Zone Chairs were notified about utilizing Slack in lieu of email moving forward.
2. No other actions taken since the last annual meeting in 2025.

Agenda

1. 2026 LMSC recaps by LMSC Chairs
2. 2027 Zone Championship Meet locations for SCY, SCM, LCM, and Open Water
3. Other items as needed

Southwest Zone Meeting

[Thursday, August 27, 2026 9:00pm - 10:00pm EST | Zoom Meeting](#)