

1997 U.S. Masters Swimming Rule Book recovered from:

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Dedication

The 1997 United States Masters Swimming Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition is dedicated to:

Jack Geoghegan

It's hard to count the many facets of Jack's service to USMS. As Legal Counsel for 14 years, he has kept us on the straight and true path. He is always ready to soothe any troubled waters, yet still finds time to be a perennial All American: in fact, Jack was the first USMS swimmer over age 40 to break 50 seconds for the 100 yard freestyle. His Irish wit, unparalleled eloquence, and debonair manner have

entertained us at many an awards ceremony. He has served as advisor to the Legislation, Rules, International, Insurance, and Rule Book Committees. And as a member of the International Swimming Hall of Fame Committee, Jack was responsible for at long last bringing Masters into the Hall of Fame as full-fledged honorees.

We owe you, Jack!

Previous Rule Book Dedications

1991 June Krauser

1992 Mary Lee Watson

1993 Kathrine Casey and Gail Dummer

1994 All USMS volunteers

1995 E. Kevin Kelly

1996 Dorothy Donnelly

Preamble

United States Masters Swimming (USMS) is an organization of sportswomen and sportsmen founded in 1970 and dedicated to the premise that the lives of participants will be enhanced through aquatic physical conditioning. USMS supports and encourages competitions among its members and those of other nations. This book establishes certain rules and regulations for the conduct of the organization, the participants, and the competitors in the spirit of good sportsmanship.

Mission Statement of United States Masters Swimming

To promote fitness and health in adults by offering and supporting Masters Swimming programs.

Goals and Objectives

A: To encourage and promote improved physical fitness and health in adults.

B: To offer adults the opportunity to participate in a lifelong fitness and/or competitive swimming program.

C: To encourage organizations and communities to establish and sponsor Masters Swimming programs.

D: To enhance fellowship and camaraderie among Masters swimmers.

E: To stimulate research in the sociology, psychology, and physiology of Masters Swimming.

GLOSSARY

Aggregate (Composite) Time-times achieved by four individuals in separate starts which are added together to arrive at a relay time for entry purposes.

Anchored (Starting Platform)-stable at all times without human aid.

Body-the torso, including shoulders and hips.

Calm State or Surface-normal level surface of water without turbulence.

Club-an organization or group of permanent character that is registered with the corporation through its LMSC and that actively promotes and/or participates in Masters Swimming.

Corporation-United States Masters Swimming, Inc. (USMS).

Course-designated distance over which the competition is conducted.

- **Long Course**-50 meters (55 yards to be recorded as 50 meters).
- **Short Course**-25 yards or 25 meters.

Deck Entered-all entries are accepted on the first or later day of that meet and subsequently seeded into events.

Dual Meet-competition between two clubs.

End of Course-designated wall for turns or finishes.

Event-any race or series of races in a given stroke and distance.

FINA-Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (International Federation of Amateur Swimming).

Fitness Events-events designed to encourage and enhance fitness, exclusive of events covered by Parts One and Three.

First Day of Meet-day on which first competitive swimming event is conducted.

Foreign Swimmer-athlete member of a country or swimming federation, other than the corporation, who competes in USMS sanctioned events.

Foul-an instance of obstruction, interference, collision, or equipment malfunction which prevents the successful completion of a race.

Heat-a division of an event.

Horizontal-parallel to the surface level of the water.

IOC-International Olympic Committee.

Initial Distance-that first portion of a race for which an official time may be recorded but which is not itself a completed event.

Lane-the specific area in which the swimmer is assigned to swim.

Lane Line-continuous floating markers attached to a line stretched from the starting end to the turning end for the purpose of separating adjacent lanes.

Lane Markings-the guide lines on the bottom of the pool and in the center of the lanes running from the starting end to the turning end.

Last Day of the Meet-day on which last competitive swimming event is conducted.

Leg-the part of the relay event that is swum by a single team member.

Length-extent of the course from end to end.

LMSC-Local Masters Swimming Committee, a division of the corporation, with supervisory responsibilities within a specified geographic territory.

Malfunction-a mechanical or electronic equipment failure.

Manual Start-the start of any timing device by an individual in response to the same starting signal given to the swimmers.

Mark-(take your) starting position.

Masters-word to be used in that form only; not to be used as a descriptive word; to be used with a capital "M."

May-permissive, not mandatory.

Meet-an event or series of events held under a single sanction or recognition and conducted within ten consecutive days, except for postal meets.

Member-an individual, club, or organization registered with the corporation.

MSI-Masters Swimming International.

Must-mandatory.

Open Competition-competition which any qualified individual, club, or organization may enter.

Pool-the physical facility in which the competition is conducted.

Propulsive-having the power to propel.

Recognized Meet-a designated meet conducted by organizations other than USMS from which swimmers may have their times accepted for recording purposes by USMS. An observer designated by USMS must be present to attest that the conduct of competition conforms to all relevant USMS rules and meet standards.

Registered-enrolled as a member of the corporation and the LMSC.

Reinstatement-return of all or limited rights of membership in the corporation.

Sanction-the written authorization of an LMSC to permit members to participate in a specific competition, demonstration, clinic, exhibition, or Swim-A-Thon®.

Scissor-use of the top of the instep of one foot and the bottom of the other foot in the propulsive part of the kick.

Scratch-withdraw an entry from an event or fail to report to the assigned lane in the assigned heat.

Seed-distribute swimmers among the required number of heats and/or lanes, based on submitted times.

- **Deck-seeded**-all events are seeded at the meet with entries received prior to or at the meet.
- **Pre-seeded**-all events are seeded prior to the day of competition according to submitted times.

Shall-mandatory.

Simultaneously-at the same instant.

Split Time-time recorded from official start to completion of an initial distance within a longer event.

Still Water-water contained within four walls or landlocked, having no perceptible current or movement other than that caused by wind or by swimmers.

Submitted Times-those filed with an entry as having been previously achieved or reasonably estimated.

Suspension-deprivation of all rights of membership in the corporation.

Team-a group of swimmers representing the same club in a competition.

Timed Finals-competition in which only heats are swum and final placings are determined by the times performed in the heats.

Unattached-an individual member who does not represent a club of the corporation.

USAS-United States Aquatic Sports, Inc.

USMS-United States Masters Swimming, Inc.

USS-United States Swimming, Inc.

Wall-the vertical portion of the pool, the contiguous surface of the deck and overflow gutters, the front portion of the starting block or platform, or the touch pad at the end of the course.

Zone-a geographic section of the country that includes all LMSCs within that section.

PART ONE: SWIMMING RULES

All provisions under *Part One: Swimming Rules*, unless otherwise specified, are effective beginning January 1, 1997, and until changed. Rules in effect on the first day of a meet shall govern throughout the meet.

Part One: Swimming Rules is based upon Articles 101, "Individual Strokes and Relays," and 102, "Conduct and Officiating of All Swimming Competition," of the U.S. Swimming Technical Rules, which, as amended, will govern all Masters Swimming competitions.

All competitive swimming events held under corporate sanction shall be conducted in accordance with the following rules, which are designed to provide fair and equitable conditions of competition and promote uniformity in the sport so that no swimmer shall obtain unfair advantage over another.

It is not the purpose of the Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition of United States Masters Swimming (the national governing body) contained herein to set standards of care for the safety of the swimmer. Safety considerations should be addressed by the swimmer, the swim coach, and the local public entity or pool owner in whose facility events are held.

ARTICLE 101: STARTS, STROKES, AND RELAYS

101.1. STARTS

.1 Forward Start-The forward start may be taken from the starting block, the pool deck, or a push from the wall. On receiving clearance from the referee (for all events except backstroke and medley relay) the starter shall direct the swimmers to assume a position with at least one foot at the front of the block, the edge of the deck, or on the wall before the command "Take your mark." Those starting in the water must have at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting block.

.2 Backstroke Start

A Short course yards-The swimmers shall line up in the water facing the starting end with both hands placed on the gutter or on the starting grips. The feet may be placed in any position on the wall or on the gutter of the pool, and the swimmer may assume any desired starting position that does not remove either foot completely from the water, or either hand from the starting grips or the pool edge. Standing in or on the gutter is not permitted at any time before the start. A backstroke starting block may not be used.

B Short course meters and long course meters-The swimmers shall line up in the water facing the starting end with both hands placed on the gutter or on the starting grips. Prior to the command "Take your mark," and until the feet leave the wall at the starting signal, the swimmer's feet including the toes shall be placed under the surface of the water. Standing in or on the gutter is not permitted at any time before the start. A backstroke starting block may not be used.

101.2. BREASTSTROKE

.1 Start-The forward start shall be used.

.2 Stroke-From the beginning of the first arm stroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall be kept on the breast. The arms shall move simultaneously and in the same horizontal plane without any alternating movement. The hands shall be pushed forward together from the breast, on, under, or over the water. The elbows shall be under the water except for the last stroke at the finish of the prescribed distance. The hands shall be brought back on or under the surface of the water. The hands shall not be brought beyond the hipline, except during the first stroke after the start and each turn. Some part of the swimmer's head shall break the surface of the water at least once during each complete cycle of one arm stroke and one leg kick, in that order, except after the start and each turn the swimmer may take one arm stroke completely back to the legs and one leg kick while wholly submerged. The head must break the surface of the water before the hands turn inward at the widest part of the second stroke.

.3 Kick-All vertical and lateral movements of the legs shall be simultaneous. The feet must be turned outward during the propulsive part of the kick movement. A scissors, flutter, or downward butterfly kick is not permitted. Breaking the surface with the feet shall not merit disqualification unless followed by a downward butterfly kick.

.4 Turns-At each turn, the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during any part of the last complete or incomplete stroke cycle preceding the touch. Once a touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner desired. The shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall and the form prescribed in .2 must be attained from the beginning of the first arm stroke.

.5 Finish-At the finish the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface. The body shall be on the breast and the shoulders in line with the water surface. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during any part of the last complete or incomplete stroke cycle preceding the touch.

101.3. BUTTERFLY

.1 Start-The forward start shall be used.

.2 Stroke-After the start and after each turn, the swimmer's shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast. One or more leg kicks are permitted, but only one arm pull under water, which must bring the swimmer to the surface. It shall be permissible for a swimmer to be completely submerged for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and after each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface. The swimmer must remain on the surface until the next turn or finish. From the beginning of the first arm pull, the swimmer's shoulders shall be in line with the water surface. Both arms must be brought forward over the water and pulled back simultaneously.

.3 Kick-All up and down movements of the legs and feet must be simultaneous. The position of the legs and feet need not be on the same level, but they shall not alternate in relation to each other. The breaststroke or whip kick may be used exclusively or interchangeably with the dolphin kick while doing the butterfly stroke at any time during the race. However, when the breaststroke or whip kick is used, the arms must be recovered over the top of the water at least once per breaststroke kick, except after the last such kick before the turn or finish. A scissors kicking movement is not permitted.

.4 Turns-At each turn the body shall be on the breast. The touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface. Once a touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner desired. The shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall.

.5 Finish-At the finish the touch shall be made with both hands simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface. The body shall be on the breast and the shoulders in line with the water surface.

101.4. BACKSTROKE

.1 Start-The backstroke start shall be used.

.2 Stroke-Standing in or on the gutter (all courses) or curling the toes over the lip of the gutter (short course meters or long course meters) is not permitted immediately after the start. Swimmers shall push off on their backs and continue swimming on their backs throughout the race. Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and after each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface of the water.

.3 Turns-Upon completion of each length, some part of the swimmer must touch the wall. During the turn the shoulders may turn past the vertical toward the breast, after which a continuous single arm pull or a continuous simultaneous double arm pull may be used to initiate the turn. Once the body has left the position on the back, there shall be no kick or arm pull independent of a continuous turning action. The swimmer must have returned to a position on the back upon leaving the wall.

Note: The swimmer who turns past vertical and, in a continuous motion, grabs the wall before pushing off with the feet while on the back is considered to have executed a "continuous turning action."

.4 Finish-Upon the finish of the race, the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back.

101.5. FREESTYLE

.1 Start-The forward start shall be used.

.2 Stroke-Freestyle means that in an event so designated the swimmer may swim any style, except that in a medley relay or individual medley event, freestyle means any style other than butterfly, breaststroke, or backstroke. Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and each turn. By that point the head must have broken the surface.

.3 Turns-Upon completion of each length, the swimmer must touch the wall.

.4 Finish-The swimmer shall have finished the race when any part of the swimmer touches the wall after completing the prescribed distance.

101.6. INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY-The swimmer shall swim the prescribed distance in the following order: the first one-fourth, butterfly; the second one-fourth, backstroke; the third one-fourth, breaststroke; and the last one-fourth, freestyle.

.1 Start-The forward start shall be used.

.2 Stroke-The stroke for each one-fourth of the designated distance shall follow the prescribed rules for each stroke.

.3 Turns

A Intermediate turns within each stroke shall conform to the turn rules for that stroke.

B The turns when changing from one stroke to another shall conform to the finish rules for the stroke just completed, and shall be as follows:

1. Butterfly to backstroke-The swimmer must touch as described in Article 101.3.5. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the back when the swimmer leaves the wall.

2. Backstroke to breaststroke-The swimmer must touch the wall while on the back. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall and the prescribed breaststroke form must be attained prior to the first arm stroke.

3. Breaststroke to freestyle-The swimmer must touch as described in Article 101.2.5. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner.

.4 Finish-The swimmer shall have finished the race when any part of the swimmer touches the wall after completion of the prescribed distance.

101.7. RELAYS

.1 Freestyle Relay-Four swimmers on each team, each to swim one-fourth of the prescribed distance using any desired stroke(s). Freestyle finish rules apply.

.2 Medley Relay-Four swimmers on each team, each to swim one-fourth of the prescribed distance continuously in the following order: first, backstroke; second, breaststroke; third, butterfly; and fourth, freestyle. Rules pertaining to each stroke used shall govern where applicable. At the end of each leg, the finish rule for each stroke applies in each case.

.3 Rules Pertaining to Relay Races

A No swimmer shall swim more than one leg in any relay event.

B When automatic relay take-off judging is used, all swimmers must touch the touchplate or pad in their respective lanes at the end of the course to have finished their legs of the relay race.

C A swimmer other than the first swimmer shall not start until the previous swimmer's leg has been concluded.

D If a team member other than the swimmer designated to swim a particular leg jumps into or enters the pool in the area where the race is being conducted and before all swimmers of all teams have finished the race, both the offending swimmer and relay team shall be disqualified.

Note: An exception may be granted to a relay team member who wishes to enter the water to start from the water; this swimmer shall notify the starter and be careful not to disturb or interfere with another swimmer or the timing system pad when in use.

E All relay team members shall leave the water immediately upon finishing their legs.

Note: Swimmers who cannot exit the water quickly enough to prevent interference with automatic officiating equipment may be allowed to hold on to the lane line until all relays have finished, allowing them to exit the pool more slowly or via the ladders at the conclusion of the race.

F Mixed relays shall consist of two men and two women who may swim in any order.

G Competitors shall be allowed to swim only once per meet in each of the following relays: men's/women's 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle; and mixed 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle.

H The team of a swimmer whose feet have lost contact with the starting platform (ground, deck, or wall) before the preceding teammate touches the wall shall be disqualified.

ARTICLE 102: SWIMMING COMPETITION

102.1. ELIGIBILITY

.1 Swimmers 19 years of age and over may register with USMS. If an individual who has not achieved the age of 19 applies to register with USMS, the registration date shall be the individual's 19th birthdate.

.2 Those swimmers registered for Masters meets may participate in non-USMS aquatic activities, meetings, exhibitions, demonstrations, etc., without jeopardy to their eligibility to swim in USMS competition. However, any times achieved in non-sanctioned or non-recognized activities will not be recorded for official purposes and cannot be used for LMSC rankings or national Top Ten times, All-American status, or qualification times for USMS national championship meets.

102.2. AGE DETERMINING DATE-The eligibility of a participant for a particular age group will be determined by the age as of the last day of the meet.

102.3. AGE GROUPS

.1 Individual Events-19-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94, 95-99, 100-104 ... (5-year age groups as high as is necessary).

.2 Relay Events

A Short course (25) yard-19+, 25+, 35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+, 85+, 95+ ... (10-year increments as high as is necessary). The age of the youngest relay team member shall determine the age group. Relay teams must swim in the oldest age group for which they are eligible.

B Short course (25) meter and long course (50) meter-76-99, 100-119, 120-159, 160-199, 200-239, 240-279, 280-319, 320-359, 360-399 ... (40-year increments as high as is necessary). The aggregate age of the four relay team members shall determine the age group.

102.4. WARM-UP/WARM-DOWN

.1 Availability-If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of five lanes or more, one lane shall be set aside for warm-up/warm-down during the conduct of the meet. If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of four or fewer lanes, swimmers shall be allowed to swim to the other end of the pool at the end of each heat, and a warm-up/warm-down period shall be offered at least once during each half-hour of competition.

.2 Procedure-Swimmers must enter the pool feet first in a cautious manner. Diving shall be permitted only from the blocks in the designated lanes.

102.5. EVENTS-In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials, and spectators, in that order. Meets should be planned to terminate within a reasonable period of time each day. Planning should provide for adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

The following events may be conducted for each age group. It is not necessary to conduct all events in each meet. For long distance events, see Article 302.

.1 Short Course (25) Yards

50-100-200-500-1000-1650 yards freestyle

50-100-200 yards backstroke

50-100-200 yards breaststroke
50-100-200 yards butterfly
100-200-400 yards individual medley
200-400-800 yards freestyle relay
200-400-800 yards mixed freestyle relay (two female and two male)
200-400 yards medley relay
200-400 yards mixed medley relay (two female and two male)

.2 Long Course (50) Meters and Short Course (25) Meters

50-100-200-400-800-1500 meters freestyle
50-100-200 meters backstroke
50-100-200 meters breaststroke
50-100-200 meters butterfly
100*-200-400 meters individual medley
200-400-800 meters freestyle relay
200-400-800 meters mixed freestyle relay (two female and two male)
200-400 meters medley relay
200-400 meters mixed medley relay (two female and two male)
* Short Course Meters only

102.6. EVENT LIMIT-A swimmer may compete in not more than five individual events per day.

102.7. ENTRY FEES-Entry fee policies for local Masters events shall be set by the LMSC.

102.8. SCRATCH PROCEDURES-It is the swimmer's responsibility to be informed of the meet starting time and to report to the proper meet authorities promptly upon call. Meet announcements and advance information shall specify check-in and scratch procedures for individual and relay events.

.1 Penalties-Any swimmer or relay team not reporting for or competing in an event shall not be penalized.

102.9. RELAYS

.1 Relay teams may not compete unattached. In all cases, relay teams must be composed of USMS members of the same club, which is a member of the Corporation.

.2 Clubs entering two or more relay teams in an event shall designate them on the entry blank as team A, team B, etc.

.3 The best time or aggregate time of each relay team shall be entered on the entry blank for seeding purposes, and no change in time shall be permitted.

.4 On the relay card, relay teams must list the name of the registered swim club, the full name (as it appears on the USMS registration card), the age, and for mixed relays the sex of each relay member. The name of the lead-off swimmer must be clearly designated.

.5 First and last names of competing relay swimmers, their ages, and their order of swimming shall be declared to the clerk of course (if used) or to the head lane timer immediately prior to the start of the relay heat in which such team is entered. No changes will be permitted thereafter.

.6 The competing teams, first and last names of members, and their ages must be listed in the meet results.

102.10. LANE ASSIGNMENTS-SEEDING-COUNTERS

.1 Seeding Principles for Masters Competition

A All Masters events shall be conducted on a timed final basis.

B Age groups, sexes, and events of the same distance 200 yards or longer may be combined so that no swimmer has to swim alone and lanes may be filled.

C It is recommended that when swimmers are seeded by time and not by age groups, the fastest two swimmers in each age group should not be seeded into outside lanes. It is recommended that they be moved inward one lane or given the center lanes in the next slowest heat, whichever is the more appropriate placement.

D Seeding at meets other than national championship meets may be either fast-to-slow or slow-to-fast. Seeding may differ for sprint and distance events (events 400 yards or longer) within a meet. Women's and men's heats may be alternated in the distance events. The meet information shall state the seeding for all events.

E Heat and lane assignments for events of 200 meters or less shall be available to all competitors at least 5 minutes prior to the start of the event.

.2 Heat and Lane Assignments

A Seeding within heats-Within each heat, lanes shall be assigned in order of submitted times (fastest to slowest) in accordance with the following pattern:

Ten Lanes: 5-6-4-7-3-8-2-9-1-10

Nine Lanes: 5-6-4-7-3-8-2-9-1

Eight Lanes: 4-5-3-6-2-7-1-8

Seven Lanes: 4-5-3-6-2-7-1

Six Lanes: 3-4-2-5-1-6

Five Lanes: 3-4-2-5-1

Four Lanes: 2-3-1-4

B Minimum number of swimmers per heat-There shall be a minimum of three swimmers per heat whenever three or more swimmers have entered an event. The fastest heat shall be filled first, then the next fastest heat, etc.

C Fast-to-slow seeding-The first heat of each event shall be composed of the swimmers with the fastest submitted times, the second heat composed of the next fastest swimmers, etc.

D Slow-to-fast seeding-The last heat of each event shall be composed of the swimmers with the fastest submitted times, the next-to-last heat composed of the next fastest swimmers, etc.

.3 Seeding of Events in a 50-Meter Course

A Lane numbers-Lanes shall be numbered at the starting end of the pool in accordance with Article 107.4.3. If the event is started at the turning end of the course, no change in the lane numbering shall be made; i.e., the lanes shall be numbered the same on both ends of the course.

B Starting 50-meter events from the turning end of the course-When the course depth permits, 50-meter events may be started from the turning end of the course.

C Starting heats from alternate ends of the course-If only one course is available and the pool depth is adequate at both ends of the course, the meet director may choose to start heats from alternate ends of the course.

1. In 50-meter events, the in-the-water heat may be instructed to wait in the water after the finish until the next heat has been started.

2. In events 100 meters and longer, the next heat may be started when the in-the-water heat is within a half-length of the finish.

3. If the pool depth is different at alternate ends of the course, the meet director may choose to start men's events at one end of the course and women's events at the alternate end of the course. Men's and women's heats shall alternate.

4. If the pool depth is the same at alternate ends of the course, men's and women's heats may alternate.

.4 Two-to-a-Lane Seeding in Distance Freestyle Events

A General principles of seeding two-to-a-lane

1. Options to swim two-to-a-lane

a. At the discretion of the meet director, competitors in the freestyle events over 200 meters may be required to swim two-to-a-lane when only one course is available for the event. The meet information shall state the criteria under which such events are to be swum two-to-a-lane.

b. When competitors have an option of swimming two-to-a-lane, the heats with two competitors per lane will be completed before the heats with a single competitor per lane.

c. If, in the slowest/fastest heat, there are not enough swimmers to fill the lanes with two swimmers each, those swimmers may be seeded one-to-a-lane.

2. Men's/women's events

a. If men and women compete under the same event number, they shall be seeded by time without regard to sex.

b. If men and women compete under different event numbers, they shall be seeded separately by time.

c. If men and women compete under different event numbers, men's and women's heats should be alternated.

3. Heat designations-Heats shall be numbered consecutively without using alphabetical characters (e.g, no "A" and "B" heats). Heats shall be referred to as "odd" or "even" numbered heats. Odd and even heats shall be paired when seeding two-to-a-lane.

4. Reporting to the clerk of course-Swimmers in both odd and even heats shall be asked to report to the clerk of course (or to the starting area) at the same time.

5. Starting procedure-The starter shall call the odd heat to the starting block first. As soon as the odd heat is under way, swimmers in the even heat shall be called to the starting blocks. The even heat shall be started as soon as practical after the odd heat.

6. Lane etiquette

a. The starter shall instruct the swimmers to swim on one side of the lane during the entire race (e.g., no "circle" swimming).

b. Obstructing another swimmer by swimming across the lane or otherwise interfering with the swimmer shall disqualify the offender, subject to the discretion of the referee, and the disqualified offender shall be removed from the lane as soon as practical.

7. Timing-Separate timing shall be required for each swimmer.

B Methods of seeding two-to-a-lane (either method is recommended)

1. Swimmers of similar speed in the same heat

a. **Heat and lane assignments**-Lanes shall be assigned as in Article 102.10.2.

b. **Pairing of heats**-After lanes are assigned, heats shall be arranged in pairs beginning with either the slowest or fastest heats, at the meet director's discretion. The fastest heat within each pair shall be designated as the odd heat and the next-fastest heat as the even heat.

In the following example, for a six-lane pool, "1" refers to the fastest swimmer, "2" to the next-fastest swimmer, etc.

	Lane					
Heat	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6
Odd heat	5	3	1	2	4	6
Even heat	11	9	7	8	10	12

2. Swimmers of similar speed in the same lane-Groups of swimmers equal in number to twice the number of lanes of the pool (e.g., groups of twelve swimmers for a six-lane pool) shall be created. Each group of swimmers shall be divided into odd and even heats. The fastest swimmer in each group shall be assigned to a middle lane in the odd heat. The second-fastest swimmer shall be assigned to the same middle lane in the even heat. The remaining swimmers shall be assigned to lanes in accordance with Article 102.10.2A.

In the following example, for a six-lane pool, "1" refers to the fastest swimmer, "2" to the next-fastest swimmer, etc.

	Lane					
Heat	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6
Odd heat	9	5	1	3	7	11
Even heat	10	6	2	4	8	12

.5 Places-Places shall be determined on a time basis, subject to the order of finish within each heat. Any ties resulting from the procedure used shall be declared officially tied for awards and points, with no further attempt made at resolution.

.6 Counters

A A swimmer in any individual swimming event of 400 yards/meters or more, except the individual medley, may appoint one counter to call lengths or indicate lengths by visual sign.

B Verbal counters shall be limited to one per swimmer and shall be stationed at the end of the course opposite the starting end. They may use watches and signal intermediate times to the swimmer.

C If visual counters are used, they may be stationed at the end or either side of the pool beyond the halfway point toward the end of the course opposite the starting end. Visual counters may be lowered into the water at the end of the swimmer's lane, provided that, in the opinion of the referee, they neither physically aid the swimmer or interfere with another competitor or present any safety hazard.

D The count may be in ascending or descending order.

E In the event of official or counter error, it is the responsibility of the swimmer to complete the prescribed distance.

102.11. AWARDS-When two or more swimmers tie for any place, duplicate awards shall be given to each swimmer. In such cases, no awards shall be given for the place or places immediately following the tied positions. If two tie for first place, no award for second place; if three tie for first place, no awards for second and third, and so on.

102.12. SCORING-The following is recommended for all Masters Swimming competition.

.1 Dual Meets

Individual events: 5-3-1-0

Relay events: 7-0

.2 Triangular Meets

Individual events: 6-4-3-2-1-0

Relay events: 8-4-0

.3 Other Meets

Individual events:

4-lane pools: 5-3-2-1

5-lane pools: 6-4-3-2-1

6-lane pools: 7-5-4-3-2-1

7-lane pools: 8-6-5-4-3-2-1

8-lane pools: 9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

9-lane pools: 10-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

10-lane pools: 11-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

Individual point values shall be doubled for relays.

.4 Ties-Where two or more swimmers tie for any place in any event, the points credited to such place or places, if any, shall be equally divided among the swimmers; i.e., if two tie for first place, the points to be credited to first and second place shall be added and divided by two. Each tying swimmer will receive half of the total points for first and second places. If three tie for first place, the points credited to first, second, and third places shall be added and divided by three, and so on for four or more tying for first place. The same is true for those tying for second place, third place, and whatever places there may be.

.5 Disqualifications-When a relay team or individual swimmer is disqualified, the following places will move up accordingly and points will be awarded to conform to the new places.

102.13. CHANGE OF PROGRAM AND POSTPONEMENT

.1 The order of events, as stated in the meet announcement, shall not be changed. The announced arrangement of heats in any event shall not be added to or altered, except by the authority of the referee to the extent of consolidating the heats.

.2 The entry provisions and starting time of any event, meet, or portion thereof shall stand as stated in the meet announcement (except as permitted in Article 102.13.3) and may not be changed to an earlier time or date unless written notice of such change is delivered to all affected swimmers or their coaches. If mailed, such notice must be postmarked no later than the entry deadline date stated in the meet announcement, and if lack of time prohibits mail notification, all affected swimmers must voluntarily agree in writing that they have been notified and are in accord with such change. Affected swimmers or coaches may and should file a written protest with the referee prior to the running of the event or the meet if they do not agree to such change in time or date.

.3 Postponement or Cancellation

A If, prior to the start of a meet or event, unusual or severe weather or other conditions preclude the possibility of safely and effectively conducting a meet or event, the meet committee may cancel or postpone it.

B Should a meet or event have actually commenced, and in the judgment of the referee cannot safely and effectively continue because of weather conditions or for some other compelling reason, the meet or event may be suspended at the referee's sole discretion until conditions warrant continuance. If conditions do not warrant continuance, the referee may cancel the meet or postpone it to a future date or time, with the approval of the meet committee.

C A decision to cancel or postpone shall be final.

D Should an event have actually commenced but be terminated prior to an official finish, and be postponed to another time or date, it shall then be conducted among the swimmers who were officially competing in the event at the time of termination.

E Entry fees for teams or swimmers may be refunded, in whole or part, at the discretion of the meet committee, upon cancellation of a meet or particular event. The decision of the meet committee on refunding may be appealed to the officers of the LMSC (local or regional meets) or the USMS Championship Committee (national championship meets).

102.14. COSTUME

.1 Design-Swimmers' costumes shall be non-transparent and conform to the current concept of the appropriate. The referee shall have authority to bar offenders from competition under this rule until they appear properly costumed.

.2 Advertising-Products involving tobacco, alcohol, or pharmaceuticals containing drugs banned under IOC or FINA rules may not be advertised, but the advertiser's name only may be used.

102.15. DISQUALIFICATIONS

- .1 A disqualification can be made only by the official within whose jurisdiction the infraction has been committed.
- .2 Any swimmer who acts in an unsportsmanlike or unsafe manner within the swimming venue may be considered for appropriate action or penalty at the discretion of the referee.
- .3 Swimmers must start and finish the race in their assigned lane.
- .4 Standing on the bottom during a freestyle race shall not disqualify swimmers, but they must not leave the pool, or walk, or spring from the bottom. Standing on the bottom during any other stroke shall result in disqualification.
- .5 Obstructing another swimmer by swimming across the lane or otherwise interfering with the swimmer shall disqualify the offender, subject to the discretion of the referee.
- .6 Dipping goggles in the water or splashing water on the competitor's face or body prior to the event shall not be considered as entering the pool unless the referee finds that such action is interfering with the competition.
- .7 Should a foul endanger the chance of success of a swimmer, the referee may order the heat reswum, or allow the competitor to swim in a later heat. In the case of collusion to foul another swimmer, at the referee's discretion, the swimmer for whose aid the foul was committed may be disqualified, as well as the swimmer doing the fouling.
- .8 Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help their speed or buoyancy during a race. Goggles may be worn and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the referee.
- .9 Grasping the lane line or side wall to assist forward motion is not permitted.
- .10 For relay disqualifications, refer to Article 101.7.3.
- .11 The time, place, and/or initial splits of any swimmer or relay team disqualified either during or following an event shall not be recorded in the results of that event. If awards have been made prior to the decision to disqualify, they shall be returned and made to the proper recipient(s), and if points have been scored by those disqualified, the event shall be rescored.
- .12 Time and/or place officially recorded for a swimmer shall not be nullified for violations occurring subsequent to such performance.

102.16. PROTESTS

- .1 Until final action is determined, results of any race conducted under protest, or of any protested race, shall not be announced and no awards for that race shall be presented or scoring of points allowed unless the protest is officially withdrawn.
- .2 Protests affecting the eligibility of any swimmer to compete or to represent an organization in any race shall be made in writing to the meet director or referee before the race is held, and if the meet

committee deems it advisable, the swimmer may compete under protest and it shall be so announced before the race. The meet committee shall immediately refer such protest to the LMSC officers (local meets) or championship meet protest committee (national championship meets; see Article 104.5.9B) having jurisdiction for adjudication at the earliest possible time.

.3 Protests against judgment decisions of starters, and stroke, turn, and relay take-off judges can only be considered by the referee of the meet.

.4 Any other protest arising from the competition itself shall be made within 30 minutes after the race in which the alleged infraction took place. If the protest is not resolved immediately, the protester shall at that time file a written protest with the chairman of the LMSC or the chairman's representative having jurisdiction over the event. If the LMSC does not satisfactorily resolve the protest within 10 days, the protester may appeal in writing to the USMS Rules Committee chairman within the next 5 days for final adjudication, whose decision shall then be binding on all parties.

102.17. SMOKING-No smoking indoors or outdoors shall be permitted in any area designated for swimmers, including spectator seating, standing, and eating areas used by swimmers during the meet and during the warm-up periods in connection with the meet.

ARTICLE 103: MEET PERSONNEL AND THEIR DUTIES

103.1. REQUIRED OFFICIALS-The minimum number of officials at USMS sanctioned Masters Swimming meets or recognized events shall include the following for each course:

.1 Officials

A One referee-The referee may also serve as a stroke and turn judge, but shall not serve as starter.

B One starter-The starter may also serve as a stroke and turn judge.

C Two stroke and turn judges-At least two people shall perform these duties during competition.

.2 Timers-Two timers per lane if automatic timing is not being used. One timer per lane if automatic timing is used.

103.2. CERTIFICATION OF OFFICIALS-The referee shall be certified as a stroke and turn judge, starter, or referee by USS, YMCA, or any other USMS-approved certifying body.

103.3. REPORTING OF OFFICIALS AND MEET PERSONNEL-All officials and meet personnel accepting an invitation to work at a swimming meet should arrive promptly and report immediately to the meet director or meet referee.

103.4. MEET DIRECTOR-The meet director shall be the chairman of the meet committee and is responsible for the overall operation of the meet.

103.5. MEET COMMITTEE-Appointed by the meet sponsor. The committee consists of a minimum of the meet director, referee or starter, and a participating athlete, as appointed by the meet director prior to the start of the meet. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: ordering awards;

obtaining a sanction; preparing the facility; arranging for personnel, equipment, and supplies necessary for meet operation; processing entries; printing programs; arranging appropriate publicity and media coverage; preparing and distributing summary of results within 14 days after the meet; and filing LMSC report.

103.6. REFEREE

.1 The referee shall have full authority over all officials and shall assign and instruct them; shall enforce all applicable rules and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet, the final settlement of which is not otherwise assigned by said rules; can overrule any meet official on a point of rule interpretation or on a judgment decision pertaining to an action that has been personally observed; and shall disqualify a swimmer(s) for any violations of the rules that have been personally observed and shall at the same time raise one hand overhead with open palm. If no signal is made, there shall be no penalty. The referee or designated official making a disqualification shall make every reasonable effort to seek out the swimmer and/or the swimmer's coach and inform them of the reason for the disqualification.

.2 The referee shall signal the starter before each race that all officials are in position, that the course is clear, and that the competition can begin; shall assign marshals with specific instructions.

.3 The referee shall give a decision on any point where the opinions of the judges differ; shall have authority to intercede in a competition at any stage to ensure that the racing conditions are observed.

.4 When automatic or semi-automatic officiating equipment is used and an apparent malfunction occurs, it shall be the referee's responsibility to make an immediate investigation to determine whether the swimmer finished in accordance with the rules and/or if there was an actual equipment malfunction.

.5 The referee may prohibit the use of any bell, siren, horn, or other artificial noisemaker during the meet.

.6 The referee may modify any rule for a swimmer who has a disability identified in Article 108. Such modification shall be based on recommendations of the national sports organizations for the identified disability. It shall be the responsibility of the swimmer or a representative to notify the referee of the disability prior to competition.

.7 When conducting events from alternate ends of a 50-meter course or conducting freestyle events longer than 200 meters two-to-a-lane, the referee shall establish the necessary administrative and officiating procedures to conform to Article 102.10.

.8 Refer to Article 102.16 concerning protests.

103.7. STARTER

.1 Preparation

A An electronic starting horn, with or without an underwater recall device, with an electronic strobe signal, is the preferred starting device. A gun of at least .22 caliber may be used.

B The starter shall be stationed within 10 feet of the starting end of the pool. The visual starting signal shall be clearly visible to all swimmers and timers and the starting signal shall be audible to all the starting positions.

C Upon signal from the referee, the starter assumes full control of swimmers until a fair start has been achieved.

D The starter notifies the swimmers of the distance and the event.

E Optional instructions

1. Indicate the stroke(s) to be used and the order of swimming them.

2. Indicate the number of pool lengths to be swum.

3. Advise heat when a swimmer is attempting a time at an initial distance.

4. Notify relay swimmers that all but the last swimmer must leave the pool immediately upon completion of their legs. Swimmers who cannot exit the water quickly enough to prevent interference with automatic officiating equipment may be allowed to hold onto the lane line until all relays have finished, allowing them to exit the pool more slowly or via the ladders at the conclusion of the race.

.2 Starts (see Article 101.1)

.3 Starting Commands

A After the referee's whistle, the starter gives the command "Take your mark," to which the swimmers shall respond at once by assuming starting positions. Sufficient time should follow the command "Take your mark" to enable swimmers to assume a starting position, but no swimmer shall be in motion immediately before the starting signal is given.

B For backstroke starts, the starter may give the command "Place your feet" after the referee's whistle.

C When all swimmers are motionless in the starting position, the starter gives the starting signal.

.4 Warning Signal-In all events 500 yards or longer except relays, the starter or a designee shall sound a warning signal over the water at the finish end of the lane of the leading swimmer when that swimmer has two lengths plus 5 yards (or meters) to swim.

.5 False Starts

A When a swimmer does not respond promptly to the command "Take your mark" or false starts before the starting signal is given, the starter shall immediately release all swimmers with the command "Stand up," upon which the swimmers may stand up or step off the blocks. Any swimmer who enters the water or any backstroker who leaves the starting area shall be charged with a false start, except that a swimmer who would otherwise be charged with the false start may be relieved of the charge if the false start was caused by the swimmer's reaction to the command "Stand up."

B All swimmers leaving their marks before the starting signal is given shall be charged with a false start, except that a swimmer who has false started because of the action or movement of another competitor may be relieved of the responsibility for the false start and a false start may be charged only to the offender. (Note exception for deliberate delay or misconduct in Article 103.7.6.)

C In backstroke or medley relay events, a false start may be charged to any swimmer who fails to maintain the feet and/or hands in a legal position after the first warning.

D When the starting signal is given and one or more swimmers have obtained an unfair advantage, all swimmers shall be recalled at once by a second signal.

E A swimmer can be charged with a false start by the starter or recall starter only if the referee or an officially designated assistant referee has observed the violation and confirms that the violation occurred.

F The starter shall indicate the swimmer or swimmers, if any, who are charged with a false start.

G Any swimmer who is charged with committing or causing a false start shall be disqualified and shall not be permitted to swim the event. This rule shall not apply to USMS international events, the Pan Pacific Aquatic Games, or FINA World Championships, where current FINA false start rules shall apply.

H A swimmer shall not be disqualified for an illegal starting position at the start or charged with a false start if the race is permitted to proceed without recall. Enforcement of the correct starting position is the responsibility of the starter, who may impose the appropriate penalty for violation before the starting signal is given.

.6 Deliberate Delay or Misconduct

A Any swimmer who delays the start by entering the water or by willfully or deliberately disobeying a starter's command to step on the blocks or to take a starting position, or takes part in any other misconduct at the start, can be disqualified from the event by the starter with the concurrence of the referee.

B A swimmer who fails to appear at the starting platform ready to swim in time for the initial start of the swimmer's heat shall be disqualified by the referee.

103.8. RECALL STARTER-A recall starter may be assigned to immediately discharge a recall sound device if the automatic equipment is not properly functioning on the starting signal or if a false start has been observed. The position of the recall starter and the type of signal to be used shall be made known to the swimmers. The recall starter may also be assigned to assist the starter in any desired manner.

103.9. RECALL ROPE OPERATOR-The duty of the recall rope operator shall be to immediately, upon sounding of the false start signal, activate the quick release mechanism of the recall rope so that the recall rope drops across the course before any swimmer has swum approximately 11 meters (36 feet) from the starting end in short course and 15 meters (49 feet) in long course. If the recall rope is equipped in such a way as to allow the recall starter to operate the quick release mechanism

immediately upon sounding of the false start signal (see Article 107.15), the duties of the recall rope operator and the recall starter may be combined.

103.10. JUDGES-Shall have jurisdiction over the swimmers immediately after the race has begun.

.1 Chief-An overall "chief judge" may assign and supervise the activities of all stroke, turn, and take-off judges and may report their decisions, or, if desired, any judging category may have a designated "chief." Any "chief" may act as liaison for the judges and may serve simultaneously in one of the judging positions, and shall assign those judges within the category.

.2 Stroke Judges-Shall operate on both sides of the pool, preferably walking abreast of the swimmers during all strokes except freestyle, during which events they may leave poolside, at the referee's discretion; shall ensure that the rules relating to the style of swimming designated for the event are being observed; and shall report any violations to the referee on signed slips detailing the event, the heat number, the lane number, the swimmer's name, and the infraction observed.

.3 Turn Judges-Shall operate on both ends of the pool; shall ensure that when turning or finishing the swimmer complies with the turning and finishing rules applicable to the stroke used; and shall report any violations to the referee on signed slips detailing the event, the heat number, the lane number, the swimmer's name, and the infraction observed.

.4 Jurisdiction of Stroke and Turn Judges-Before the competition begins, the referee shall determine the respective areas of stroke and turn responsibility and jurisdiction, which may include joint, concurrent, and coordinated responsibility and jurisdiction. The referee shall ensure that all swimmers shall have fair, equitable, and uniform conditions of judging.

.5 Relay Take-Off Judges

A After the start of the race, the relay take-off judges shall position themselves with a clear view of the relay exchange area. Relay exchanges shall be observed by a minimum of two officials acting independently of each other. One of them shall be assigned to the side of the course. The other may be assigned next to the lane, on the other side of the course, or next to the first official.

B When automatic relay take-off judging equipment is available and in use, take-off judges will be assigned to each lane and stationed as described above. A team will be disqualified only when there is dual confirmation of an illegal take-off (i.e., visual and automatic equipment).

.6 Infraction Signal-Either the referee or the stroke, turn, or relay take-off judge shall immediately raise one hand overhead with open palm upon observing an infraction within that judge's jurisdiction. If the official does not do so, there shall be no disqualification.

Exception: Relay take-off judges as outlined in Article 103.5.5B.

103.11. TIMERS

.1 Chief Timer-The chief timer shall:

A Assure the assignment of lane timers to lanes and the designation of one timer on each lane to be the head lane timer.

B On the starting signal, start a watch(es) on every race. The time of this watch shall be used if a lane timer's watch fails.

C Be responsible for delivering all manual watch times, including those of disqualified swimmers, to the timing judge.

.2 Head Lane Timer-The head lane timer shall:

A Determine whether the swimmer or relay team is present and in the correct lane, heat, and event, and that relay swimmers are swimming in the order listed.

B Determine and record manual watch times or the absence of a swimmer or the relay team seeded in that lane.

C Assign one timer to take relay splits and initial distance times if requested by the chief timer.

D Determine and report if the swimmer has delayed in touching or has missed the touch pad at the finish.

.3 Lane Timers-Officials assigned as lane timers may simultaneously operate two dissimilar devices (one watch and one button) but not two similar devices (two watches or two buttons). It is not within a lane timer's jurisdiction to judge if the swimmer's touch conforms to the applicable finish rules or if a relay take-off infraction has occurred unless assigned concurrent responsibility as a lane timer and turn judge or relay take-off judge. Each timer shall:

A Be in position at the start to have an unobstructed view and shall start the watch at the instant of observing the visual starting signal. If the visual signal is not observed, the watch shall be started upon hearing the sound of the horn or gun.

B Stand directly over the assigned lane at the finish to observe a touch above, at, or below the surface of the water and stop the watch and/or push the semi-automatic system button when any part of the swimmer's body touches the wall.

C Report the watch time to the head lane timer or the designated recorder; report if a late or missed pad touch is observed; and, if requested, present the watch for inspection. Lane timers shall not clear their watches until a command to "clear watches" is given or the referee signals that the next heat is ready to start.

.4 Timing Equipment Operator-The timing equipment operator shall be responsible for the automatic or semi-automatic timing equipment, including the electronic starting system and scoreboard (if used), and shall advise the referee of any system problems that might affect the accuracy of times or whenever the touchpad is observed to have failed to record the finish when the swimmer completed the race.

.5 Timing Judge-Under the direction of the referee, the timing judge shall determine the official time for each swimmer as follows:

A Receive and review the automatic and/or semi-automatic timing results from the timing equipment operator and compare primary timing results with the back-up timing results to determine their validity.

B Receive the times recorded by the head lane timers from the chief timer and use those times to the extent needed to determine the official time for each swimmer.

C Notify the referee whenever a time obtained by the primary timing system cannot be used as the official time.

D Record disqualifications approved by the referee. A written record of all disqualifications signed by the referee shall be given to the recorder.

.6 Recorder-There shall be two recorders and the number of assistants deemed necessary to receive and record all times and all disqualifications for each event and to furnish all pertinent information to the recorder of records, scorers, press, TV, announcer, and meet secretary. The recorder shall:

A Record the official times and disqualifications.

B Determine the official order of finish.

C Post results, or otherwise make them available to the competitors, of each event by sex and USMS age group as promptly as possible after the completion of each event.

D Determine the score of the meet (optional).

103.12. TIMING EQUIPMENT

.1 Timing System Definitions

A Automatic-A timing system started by an electric impulse generated by a starting device or a transducer capable of detecting a gun report and stopped at the finish by the swimmer touching the touchpad.

B Semi-automatic-A timing system started by an electric impulse generated by a starting device or transducer capable of detecting a gun report and stopped by buttons pushed by timers at the finish touch of the swimmer.

C Manual-A timing system operated by individual lane timers, each of whom operates a manual watch that is both started and stopped by the timer as described in Article 103.6.3. Only digital read-out type hand-held battery powered watches designed for timing purposes shall be used.

.2 Timing System Designation-Timing systems shall be designated in the order in which results are used as follows:

A Primary system-The primary system shall determine the official time of each swimmer unless a comparison of the primary with secondary and/or tertiary system times indicates a malfunction of the primary system. A primary system shall always be in place and shall consist of one of the following, listed in their preferred order of use:

1. Automatic timing
2. Semi-automatic, with three or two buttons per lane, each operated by a separate timer.
3. Manual, with three or two watches per lane, each operated by a separate timer.

B Secondary system-If manually operated watches are not the primary system, a secondary system of precedence equal to or lower than the primary system shall be used. The secondary system may be:

1. Semi-automatic with one, two, or three buttons, each operated by a separate timer.
2. Manual with one, two, or three watches per lane, each operated by a separate timer.

C Tertiary system-Unless the primary system consists of manual watches or the secondary system includes at least one manual watch per lane, a tertiary system of at least one manual watch per lane shall be provided.

.3 Timing Resolution (Timing Accuracy)-All timing systems, including manual watches, shall have a resolution of .01 second. Times from all systems shall be recorded to hundredths of a second. The digits representing thousandths shall be dropped with no rounding.

.4 Determination of Official Time

A Automatic timing-When recorded by properly operating automatic timing equipment, the pad time shall be the official time. The placings and times so determined shall have precedence over the decisions of human judges and timers. In the case of malfunction, secondary information from a semi-automatic timing and judging device with one or more officials per lane shall be used and integrated with primary information.

B Semi-automatic or manual timing-Whenever semi-automatic or manual timing is used, the official time shall be determined as follows:

1. If two of the three button or watch times agree, that shall be the time for that timing system.
2. If all three buttons or watches disagree, the time of the intermediate button or watch shall be the time for that timing system.
3. If only two button or watch times are available, the time shall be the average of those two button or watch times. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.
4. If only one button or watch time is available, the time of that button or watch shall be the time for that timing system.

C Primary timing system malfunction-A primary timing system malfunction may have occurred if:

1. The difference between the time obtained by the primary system and the back-up system(s) is more than .30 second.
2. A late or missed touch is reported by an official observing the finish.

D Adjustment for the timing system difference-When the referee determines that there is a malfunction of the primary timing system, the back-up time(s) shall be adjusted for the timing system difference prior to integrating them with accurate primary times in establishing the official times and determining the order of finish. The adjustment for timing system difference may be incorporated into the automatic or semi-automatic system by design or may be determined by calculating the consistent average difference between the primary and back-up systems used at that meet.

E Adjustment for malfunction on a lane-When a malfunction is confirmed on a lane, the back-up times for that lane shall be adjusted by calculating the average difference between valid primary and valid back-up times of the other lanes in that heat. This shall be done by adding, or subtracting when appropriate, that average difference to the valid back-up time of the lane where the malfunction occurred.

EXAMPLE (LANE MALFUNCTION):

Systems used:

Primary-Automatic

Secondary-Semi-automatic, three buttons (intermediate button time shown in **bold**)

Tertiary-Manual, one watch

Lane	Primary Pad Time	Button A	Button B	Button C	Watch Time	Pad Minus Middle Button	Official Time
1	52.21	52.07	52.12	52.14	52.04	.09	52.21
2	52.18	52.01	51.91	52.06	51.95	.17	52.18
3	51.05	51.01	50.97	51.00	50.95	.05	51.05
4	51.04	50.78	50.88	50.93	50.84	.16	51.04
5	51.96	51.30	51.35	51.38	51.27	*.61	**51.46
6	51.65	51.57	51.56	51.59	51.55	.08	51.65
7	52.27	52.13	52.18	52.13	52.10	.14	52.27
8	51.87	51.58	51.75	51.89	51.65	.12	51.87

*More than .30 second difference, late touch confirmed.

**Adjustment calculation: Add the differences between pad and intermediate button time, excluding the malfunctioning lane (total = .81). Divide total by the number of valid lanes to determine the

average (.817 = .11571). The digits after hundredths are dropped (leaving a timing system difference of .11 for the above example). Add the timing system difference to the valid back-up time for the malfunctioning lane (51.35 + .11 = 51.46, the official time for lane 5).

F Adjustment for malfunction equally affecting an entire heat-When, because of an early or late start, or other equipment or operator malfunction, the time of the automatic or semi-automatic primary timing system is equally incorrect for all lanes in a heat, but the order of finish and thus the absolute difference of time between the swimmers is accurate, the average difference between the primary times and the valid back-up times is added, or subtracted when appropriate, to the primary times of every lane in that heat.

EXAMPLE (HEAT MALFUNCTION):

Systems used:

Primary-Automatic (late manual start confirmed)

Secondary-Semi-automatic, three buttons (button times not valid)

Tertiary-Manual, one watch (valid)

Lane	Primary Pad Time	Watch Time	Watch Time Less Pad Time	Heat Adjustment	Official Time
1	52.12	55.14	3.02	+ 3.06	55.18
2	51.56	54.61	3.05	+ 3.06	54.62
3	51.09	54.18	3.09	+ 3.06	54.15
4	50.12	53.18	3.06	+ 3.06	53.18
5	49.78	52.90	3.12	+ 3.06	52.84
6	49.06	52.06	3.00	+ 3.06	52.12
7	52.21	55.30	3.09	+ 3.06	55.27
8	52.92	55.99	3.07	+ 3.06	55.98

Adjustment calculation: Add the differences between the pad and watch times (total = 24.50). Divide the total by the number of lanes to determine an average (24.50 / 8 = 3.0625). The digits after hundredths are dropped (leaving a heat adjustment of 3.06). Add the adjustment factor for the late start of the primary system to each pad time to obtain the official time for that lane (e.g, lane 1: 52.12 + 3.06 = 55.18).

103.13. OFFICIAL TIME

.1 An official time shall be achieved in a USMS sanctioned competition or recognized event in accordance with all applicable rules. It may be achieved in:

A A timed final heat.

B An initial distance within a longer event, provided the swimmer:

1. Notifies, in writing, the meet referee of the intent to record an initial split time,
2. Completes the initial distance with a legal finish, and
3. Completes the event without being disqualified.

C A relay lead-off leg provided the swimmers complete the event without being disqualified.

.2 An official time for any swimming event can be achieved only in the relevant stroke/event (e.g., backstroke time must be achieved in a backstroke event). A time achieved in a freestyle event can only be recorded as a freestyle time regardless of the stroke used.

.3 The official time to establish records and Top Ten times can be achieved only in accordance with the following timing methods:

Timing method	Official time level
Automatic timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World records, USMS national records, and USMS Top Ten times• Initial splits for all purposes• Relay lead-off times for all purposes
Three watches or semi-automatic with three buttons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World records, USMS national records, and USMS Top Ten times• Initial splits and relay lead-off times for world records only
Two watches or semi-automatic with two buttons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• USMS Top Ten times

.4 World records may be established when timed by three watches.

.5 Except when the primary system consists of watches, backup timing shall be provided for all competitors. No swimmer shall be required to reswim a race due to equipment failure that results in unrecorded or inaccurate time or place. It is the meet director's responsibility to provide the proper timing systems so that swimmers can expect to achieve official times that will satisfy the above requirements.

.6 A backup time adjusted for system timing errors in accordance with the methods described in Articles 103.7.4C, 103.7.4D, 103.7.4E, and 103.7.4F may be used as an official time equal to the level of the timing system to which it has been adjusted.

.7 Secondary and tertiary times shall be recorded but shall not be used except to corroborate or correct missing or inaccurate primary/secondary results.

103.14. CLERK OF COURSE

.1 The clerk of course shall be provided with an area clearly marked "clerk of course" where all swimmers must report as soon as their event is called.

.2 The clerk of course shall be provided with a list of the names of all swimmers in all events including relay swimmers in the order in which they will swim.

.3 All scratches which have occurred after the printing of the heat sheet shall be reported to the clerk of course. The clerk of course shall notify the referee and scoring desk of any changes to the seeding of an event.

103.15. MARSHALS-Shall enforce warm-up procedures and maintain order in the swimming venue. The marshal shall have full authority to warn or order to cease and desist, and, with the concurrence of the referee, to remove, or have removed from the swimming venue anyone behaving in an unsafe manner or using profane or abusive language, or whose actions are disrupting the orderly conduct of the meet.

103.16. ANNOUNCER-The announcer shall make any announcements requested by the referee, the clerk of course, or the meet management. Announcements may include:

- Event
- Number of heats
- Lane, name, and club affiliation of competitors
- Results

103.17. RECORDER OF RECORDS-Shall obtain from the official recorder all times made in each event, shall have proper application forms, and shall duly process all record claims as set forth in Article 105.

103.18. PRESS STEWARD-The press steward shall obtain from the clerk of course and the recorders the names of all swimmers in each event and the results of each finish with times or record performances, and shall keep the press and TV personnel thoroughly informed on all details of the competition during the meet.

ARTICLE 104: NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

(Recommended for all championship meets when possible)

104.1. MEET CATEGORIES-USMS national championship meets shall be awarded in the following categories and held during the following dates:

.1 Short Course (25 Yards)-Between April 15 and May 31.

.2 Long Course (50 Meters)-Between August 1 and September 15.

104.2. MEET NAME-The official name shall be (insert year) United States Masters Swimming National (insert Short or Long) Course Championships.

104.3. AWARDING OF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

.1 Meet Rotation System-National championship meets shall be awarded using the three-area system as set forth below. (See [Appendix D](#) for map of areas.)

Year	Area 1 West	Area 2 Central	Area 3 East
1997	-	SC	LC
1998	LC	-	SC
1999	SC	LC	-
2000	-	SC	LC
2001	LC	-	SC
2002	SC	LC	-

A Area 1-Area 1 shall be composed of the following LMSCs: Alaska, Hawaii, Inland Northwest, Montana, Oregon, Pacific, Pacific Northwest, San Diego-Imperial, Snake River, Southern Pacific, and Wyoming.

B Area 2-Area 2 shall be composed of the following LMSCs: Arizona, Arkansas, Border, Central, Colorado, Gulf, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Michigan, Midwestern, Minnesota, Missouri Valley, New Mexico, North Dakota, North Texas, Ohio, Oklahoma, Ozark, South Dakota, South Texas, Southeastern, Southern, Utah, and Wisconsin.

C Area 3-Area 3 shall be composed of the following LMSCs: Adirondack, Allegheny Mountain, Connecticut, Delaware Valley, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Maryland, Metropolitan, New England, New Jersey, Niagara, North Carolina, Potomac Valley, South Carolina, and Virginia.

.2 Bidding Procedures

A Solicitation of bids-The USMS Championship Committee shall be responsible for the solicitation of bids in accordance with the area rotation system outlined in Article 104.3.1, and shall present a list of all certified bidders for each short and long course championships to the House of Delegates at the annual meeting held at least two years prior to the meet being awarded.

B Eligible bidders-A national championship meet shall be awarded only to an LMSC or a club with the endorsement of its LMSC. In either event, the facility to be used must be in accordance with the facility standards which have been adopted by USMS, Inc.

C Bid information-The Championship Committee shall provide a bidder with the appropriate bid documents, financial statements from previous championships, and all other information pertaining to the policies and procedures of running a national championship meet.

D Bid deadline-All bids for a national championship meet shall be returned to the chairman of the Championship Committee no later than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

E Failure to receive bid-Failure of the Championship Committee to receive a suitable bid from the proper area shall negate the rotation system for that meet only and shall not affect the future normal rotation.

F Out-of-area bids-In the event that suitable bids are not received from the designated area 30 days prior to the annual meeting, then the chairman of the Championship Committee shall notify all zone representatives that bidding is open to all areas, provided the bids comply with Article 104.3.2B, and are received prior to the start of the annual meeting of USMS, Inc.

G Certification of bids-Prior to the annual meeting, the Championship Committee shall certify each bid for compliance with its policies and procedures, including facilities standards (Article 107).

H Awarding of bids-At the annual meeting of the House of Delegates, those bids that are certified shall be presented. The awarding of the bid shall be made by majority vote of the House of Delegates.

I Out-of-rotation meet-It is in the best interest of Masters Swimming to rotate the awarding of national championship meets. The Championship Committee shall have the right to override the procedures set forth above with the concurrence of three-fourths of the House of Delegates.

104.4. USMS ASSISTANCE AND AGREEMENTS

.1 Contract-Successful bidders of national championship meets shall sign a written contract with USMS specifying the responsibilities of the meet host and of USMS.

.2 Payments-Successful bidders of national championship meets shall pay to United States Masters Swimming, Inc., no later than 10 days prior to the beginning of the meet, a fee of \$10 per individual entrant in the meet. Upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the meet contract, the sum of \$2 per entrant shall be returned as stipulated in the contract. Noncompliance with said conditions, as determined by the meet evaluation committee within 30 days of the receipt of the final meet report, shall result in forfeiture of part or all of this amount. An additional amount of up to \$1 per entrant may be returned for outstanding performance by the host.

.3 Assistance to Meet Host-The Championship Committee shall provide such assistance and guidance necessary to provide uniformity in national championship meet production. Out-of-pocket expenses for services shall be reimbursed by USMS, Inc.

.4 Meet Evaluation Committee-A five-member meet evaluation committee shall be composed of at least three Championship Committee members, plus two additional USMS members who are knowledgeable in championship procedures. No member of the protest committee, host club, or host LMSC may serve on the meet evaluation committee. A written evaluation shall be submitted to the meet host.

.5 Meet Report-The meet director of each national championship meet shall submit a written report to the chairman of the Championship Committee within 60 days of the end of competition. This report shall include a complete financial report, copies of meet information, entry forms, heat sheets, and final results, and any other information that may be helpful to future meet directors.

104.5. CONDUCT OF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS-Conduct of national championship meets shall be governed by the swimming rules of USMS, Inc.

.1 Information for Participants

A General meeting-A general meeting of the House of Delegates, members of the Championship Committee, organizing personnel, interested officials, coaches, and swimmers shall be held the evening prior to the first day of the meet.

1. The meeting date, time, and location shall be included in the official meet information.
2. The chairman of this meeting shall be the president of USMS, or an individual designated by the president, and the governing body shall be the House of Delegates of USMS.
3. Business pertinent to the operation of national championship meets and the conduct of the events shall be considered and finalized at this meeting. Changes may be effected in the conduct of the meet to fit the situation.
4. Since changes can be made in the operation of a national championship meet, it is the obligation of every swimmer (or a representative) to arrive with enough time to complete registration and become apprised of any changes that have been made.
5. It shall be the meet director's responsibility to post notices of changes in conspicuous places at the pool, registration area, and headquarters area prior to the start of the first day's competition.

B Warm-up schedule-A list of times when the competition pool and other facilities will be available for warm-up shall be provided in the pre-meet information.

C Heat sheets-Heat sheets listing name, age, club, seed time, and heat and lane assignments for pre-seeded events and entry lists by time for deck-seeded events, except relays, shall be made available to all swimmers at the time of registration.

.2 Program-A 4-day program for national championship meets will be used. With the approval of the Championship Committee, a 5-day program may be used.

A Meet schedules (1997-1998)

Schedule 1 1998 Short Course	Schedule 2 1997 Short Course 1998 Long Course	Schedule 3 1997 Long Course
<u>1st Day</u> 200 backstroke 50 freestyle 200 IM 50 butterfly 100 breaststroke 200 mixed medley relay 400/500 freestyle (women)	<u>1st Day</u> 400/500 freestyle (men) 50 breaststroke 100 butterfly 200 IM 50 freestyle 200 backstroke 200 mixed free relay	<u>1st Day</u> 400/500 freestyle (men) 100 breaststroke 200 butterfly 50 backstroke 200 IM 100 freestyle 200 mixed free relay
<u>2nd Day</u> 100 IM* 200 butterfly 100 freestyle 200 breaststroke	<u>2nd Day</u> 400/500 freestyle (women) 100 IM* 200 breaststroke	<u>2nd Day</u> 400/500 freestyle (women) 50 freestyle 100 butterfly

50 backstroke 200 free relay 400/500 freestyle (men)	100 freestyle 200 butterfly 50 backstroke 200 medley relay	200 backstroke 50 breaststroke 100 IM* 200 medley relay
<u>3rd Day</u> 100 butterfly 50 breaststroke 100 backstroke 200 freestyle 200 medley relay 200 mixed free relay 400 IM	<u>3rd Day</u> 100 breaststroke 50 butterfly 200 freestyle 100 backstroke 200 mixed medley relay 200 free relay 400 IM	<u>3rd Day</u> 400 IM 50 butterfly 200 breaststroke 100 backstroke 200 freestyle 200 mixed medley relay 200 free relay
<u>4th Day**</u> 800/1000 freestyle 1500/1650 freestyle	<u>4th Day**</u> 800/1000 freestyle 1500/1650 freestyle	<u>4th Day**</u> 800/1000 freestyle 1500/1650 freestyle
*The 100 IM is swum in short course nationals only. **With Championship Committee approval, a swimmer may compete in both of the two longest freestyle events at the meet. The Championship Committee shall decide how national qualifying times will affect the entry.		

B Rotation of meet formats-The particular format shall be rotated in order (1, 2, and 3) among three basic schedules without regard to course.

1. In odd-numbered years, men's events will be odd-numbered. In even-numbered years, men's events will be even-numbered.
2. In each schedule, at the option of the meet director and with the approval of the Championship Committee, the 800/1000 freestyle and the 1500/1650 freestyle may be swum as either the first day program or the last day program.
3. Full days on the schedule may be interchanged so that the 400/500 freestyle and the 1500/1650 freestyle shall not be swum on consecutive days.
4. The three basic schedules shall be chosen every 4 years, starting in 1990, by a vote of the House of Delegates, from at least four alternatives presented by the Championship Committee.

C Alternative meet schedules-A meet bidder may, with the approval of the Championship Committee, bid for a national championship meet with a different schedule from those defined in section A above.

.3 Event Limit

A Individual events-Competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of six individual events (or five individual events, if deemed necessary by the Championship Committee) in a 4-day national championship meet, with a maximum of three individual events per day.

B Relays-Competitors shall be allowed to swim in only one freestyle relay, one medley relay, one mixed freestyle relay, and one mixed medley relay per meet.

C National qualifying times-There shall be qualifying times at national championship meets when deemed necessary by the Championship Committee. The Championship Committee shall make that decision prior to the publication of the meet entry form for that meet.

1. Determination of qualifying times-The qualifying times shall be 10 percent slower than the previous year's tenth place time on the USMS Top Ten list. If there are fewer than ten swimmers on the Top Ten list, there shall be no qualifying time.

2. Altitude adjustment-Times achieved at an altitude of 3000 feet or higher may be adjusted for NQT purposes by subtracting the times (in seconds) in the following table from the actual time achieved.

Note: Records and Top Ten, etc., are to be actual times swum, not adjusted for altitude.

	3000-4250 ft	4250-6500 ft	6500+ ft
200 yards/meters	0.5	1.2	1.6
400-500 yards/meters	2.5	5.0	7.0
800-1000 yards/meters	5.0	10.0	15.0
1650 yards/1500 meters	11.0	23.0	32.5

3. Event limit-When qualifying times are in effect, competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of three individual events without meeting the established qualifying standards. Competitors may enter up to three additional events (or two if the maximum event limit is five) in which they have in the past 2 years swum a time equal to or better than the qualifying time for those events.

.4 Entry Procedures

A Eligibility/affiliation

1. USMS registration-USMS individual and club registration numbers must be submitted on all entry forms together with entry times. "No time" for swimming events and "pending" for registration number will not be permitted. Each entry must be accompanied by a copy of the swimmer's current USMS registration card.

2. Foreign swimmers-National championship meets will include and welcome foreign swimmers on the same basis as U.S. swimmers except that they may not qualify for USMS Top Ten and All-American awards.

3. Affiliation-A swimmer's affiliation as stated on the entry form will apply throughout the meet. If the club on the entry form and the club listed on the USMS registration card submitted with the entry form do not match, the swimmer shall, prior to the first day of competition, submit a new USMS registration card showing the new affiliation. If there are any questions about club affiliation, the swimmer will be switched to unattached status for the duration of the meet, regardless of actual affiliation. A swimmer may declare unattached status at any time.

B Entry form

1. Approval of entry form-Entry forms (both individual and relay) and meet information shall be prepared following the direction of the Championship Committee, and must be approved by the Championship Committee in advance of printing. No other forms may be used.

2. Distribution of entry form-The entry form for individual events and all meet brochure information shall be published in an official USMS publication at no cost to the meet host. Short course nationals information shall be published in the January-February issue and long course nationals information shall be published in the May-June issue. One copy each of the individual and relay entry forms and any additional information the host desires shall be sent to all registered clubs as soon as the entry form and information are available and no later than 5 months prior to the first day of the meet.

3. Completion of entry form-All competitors, including members of relay teams, must fill out and sign the appropriate entry forms.

4. Relay entry cards-On the relay card, relay teams must list the name of the registered swim club and the full name (as it appears on the USMS registration card), the age, and the meet ID number of each relay member. The age group of the relay team may be changed prior to the relay check-in deadline.

C Entry deadline

1. Individual entry deadline-The deadline for receipt of entries for national championship meets shall be not more than 35 days prior to the first day of competition.

2. Relay entry deadline-Relays may be entered the day before the first day relays are swum. Participants therein must have entered the meet 35 days in advance. Relays entered after the original meet entry deadline will pay one and one-half times the normal entry fee. Official USMS relay cards must be used.

3. Postmark deadline-The meet director may establish a U.S. Postal Service postmark deadline 7 days prior to the individual entry deadline. If a postmark deadline is established, individual and relay entries postmarked by a U.S. Postal Service office in the 50 states by midnight of that date will be considered on-time. Private or corporate meter postmarks will not be accepted.

D Entry fees-Entry fees for national championship meets shall consist of the following:

1. A \$20 surcharge may be charged to be used by the meet sponsor to help pay meet expenses.

2. \$4 each for individual events.

3. \$8 each for relays.

4. A banquet or social event may be conducted for an additional fee. Participation in this event is optional.

5. The meet host shall not be required to refund overpayments of \$10 or less. Any payments greater than \$10 may be subject to a processing fee of up to \$10.

.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding (also see Article 102.10)

1. All information regarding seeding must be stated on the entry form.
2. In order to assure seeded positions, the best competitive times of all entries must be submitted.
3. All events 200 yards/meters or less shall be pre-seeded, with oldest age groups first, slowest heats swum first in each age group. In the event that two courses are simultaneously swimming one sex, the Championship Committee may authorize some alteration of this rule to allow for smooth progress of the meet.
4. The 400 meter/500 yard freestyle events shall be deck seeded by age group, with the oldest age group first, slowest heats seeded first within each age group. The 400 yard/meter IM, 800/1500 meter and 1000/1650 yard freestyle events shall be deck seeded by one of the following methods: (a) by entry time only, (b) by age group, the oldest age group first, slowest heats seeded first within each age group, then by time, or (c) by a combination of (a) and (b). The USMS Championship Committee shall make all seeding decisions.
5. The last heat shall be composed of the swimmers with the fastest submitted times, the next to last heat composed of the next fastest swimmers, etc. (Note exception provided in Article 104.5.5A(7).)
6. If, in any age group, there are not enough swimmers for one complete heat, all swimmers in that age group shall be seeded in adjacent lanes for pre-seeded events.
7. After all full heats are seeded within each age group, the remaining swimmers may be seeded with any available age group of remaining swimmers.
8. In situations where all seeding rules cannot be simultaneously met, the seeding of these heats may diverge slightly from the general seeding procedures, with the concurrence of the Championship Committee liaison.
9. A swimmer may be seeded in an incomplete heat of another age group if the swimmer's entry time would have a significant impact on the timely running of the meet, as determined by the Championship Committee.
10. There will be no splitting of age groups into A.M. and P.M. sessions. However, at the meet director's discretion, swimmers whose entry times will inordinately delay the progress of the meet may be seeded individually in an outside lane with manual timing, thus allowing the continued sequence of the regularly scheduled heats.

B Distance events

1. The 1000/1650 yard or 800/1500 meter freestyle shall be deck-seeded as in Article 104.5.5A(4).
2. Willing and able competitors in the freestyle events over 200 meters may swim two-to-a-lane when only one course (seven, eight, nine, or ten lanes) is available for the event. Heats with two swimmers to

a lane shall be completed before heats with a single swimmer per lane. (See Article 102.10.4 for principles of seeding two-to-a-lane.)

3. In the 800 meter/1000 yard and 1500 meter/1650 yard freestyle, all men and women swimming slower than a standard established by the Championship Committee will be seeded together by time only.

C Multiple courses-When the courses are unequal in any way (depth of the course, visibility of timing display, bulkhead turns, type of gutter or starting blocks, etc.), male and female swimmers shall share an equal number of days in both courses. Women's events shall be scheduled in the preferred course on days one and three in odd years, and on days two and four in even years. If the time line of the meet is significantly affected by this rotation, the Championship Committee may override this requirement.

.6 Club Scoring

A Scoring-All national championship meet scoring and awards shall be treated as if the meet were swum in a ten-lane pool, regardless of the actual number of lanes available. Points shall be awarded as in Article 102.12.3.

B Categories-Club scoring will be tabulated in three categories.

1. Women's-women's individual events and women's relay events.

2. Men's-men's individual events and men's relay events.

3. Combined-women's individual events, women's relay events, men's individual events, men's relay events, and mixed relay events.

C Divisions-Three divisions shall be recognized for purposes of club scoring based upon the number of swimmers entered in the meet from each club. The number of entrants from a club that shall constitute a division I (large), division II (medium), or division III (small) team shall be determined after the meet entry deadline by the Championship Committee.

.7 Awards

A Awards-All top finishers in each race will be given awards regardless of the nationality of the swimmer. Duplicate awards will NOT be given except in the case of ties. Appropriate awards as determined by the Championship Committee will be awarded for places one through ten.

B USMS championship award (i.e., patch or some similar award to be determined by the Championship Committee)-Each individual who wins a short course or long course individual or relay championship shall be awarded a USMS championship award. Swimmers winning more than one championship may purchase one additional award for each additional championship won.

C Club awards-The organization conducting the national championship meet shall provide awards to the first, second, and third place winners in the women's, men's, and combined categories in each division.

.8 Results

A Posting of meet results-Photocopies of event/heat tapes shall be posted for each heat and lane before or simultaneously with the posting of the results (see Article 103.6.6C).

B Publication of meet results-Meet results in the appropriate format (see Appendix B) and club scores shall be published within 30 days of the last day of the meet and distributed to members of the USMS Board of Directors, representatives of participating clubs, and the USMS Records and Tabulation chairman.

.9 Protest Procedure

A Protests against judgment decisions of starters, stroke and turn judges, and relay take-off judges may only be considered by the referee of the meet.

B Protests affecting the eligibility of an individual or a team to compete, or protests arising from the competition itself, shall be handled by a panel of five persons comprised of one representative each from the Championship Committee and Rules Committee, if present, plus three other participants selected from other than the host team by the protest panel chairman. This panel shall be chaired by the representative from the Championship Committee. Protests shall be submitted in writing, heard by the panel, and decisions rendered no later than the last day of competition. Both the party lodging the protest and the party charged shall be afforded a chance to be heard. The decision of the panel shall be final.

C Any protests made following the close of competition shall be directed to the chairman of the Championship Committee for resolution.

.10 Personnel (Also see Articles 102.18 and 103)

A Meet director-The meet director shall follow the swimming rules of USMS, Inc., and the policies and procedures established by the Championship Committee with regard to the planning and execution of the requirements for a national championship meet.

B Officials-The minimum number of officials at each session of a USMS national championship meet shall include the following:

One meet referee

One deck referee for each course

One starter for each course

One recall starter for each course

Two stroke and turn judges for each course

Two timers per lane for each course

One recall rope operator for each course

One safety marshall for each end of each pool in use for warm-ups.

The referees, starters, and stroke and turn judges shall be certified by USS, YMCA, or any other USMS-approved certifying body. An official may serve in only one officiating position during any event. For freestyle events 400 meters and longer, the referee and starter may double as stroke and turn judges.

.11 Facilities and Equipment (also see Article 107)

A If more than one course is to be used in a national championship meet, then each course must have its own automatic timing system.

B All courses shall have electronic readout boards. For two courses, the electronic readout boards shall have the capability of displaying times for all lanes simultaneously.

C Automatic timing equipment shall be provided for all courses during the competition.

D The event number and heat number for each heat in the water shall be displayed at all times during the competition in a location easily visible to all participants for each course being used.

E The organization conducting the national championship meet shall use a computer to compile entry lists, heat sheets, entry cards, and final results.

ARTICLE 105: RECORDS, TOP TEN TIMES, AND ALL-AMERICAN RECOGNITION

105.1. REQUIREMENTS FOR RECORDS AND TOP TEN TIMES

.1 All times must be made in USMS sanctioned meets or recognized events.

.2 Times to be considered for records and Top Ten times must be made on or before May 31 for short course yard times, September 30 for long course meter times, and December 31 for short course meter times. These times shall be forwarded to the Records and Tabulation chairman by July 15, October 20, and February 5, respectively.

.3 Each LMSC is responsible for reporting the Top Ten times, USMS national records, and world records achieved in its LMSC in the appropriate format (see Appendix B), including all times achieved by swimmers from other LMSCs.

.4 To be considered for national Top Ten times or for USMS national records, all relay times must include the name of the registered swim club and the full name (as it appears on the USMS registration card), the age, and, for mixed relays, the sex of each swimmer. For all individual events, eligibility is based on current USMS registration as noted on the entry card, and the results must contain the full name and age of each swimmer.

.5 USMS national records shall be published in the USMS Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition.

105.2. TOP TEN TIMES

.1 The ten best times nationally in each age division and for each sex shall be published annually for the events listed under Article 102.5.

.2 Individual split times and relay lead-off times shall be considered for Top Ten times if:

A Recorded by fully automatic timing equipment,

B The intent to record a split time is brought to the attention, in writing, of the meet referee, and

C The swimmer(s) completes the full distance of the scheduled event without being disqualified and performs a legal finish at the initial distance.

Such split times shall be included separately in the summary of results prepared by the meet director, and submitted to the LMSC Top Ten recorder.

.3 In order for a time to be valid for Top Ten times consideration, a minimum timing quality of two hand-held times, averaged per USMS rules (see Article 103.7.4), shall be used.

105.3. USMS NATIONAL RECORDS

.1 The fastest time by a USMS-registered swimmer in each event in a USMS sanctioned competition or recognized event shall be designated as a USMS national record.

.2 Records shall be achieved only in recognized distances and strokes as listed in Article 102.5.

.3 Records must be made in accordance with all pertinent rules of USMS.

.4 Times may be submitted for Masters records only.

.5 A record can only be made in still water.

.6 Records shall require three watches, semi-automatic timing with three buttons, or automatic timing.

.7 Records established by a swimmer's split time in an individual event or by a swimmer's lead-off time in a relay shall be acceptable as an individual performance for all purposes if:

A Recorded by fully automatic timing equipment,

B The intent to record a split time is brought to the attention, in writing, of the meet referee, and

C The swimmer(s) completes the full distance of the scheduled event without being disqualified and performs a legal finish at the initial distance.

D The swimmer's relay lead-off time shall not count if the second swimmer starts in the water.

Such split times shall be included separately in the summary of results prepared by the meet director and submitted to the LMSC Top Ten recorder.

.8 Records must be achieved in the relevant stroke/event (e.g., a backstroke record must be set in a backstroke event, etc.). Records set in freestyle events can be submitted only as freestyle records, regardless of the stroke or strokes used.

.9 Record times shall be submitted in hundredths of a second (two decimal places). If times are tied to the hundredth of a second, the results shall be declared a tie and records shared by all swimmers thus tied.

.10 When a record is claimed, an official record application form shall be filled out, signed by the designated officials, and transmitted within 15 days following performance with all supporting data, including official meet results, the primary printout tape, and/or copy of the entry card with timers' signatures, to the LMSC records and tabulation chairman. Responsibility for this lies with either the LMSC Records chairman or the official scorer of the meet.

.11 Records set outside the United States shall be applied for on official record application forms and are subject to all pertinent requirements.

105.4. ALL-AMERICAN RECOGNITION

.1 Individual Recognition-The registered USMS swimmer with the fastest listed time for an individual event for that season shall be declared the All-American in that event for the year.

.2 Relay Recognition-The registered USMS swimmers from each relay team with the fastest listed USMS Top Ten time for that season shall be declared the Relay All-Americans in that event for the year.

105.5. WORLD RECORDS-Applications and documentation for world records (25 meter and 50 meter courses only) shall be supplied to the USMS Records and Tabulation chairman as detailed in Appendix B. Swimmers eligible for world records in older age groups than their current USMS age groups are responsible for informing the meet director of their eligibility.

ARTICLE 106: HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS FOR COMPETITION

106.1. MEDICAL EXAMINATION-Each competitor is strongly encouraged to have a complete medical evaluation before beginning Masters Swimming training. In addition, it is also recommended that each competitor have a physical check-up immediately prior to Masters Swimming competition to ensure physical readiness for participation.

106.2. MEDICAL EQUIPMENT-Meet directors are encouraged to investigate the use of appropriate emergency medical technician equipment and personnel for all meets.

ARTICLE 107: FACILITIES STANDARDS

IMPORTANT: Swimmers are advised that United States Masters Swimming, Inc., accepts no responsibility or liability for injuries resulting from accidents occurring in facilities not owned by United States Masters Swimming, Inc., and strongly urges that all safety precautions be observed during sanctioned events.

107.1. DEFINITIONS

- .1 [M]-Mandatory requirement for all competition.
- .2 [M*]-Predicated upon facility availability, LMSCs may waive strict compliance with these requirements when sanctioning local competition.
- .3 [NC]-Mandatory requirement for national championship meets and international competition.

107.2. RACING COURSE DIMENSIONS

.1 Length

A Long course meters-50.00 meters (164 feet, ½ inch). [M]

B Short course meters-25.00 meters (82 feet, ¼ inch). [M]

C Short course yards-25.00 yards. [M]

D Touch pads-When touch pads are used as part of an automatic timing system, the thickness of these pads shall not cause the length of the racing course in any lane to fall below the minimum required length. [M]

E Movable bulkheads-When the racing course is fixed by the use of movable bulkheads, such bulkheads shall be capable of resisting lateral deflection due to tension exerted by the attachment of the lane dividers to ensure the required course distance in all lanes. [M]

.2 **Width**-Minimum lane width for competitive swimming shall be 2.13 meters (7 feet). [M*, NC]

.3 Water Depth

A Starting end-Minimum water depth for racing starts, as measured for a distance 1.0 meter (3 feet, 3½ inches) to 5.0 meters (16 feet, 5 inches) from the end wall, during either competition or practice shall be as follows:

- 1. In pools with water depth less than 1.07 meters (3 feet, 6 inches) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from the deck or from the water. [M]
- 2. In pools with water depth 1.07 meters (3 feet, 6 inches) to less than 1.22 meters (4 feet) at the starting end, starting platforms shall be no more than .46 meter (18 inches) above the water surface. [M]
- 3. In pools with water depth 1.22 meters (4 feet) or more at the starting end, platforms shall meet the height requirements of Article 107.11.1. [M]

B Racing course-Minimum water depth shall be 2 meters (6 feet, 7 inches) throughout the course. Based on facility availability, the championship meet committee may waive this requirement for national championship meets. [NC]

107.3. RACING COURSE WALLS-Walls enclosing the racing course shall be parallel and vertical. The end walls shall be at a right angle to the water surface and shall be constructed of solid material with a non-slip surface that extends no less than .8 meter (2 feet, 7½ inches) below the water surface. It is recommended that a toe-rest ledge be provided at approximately 4-foot depth in the walls of the deep water race course. [M]

107.4. POOL AND BULKHEAD MARKINGS

.1 Pool Bottom Lane Markers-Minimum 25-centimeter (10inch) wide lines of a dark contrasting color (preferably black) shall be provided in the middle of each racing lane on the bottom of the pool. The lines shall preferably be uninterrupted the length of the course and shall terminate 2.0 meters (6 feet, 7 inches) from each end wall with a distinctive cross line 1.0 meter (3 feet, 4 inches) long and the same width as the bottom marker. [M*, NC]

.2 End Wall Targets-Flush, non-slip targets in the shape of a "T" or a cross and the same width as the lane bottom markers shall be provided in the center of each lane on each end wall of the course and shall extend at least 1.0 meter (3 feet, 4 inches) below the level of the water surface. It is recommended that the top edge of the deck be of a contrasting color to provide a visual target above the water at the end of the course. [M*, NC]

.3 Lane Numbers-The lanes shall be numbered from right to left as the swimmers stand facing the course from the starting end of the pool. Lane numbers shall clearly identify the lanes to officials stationed on each side of the course. [M]

107.5. OVERFLOW RECIRCULATION SYSTEM-The pool water recirculation and overflow system shall maintain the water level in line with the overflow rim of the pool gutters without creating appreciable current or water turbulence and shall maintain a smooth and calm water surface during competition. The pool recirculation system shall be turned off if, in the opinion of the referee, the water movement interferes with the conduct of competition. [M]

107.6. WATER TEMPERATURE-Water temperature between 78 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit shall be maintained for competition. [M*, NC]

107.7. LADDERS-All ladders, steps, or stairs within the racing course should be recessed in the pool side walls or removed during competition. [M*, NC]

107.8. OTHER DECK EQUIPMENT

.1 Unobstructed Deck-Use of portable lifeguard chair stands and other deck fixtures is recommended. They should be removed from the competition area to allow free passage and unobstructed view for competitors and officials along all sides of the course. [M*, NC]

.2 Diving Boards-One-meter diving boards that overhang the racing course shall be hinged out of the way or removed during competition. [M*, NC]

107.9. LIGHTING

.1 Illumination-For indoor pools, 100 foot-candle illumination level is required at the water surface over the entire course. Overhead light fixtures shall be located to avoid the casting of shadows by the pool walls over the racing course. [M*, NC]

.2 National championship meets-At national championship meets the same type and level of illumination must be provided and maintained during the warm-up period and competition. [NC]

107.10. NO SMOKING SIGNS-No smoking indoors or outdoors shall be permitted in any area designated for swimmers, including spectator seating, standing, and eating areas, and "No Smoking" signs shall be so posted. [M]

107.11. STARTING PLATFORM

.1 Height

A Long course and short course meters-The front edge of the starting platform shall be no less than .50 meter (1 foot, 8 inches) nor more than .75 meter (2 feet, 5½ inches) above the surface of the water. [M]

B Short course yards-The front edge of the starting platform shall be not higher than .762 meter (2 feet, 6 inches) above the surface of the water. [M]

.2 Front Edge of Platform-The front edge of the starting platform shall be flush with the face of the end walls. [M]

.3 Size and Slope of Platform-The top surface of the starting platform shall be not less than .50 by .50 meters (1 foot, 8 inches square) and shall slope not more than 10 degrees from the horizontal. The entire surface of the platform shall be faced with permanent non-slip material. [M]

.4 Backstroke Starting Grips-Starting platforms shall be equipped with firm starting grips located between .3 meter (12 inches) and .6 meter (24 inches) above the water surface. The front edge of the grips shall be parallel to and flush with the face of the end wall. [M]

.5 Lane Numbers-Starting platforms shall be clearly marked with lane numbers visible to competitors and officials. [M]

.6 Stability of Platforms-Starting platforms shall be anchored to the deck or bulkhead to remain stable at all times without human aid. [M]

107.12. FLOATING LANE LINES/DIVIDERS

.1 Installation-Floating lines dividing each lane shall extend the full length of the course and shall be attached at each end wall with recessed anchors so located that the center line of the cable securing the lane lines shall be on the surface of the water with the bottom half of the floats uniformly submerged for its entire length. They shall:

A Separate the racing lanes. [M]

B Be outside the outermost lanes being used. [M*]

.2 Size, Color, and Safety-Dividers shall consist of contiguous floats having a minimum diameter of 5 centimeters (2 inches) to a maximum diameter of 15 centimeters (6 inches). The color of the floats extending from the walls the distance of 5 meters (16 feet, 5 inches) for long course and short course meters, and 15 feet for short course yards, shall be distinct from the rest of the floats. Distinctive colored floats, or markers extending around the full circumference of the floats, shall be placed at 15 meters (49 feet, 2½ inches) from each end wall in both short course and long course pools. There shall be no exposed cables accessible to swimmers within the length of the racing course, and the cable take-up spools and ratchet mechanisms shall be completely concealed with durable flexible covers. Damaged or broken floats shall be removed and replaced. [M]

.3 Number of Lane Lines-A single lane line between racing lanes shall be used in long course competition. Multiple lane lines may be installed for short course competition, provided the width of open water between dividers is not reduced to less than 7 feet. [M*, NC]

.4 National Championship Meets-Minimum 11-centimeter diameter floats shall be required for national championship meets. [NC]

107.13. BACKSTROKE FLAGS AND LINES

.1 Design-At least three triangular pennants 6 to 12 inches in width at the base and 12 to 18 inches in vertical length, of two or more alternating and contrasting colors, shall be suspended on a firmly stretched line over each lane for all backstroke, individual medley, and medley relay events. [M]

.2 Location

A Long course and short course meters-5 meters (16 feet, 5 inches) from each end of the course, a minimum of 1.8 meters (5 feet, 11 inches) to a maximum of 2.5 meters (8 feet, 3 inches) above the water surface. [M]

B Short course yards-4.57 meters (15 feet) from each end of the course, 2.13 meters (7 feet) above the water surface. [M]

C Measurement-Height shall be measured to the horizontal line from which the pennants are suspended. [M]

.3 Marking at Midpoint of Course-For long course backstroke, individual medley, and medley relay events a firmly stretched 7-millimeter (¼-inch) line without flags or pennants shall be suspended at the midpoint of the course. [M]

107.14. LOUDSPEAKER STARTING SYSTEM-An electronic sound-generating device shall be provided to give the starting and recall signal. Loudspeakers may be mounted underneath or on the side of each starting platform, between every two platforms, on each side of the racing course, or positioned behind the starting platforms in such a manner that equitable dispersion of sound to all lanes is assured. The device shall also activate a strobe light, or similar optical signal, located on the starter's side of the course approximately 15 feet forward from the starting end, to indicate the start to manual

timers and hearing-impaired swimmers. The starting system may include an underwater recall speaker and gun-lap signal option. [NC]

107.15. FALSE START RECALL ROPE-A recall rope to be dropped across the course in case of a false start shall be provided approximately 11 meters (36 feet) from the starting end in short course and 15 meters (49 feet) in long course competition. The rope shall be attached to vertical stanchions with a quick release mechanism and shall be suspended at least 1.22 meters (4 feet) above the water surface at the lowest point. The rope shall be suspended in such a way that when the quick release mechanism is activated the rope immediately drops onto the surface of the water across all lanes of the course. [NC]

107.16. PACE CLOCKS-There may be at least two large, accurate timing devices or clocks, preferably located one on each side of the course, clearly visible to all swimmers. Dial type clocks shall be at least 3 feet in diameter with sweep second and minute hands. If digital readout clocks are provided, minimum height of the digits shall be 6 inches. [M*, NC]

107.17. AUTOMATIC TIMING EQUIPMENT

.1 Installation and Safety-Equipment shall be installed so that it will not interfere with swimmers' starts, turns, or finishes, or the normal overflow functions of the pool water recirculation system. All deck-level wiring shall carry no more than 12 volts of current. [M]

.2 Power Source-See Article 103.7 for automatic and semi-automatic timing equipment types and performance requirements. Equipment powered directly from the utility line electrical service shall have the capability to automatically switch to standby battery power source in case of line power failure without affecting the continuity and accuracy of the timing system. [NC]

.3 Touch Pads

A Size and thickness-Recommended pad size shall be 2 meters (6 feet, 6 inches) wide and not less than .6 meter (2 feet) deep. Minimum width of pads shall be 1.52 meters (5 feet). Thickness shall not exceed 1 centimeter (3/8-inch). [NC]

B Markings-Panel face markings shall conform to and superimpose on pool end wall markings as closely as possible. Perimeter edges of the panel shall have a 1-inch wide black border. [NC]

C Sensitivity-Panels shall stop the timing system instantaneously by a light hand touch anywhere on the flat surface facing the race course and the upper edge but shall not be activated by water turbulence. [NC]

D Installation and safety-Panels shall be installed and firmly anchored in the center of each lane and shall have no sharp edges, corners, or other protrusions on any exposed surfaces. [NC]

.4 Optional Accessories-Automatic timing equipment may provide relay judging capability, automatic lap counting, split time readouts for all lanes, correction of erroneous touch, and television equipment tie-in. Any corrections or impulses generated by the equipment operators shall be clearly identified on the results printout.

.5 Time Display Board (optional, except for national championships)-An automatic display board visible to all swimmers shall give a digital time readout to two decimal places, displaying split times, final times, and places for all lanes. In the event of a tie, the place shall be displayed as a tie. A separate line of display for each lane meeting the above requirements shall be provided for national championship meets on two courses. A one-line board is the minimum requirement for a third course. [NC]

107.18. ELECTRICAL SAFETY-All permanent or temporary electrical connections to the electronic loudspeaker start system, automatic timing equipment, and other electrical or electronic devices operating on line voltages in the vicinity of the racing course shall be made only from ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFI) protected convenience receptacles or circuits. In the event such receptacles or circuits are not available in the facility used for competition, portable UL-approved self-contained GFI outlet fittings shall be provided (furnished and installed) at the nonprotected convenience receptacles by the meet management, meet director, or the equipment operator(s) whenever such equipment is connected and in use. [M]

ARTICLE 108: GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIATING SWIMMERS WITH A DISABILITY IN USMS MEETS

108.1. GENERAL

.1 Authority-The USMS rules and regulations grant the referee the authority to modify the rules for the swimmer with a disability. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. This section contains guidelines and suggestions for making such modifications.

.2 Responsibilities

A Athlete-The athlete (or the athlete's coach) is responsible for notifying the referee, prior to the competition, of any disability of the athlete. The swimmer/coach shall provide any assistant(s) or equipment (tappers, deck mats, etc.) if required.

B Referee-The referee's responsibilities include:

1. Inquiring regarding the athlete's needs and determining what modifications will be required.
2. Instructing the starter and stroke and turn officials as to the accommodations to be made for that swimmer.

Some of the modifications that the referee may make to accommodate the athlete with a disability are:

- a. A change in starting position.
- b. Reassignment of lanes within a heat (e.g., exchanging lanes 2 and 7).
- c. Allowing the athlete's assistant(s) on the deck or in the water to assist with a start.

Other allowable modifications are further described in this section under the type of disability.

108.2. BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

.1 Start-With an audible starting system, no modification is usually required for a blind or visually impaired swimmer. The swimmer may, however, require assistance getting to and on the block.

.2 Turns and Finishes-A blind or visually impaired swimmer is permitted to have a "tapper," which is a pole with a soft-tipped end. The swimmer is tapped with the "tapper" as notification of turns and the finish. Sound devices shall not be used. It is the swimmer's responsibility to provide the tapper(s) and operator(s), who shall be positioned within the confines of the swimmer's lane at the ends of the pool.

.3 Relay Take-Offs-A physical touch may be required to signal when the relay swimmer's teammate has touched the wall. The specific method may be tailored to the swimmer's preference, so long as it does not aid the swimmer's take-off or interfere with the timing.

108.3. DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING-Deaf and hard of hearing swimmers require a visual starting signal (i.e., a strobe light and/or starter's arm signals). The referee may reassign lanes within the swimmer's heat (i.e., exchanging one lane for another) so that the strobe light or starter's arm signal can more readily be seen by the deaf or hard of hearing swimmer.

108.4. MENTALLY IMPAIRED-The swimmer may be permitted to have an assistant on the deck when necessary. No other specific rule modifications are required other than patience and clarity in communicating instructions.

108.5. PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

.1 Start-Swimmers with physical disabilities:

A May take longer to assume their starting positions;

B May not be able to hold onto the starting grips or gutter for a start;

C May need assistance on the deck or from in the water to maintain a starting position;

D May need to assume a modified starting position on the blocks, deck, gutter, or in the water.

For freestyle, breaststroke, and butterfly, a forward start shall be used. The referee, however, may allow modifications, such as the following:

1. The swimmer may start from a sitting position on the block or on the deck;

2. The swimmer may assume a starting position in the water, with or without assistance;

3. If the swimmer cannot use a hand and/or foot to maintain contact with the wall, some other part of the body may be used.

.2 Stroke/Kick-In judging the stroke or kick of a swimmer with a physical disability, the referee and stroke and turn judge should follow the general rule that if a part of the body is absent or cannot be

used, it is not judged; if it is used during the stroke or kick, it should be in accordance with the USMS rules.

Judgments should be made based on the actual rule-not on the swimmer's technique. For example, the breaststroke swimmer with one arm or leg shorter than the other may have a non-symmetrical stroke or kick, but as long as the arm or leg action is simultaneous, it would meet that portion of the rule. Flotation devices shall not be permitted.

.3 Turns/Finishes-Touches shall be judged in the same manner as strokes and kicks (e.g., on the basis of the arm(s) and/or hand(s) that the swimmer can use). In breaststroke and butterfly events, the competitor must reach forward as if attempting a simultaneous two-handed touch. When a swimmer has different arm lengths, only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously. Swimmers with no arms or with upper limbs too short to stretch above the head may touch the wall with any part of the upper body, provided the shoulders remain horizontal with the water surface.

PART TWO: ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS OF COMPETITION

ARTICLE 201: ATHLETE REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION

201.1. MEMBERSHIP OF ATHLETES-All swimmers competing in events sanctioned by USMS must be registered with USMS or their nation's recognized Masters Swimming governing organization.

.1 Eligibility-Swimmers age 19 and over are eligible for membership in USMS.

.2 Annual Registration-Athlete registration is for the period January 1 through December 31 of each year. Swimmers applying for registration on or after November 1 will be issued a registration card valid through December 31 of the following year.

.3 One-Event Registration-An LMSC may offer a single-event registration that allows an athlete to participate in ONE sanctioned event by that LMSC. Registration cards will NOT be issued for one-event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by the rules and regulations of USMS, except that their times will not be considered for Top Ten tabulation or national or world records. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

.4 Registration Forms

A Registration forms-Athlete registration forms may be obtained from the registration chairman of the LMSC. The form, fully completed, shall be submitted with the applicable fee to the registration chairman of the LMSC, who shall issue a registration card.

B Liability release-All registration forms shall contain the exact language of the liability release according to Article 203.1. The language may not be modified in any way.

.5 Registration Fee-The annual registration fee is composed of the following elements:

A A national fee established by the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

B A local fee established by the LMSC.

201.2. REPRESENTATION

.1 There shall be only one USMS registration per individual permitted at any time.

.2 In order for a swimmer to compete as a representative of a club, that club must be a member in good standing of an LMSC and USMS.

.3 A swimmer shall be registered in the LMSC in which the club being represented is located. The swimmer need not reside within the LMSC territory.

.4 An unattached competitor is a registered swimmer who represents no club.

.5 A swimmer shall not represent any club in competition for 60 consecutive days before transferring affiliation to another club, unless this transfer takes place at the time of annual re-registration. A swimmer may declare unattached status at any time without written application.

.6 All applications for changes of registration (including transfers) must be accompanied by a reasonable fee to be determined by the LMSC in which the swimmer will be registered after the change of registration.

.7 A club wishing to change its LMSC affiliation must approve such change by a majority vote of its general membership at a regular club meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, with the vote duly certified by the club's president and secretary. The transfer also must be approved by a majority vote of the officers of the club's current and proposed LMSCs. If approved, the transfer shall be effective sixty days after receipt of written notice by the national registrar.

201.3. TRAVEL PERMITS

.1 A current USMS registration card shall serve as a valid travel permit.

.2 Written authoritative permission to compete in a foreign country may be obtained from that country's national Masters Swimming chairman or the chairman's designee.

ARTICLE 202: SANCTION/RECOGNITION

202.1. SANCTIONS-Times achieved at sanctioned events are considered for USMS national records and Top Ten times. All swimmers entered in sanctioned events shall be registered with USMS, or shall have valid travel permits or their equivalents, or shall have other acceptable proof of current Masters Swimming registration.

.1 Sanction Requirements-Sanctions will be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within whose territorial limits the event is held and applications shall be accompanied by a copy of the entry form and applicable fee.

1. The entry forms shall contain the exact language of the liability release as stated in Article 203.1. All swimmers, before participating, shall have signed a release containing the exact language of the liability release as stated in Article 203.1. The language shall not be modified in any way, except that the names of additional insureds may be inserted after "...Local Masters Swimming Committees."

2. Entry forms and programs must bear the statement, "Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS, Inc. Sanction number: ."

3. The sanction fee shall be established by the LMSC.

B All sanctions shall be signed by the LMSC's authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for 2 years.

C Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another. Any sanctions so transferred shall be void for all purposes, and the LMSC may deny further sanctions to any organization violating this provision.

D No sanction may be issued to any organization whose interest in sports and games is purely commercial, or where the event is to be promoted solely for the profit or the advertising value to be derived therefrom. Any income derived from sanctioned events must be used for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

E No sanction of any event will be granted with the word "Olympic" or any derivative thereof used in any manner in connection with said event unless consent is obtained from the USOC.

F All sanctioned events are subject to the following conditions:

1. The conduct of a sanctioned event shall be in strict compliance with applicable USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations.

2. All swimmers shall submit with their entries copies of their current registration cards or travel permits, or supply proof of current Masters registration acceptable to the LMSC; however, at the discretion of the meet director and exclusive of national championship meets, a swimmer may enter indicating "number pending," as long as proof of valid registration is presented prior to the swimmer's participation in the event.

3. A swimmer's valid affiliation and age must be displayed after the name on the heat sheet or in the program.

G A further sanction may be denied to any organization that has failed to conduct such event in accordance with applicable USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations, or as stated on the entry form.

202.2. RECOGNIZED EVENTS-Times achieved at events may be considered for USMS national records and Top Ten times if the event has been granted recognition and a designated USMS observer

is present and verifies in writing that the conduct of the competition conforms to the relevant USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations. Times achieved at events sanctioned by USS or CASA, or FINA championships or MSI championships, shall be considered for USMS national records and Top Ten times without formal application for recognition. It is the responsibility of the swimmer to submit times obtained in recognized events with complete documentation to the appropriate USMS Top Ten recorder and the Records and Tabulation chairman.

.1 Recognition-Recognition will be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Application for recognition of events within the jurisdiction of USMS shall be made to the LMSC within whose territorial limits the event is held, and applications shall be accompanied by the recognition fee.

B All recognitions shall be signed by a designated member of the LMSC, and a record thereof shall be retained for 2 years.

C Recognition issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another. Any recognition so transferred shall be void for all purposes, and the LMSC may deny further recognition to any organization violating this provision.

D No recognition may be issued to any organization whose interest in sports and games is purely commercial, or where the event is to be promoted solely for the profit or the advertising value to be derived therefrom. Any income derived from recognized events must be used for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

E All recognized events are subject to the following conditions:

1. The conduct of a recognized event shall conform to relevant USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations.

F Further recognition may be denied to any organization that has failed to conduct said competition in accordance with applicable USMS swimming rules and regulations, or as stated on the entry form.

G Recognition for any meets held outside the jurisdiction of USMS, other than those organized under the auspices of FINA or MSI, shall be obtained from the Executive Committee.

202.3. FITNESS EVENTS-Fitness events are USMS events promoted by the USMS Fitness Committee. Swimmers shall be registered to participate in fitness events promoted by the USMS or its LMSCs.

ARTICLE 203: LIABILITY RELEASE

203.1. All registration forms and sanctioned entry forms shall include a liability release. The liability release shall be signed by the person registering or entering. The language of the release shall be:

"I, the undersigned participant, intending to be legally bound, hereby certify that I am physically fit and have not been otherwise informed by a physician. I acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in Masters Swimming (training and competition), including possible permanent disability or death, and agree to assume all of those risks. AS A CONDITION OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THE MASTERS SWIMMING PROGRAM OR ANY ACTIVITIES INCIDENT THERETO, I HEREBY WAIVE ANY AND ALL RIGHTS TO CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES, INCLUDING ALL CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, ACTIVE OR PASSIVE, OF THE FOLLOWING: UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING, INC., THE LOCAL MASTERS SWIMMING COMMITTEES, THE CLUBS, HOST FACILITIES, MEET SPONSORS, MEET COMMITTEES, OR ANY INDIVIDUALS OFFICIATING AT THE MEETS OR SUPERVISING SUCH ACTIVITIES. In addition, I agree to abide by and be governed by the rules of USMS."

PART THREE: LONG DISTANCE/OPEN WATER SWIMMING RULES

ARTICLE 301: ADMINISTRATION

301.1. ORGANIZATION

.1 Governing Bodies-The conduct and organization of long distance/open water swimming for Masters shall be governed by USMS through its Long Distance Committee and LMSCs. The chairman and committee members shall be appointed as provided in Article 506.2.10.

.2 Definitions

A A long distance event is any swimming event that is a distance-based event over 1650 yards (1508.8 meters) in length or a time-based event longer than or equal to 60 minutes in time. The event may be conducted in any body of water, either natural or manmade.

B An open water event is a swimming event of any distance conducted in an open body of water, either natural or manmade.

301.2. REGISTRATION AND SANCTIONS-Registration and sanctions for long distance/open water events shall be governed by all applicable rules under Articles 201, 202, and 203. In addition, the following administrative rules apply:

.1 All swimmers competing in long distance/open water events sanctioned by USMS must be registered with USMS or their nation's recognized Masters Swimming governing organization.

.2 LMSCs are responsible for issuing sanctions or recognitions for events involving USMS athletes. If the event is to be swum in more than one LMSC, the LMSC where the event will originate will have jurisdiction in issuing the sanction or recognition. This does not prohibit the other LMSC from also issuing a sanction or recognition for the event.

.3 A long distance/open water event may include both USMS and USS events, with the USMS events sanctioned or recognized by USMS and the USS events sanctioned or recognized by USS. Under no circumstances shall a USMS athlete and a USS athlete be considered part of the same event. Athletes holding both USMS and USS registrations must declare their race affiliation, in writing, prior to the start of the event.

301.3. LIABILITY RELEASE-Entry forms shall contain the exact language of the liability release according to Article 203.1. The following statement shall be added to the end of the release for all open water events: "*Finally, I specifically acknowledge that I am aware of all the risks inherent in open water swimming and agree to assume those risks.*" The language shall not be modified in any way except that the names of additional insureds may be inserted. The liability release must be signed by each person entering the meet.

301.4. AGE GROUPS-Age groups in individual events for men and women shall be the same as those listed in Article 102.3.1.

ARTICLE 302: EVENTS

302.1. EVENTS-Long distance events shall consist of individual and/or team competition as follows:

302.2. OPEN WATER

.1 Quarter-Mile Straightaway-The course shall be set in stationary open water and shall be a quarter of a mile (440 yards) straightaway using a cable with floats stretched between two fixed and stationary markers in the water. The distance between the anchoring points of the cable shall be maintained within plus or minus 6 inches, measured to the outer edge of the turning markers. A stationary water start and an in-the-water finish shall be used.

.2 Other Open Water-The meet director shall determine the course and type of start for open water events, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmer. The course shall be measured as accurately as possible. The distances shall be the same for both men and women and may be contested at the same time with separate results tabulated. Age groups and other classifications may also be swum at the same time, but again tabulated separately.

302.3. POOL-A long distance pool event may be based on the time to swim a fixed distance or the distance swum over a fixed time.

.1 Postal-A postal event is a competition in which swimmers swim the event at a place of their choosing and send the time or distance achieved to a central location for tabulation. Each entrant in a postal event will be responsible for the validity of the figures and the distance submitted. Postal events conducted in pools must comply with all rules of USMS and Article 302.2.2. The meet director shall have the discretion to designate the size(s) of the pools in which the event is swum. The meet director shall have the discretion to request additional verification of completion from any entrant, and may refuse to accept any entry that appears to contain erroneous information.

.2 Time/Distance-The object of one type of event is to determine who can swim a specific distance in the shortest amount of time. The object of the other type of event is to determine who can swim the greatest distance in a given time period. The person swimming the farthest shall be declared the

winner. The person swimming the second greatest distance shall be awarded second place, etc. In the event that two or more swimmers swim the same distance, a tie shall be declared. Both events shall be swum in a pool at least 25 yards in length. Distances shall be computed by multiplying the total lengths swum by the length of the pool and adding the last completed 5-yard increment. In events where the size of the pool is not designated, all distances shall be reported in yards. If the event is swum in a metric pool, the distance shall be determined in meters and converted to yards by multiplying 1.0936 times the number of meters completed and rounding off the distance to the last completed 5-yard increment.

There shall be an adult acting in the capacity of a starter/head timer/referee (may be one person) who shall be present at all times, having no other responsibilities during the period of the swim. For each swimmer, there shall be a counter who shall record split times for every two lengths during the swim. A stop watch or electronic timing system shall be used to time the event. Drafting shall not be permitted in time/distance events. In pools that are 50 meters or longer, the referee shall establish procedures to prevent drafting if more than one swimmer is competing per lane. In pools that are less than 50 meters, no more than two swimmers shall share a lane. When two swimmers are sharing the same lane, they shall conform to Articles 102.10.3A(6)(a) and 102.10.3A(6)(b).

302.4. INDIVIDUAL LONG DISTANCE SWIMS

.1 Swims must be sanctioned by the LMSC in which the swim originates and conducted in accordance with all pertinent rules and regulations. If more than one swimmer is attempting to swim, only one sanction need be issued. All times achieved in long distance individual attempts should be duly certified and made a matter of record by the sanctioning LMSC. The certification should include:

A Each swimmer's name, age, sex, and registration number.

B Governing body sanctioning the event.

C Course: to include the name of the body of water, the starting and finishing points, and the measured distance.

D Verification and documentation that all rules were observed and the swimmer(s) either completed or failed to complete or attain the distance.

302.5. TEAM EVENTS

.1 A team event may be contested on a total time/distance or point-system basis.

A Time/distance basis-A specified number of contestants on each team shall be considered in the computations for team scoring. The team whose top specified number of swimmers have the lowest cumulative time or the greatest cumulative total yards shall be declared the winner. A similar method will be used to determine second, third, and subsequent places. In the event of a tie, the team whose individual member finished nearest to first place shall be declared the winner or awarded the place.

B Point basis-Points are awarded on the basis of overall finishing position, with one point for first place, two points for second place, etc. The points of specified team members are added, and the lowest cumulative score determines the winning team; the second lowest score, the second place, etc.

In the event that two or more teams score the same number of points, the team that has the swimmer who won or finished closest to the first place shall be declared the winning team.

C No individual entries can be accepted in the team events. All entries must be made by registered USMS clubs and signed by an authorized official of the club making the entry.

D Mixed sex teams may be entered, provided at least one swimmer of each sex is represented as follows:

Total number of team members	Females	Males
2	1	1
3	minimum 1	minimum 1
4	2	2
5	minimum 2	minimum 2
6	3	3

302.6. RELAY EVENTS-Relay teams shall consist of two or more swimmers as specified on the entry form. The team members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified on the entry form. The changeover to the new swimmer shall be made as soon as practical after the completion of the previous swimmer's leg. In the exchange in open water events, physical contact must be made between the two swimmers. In pool events, the exchange is governed by Articles 101.7.3C and 101.7.3H. The meet director, with the concurrence of the chairman of the Long Distance Committee, may allow special events in which members of an open water relay team need not be from the same club.

ARTICLE 303: CONDUCT OF OPEN WATER COMPETITION

303.1. SAFETY STANDARDS-As conditions and courses vary, it is the responsibility of each swimmer to know and follow the safety standards necessary for protection from as many dangers as possible. The meet director can assist this endeavor by:

- .1** Obtaining necessary permits/approvals from the U.S. Coast Guard, park authorities, lifeguard associations, etc.
- .2** Providing accurate maps with course descriptions and other pertinent information with entry forms and meet information packets.
- .3** Planning for possible medical evacuations.
- .4** Assigning rescue/aid personnel and craft.
- .5** Planning for escort paddlers or craft. Personal escorts should be considered for open water swims.
- .6** Making provisions for controlling escort craft and access of nonrace craft into the race area.

- .7 Briefing all contestants, coaches, managers, trainers, and meet officials.
- .8 Planning for possible cancellation, postponement, and/or modification of the event.
- .9 Considering use of fluorescent orange and other brightly colored caps to assist in identification and visibility of swimmers in open water events.

Note: LMSCs are encouraged to develop their own safety guidelines and precautions for the conduct of long distance/open water events, provided they are not in conflict with USMS rules, policies, or procedures.

303.2. ESCORTED SWIMS

.1 In any event for which it has been arranged that an escort craft or paddler will accompany each swimmer throughout the event, all swimmers shall be accompanied by such an escort paddler or craft. If the escort paddler or craft becomes disabled or cannot continue to accompany the swimmer, the swimmer must either stay in the water next to the escort craft until a replacement arrives, or exit the water.

.2 If a swimmer's escort becomes disabled as per Article 303.2.1, an escort for another swimmer may assume responsibility for the swimmer with the disabled escort, subject to the following conditions:

A Any one paddler or craft may escort no more than two swimmers.

B The two swimmers must stay within 5 meters of each other. Failure to stay within 5 meters shall result in immediate disqualification of the second swimmer assigned to the escort and the immediate removal of that person from the water.

303.3. STARTS

.1 Types

A Stationary-Swimmers start from a platform or in the water with no forward motion.

B Running-Swimmers line up a short distance from the water behind a marked line. At the starting signal, the swimmers run into the water and swim the prescribed course.

.2 Starting Signal-The starting signal shall be audible and visible to all contestants.

303.4. SEEDING

.1 When practical, swimmers shall be seeded by their 1500 meters/1650 yards times. The manner of seeding "no times" shall be at the discretion of the meet director, as stated in the meet entry sheet.

.2 The fastest swimmers in quarter-mile straightaway course events shall be seeded in order of time, with the fastest swimmer receiving the preferred position. If subsequent rows are needed, they will be seeded in a similar method behind the first row of swimmers.

.3 Events for different age groups and sexes may be combined to allow the swimmers to compete at the same time. Separate starts are preferable in quarter-mile straightaway events.

303.5. FINISHES

.1 In the Water-Swimmers shall touch a vertical surface or swim across a defined finish line. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

.2 Out of the Water-Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and run up the beach to a marked finish. Order of finish shall be determined by the swimmer whose chest crosses the finish line first.

.3 Incomplete Race-The referee shall determine if the start of a race is to be postponed or canceled, or if a race in progress is to be stopped. If a race is stopped and swimmers are removed from the water for their safety, the referee shall determine if the race is to be restarted, canceled, or considered official.

303.6. COSTUME

.1 Swimmers' costumes shall be the same as defined in Articles 102.14.1 and 102.14.2. Goggles, ear plugs, and grease shall be allowed. The suit shall be made of a porous material.

.2 Swim cap(s), including those made of neoprene, may be permitted. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not extend to protect the neck or shoulders.

.3 Wet suits may be allowed at the discretion of the meet director. Wet suits generally provide a competitive advantage. If awards are given to wet suit competitors they shall be awarded separately from non-wet suit competitors. Any published results or records must clearly indicate which swimmers wore wet suits.

.4 Devices used to maintain body heat are illegal, except for those listed in Articles 304.4.1, 304.4.2, and 304.4.3.

.5 Flotation and propulsive devices are not permitted, apart from those listed in Articles 304.4.2 and 304.4.3, except in designated events where all swimmers are using similar devices.

303.7. OFFICIALS

.1 There shall be a meet director, referee, safety coordinator, scorer, announcer, clerk of course, starter, and a sufficient number of judges, inspectors, timers, and medical personnel.

.2 The clerk of course shall ensure that all entrants in open water events are visibly marked with their entrant numbers.

.3 Official craft shall be placed in a position in open water events to best observe yet not physically hinder the swimmers.

303.8. DISQUALIFICATIONS-Swimmers shall be disqualified if they:

.1 Or their personal escort willfully or intentionally delay the progress of another swimmer. Accidental contact, especially at the start, shall not be considered a disqualification. However, the flagrant disregard of another swimmer's rights shall result in disqualification.

.2 Fail to complete the prescribed distance or course within the pre-announced time.

.3 Fail to follow race rules.

.4 Receive assistance by pulling on the cable or buoys at the turn or on the course.

.5 Receive propulsive aid from anyone in boats, on surfboards, etc.

.6 Receive unauthorized assistance at the start or finish.

.7 Violate costume rules.

.8 Draft off another swimmer in time/distance pool events.

.9 Swim in a manner in which their personal safety is jeopardized.

ARTICLE 304: NATIONAL LONG DISTANCE/OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

304.1. ELIGIBILITY

.1 All swimmers competing in national long distance/open water championship events shall be registered with USMS or their nation's recognized Masters Swimming governing organization.

304.2. EVENTS-The Long Distance Committee shall award national long distance/open water championship meets.

.1 At the discretion of the Long Distance Committee, national championship meets may be awarded in the following events:

A One mile (quarter-mile straightaway or open water course)

B Quarter-mile straightaway (2 miles)

C Open water (greater than 1 and less than or equal to 3 miles)

D Open water (greater than 3 and less than 6 miles)

E Open water (greater than or equal to 6 miles)

F Postal 1 hour

G Postal 5 and 10 kilometer (in a 50-meter pool)

H Postal 3000 and 6000 yard (in a 25-yard pool)

.2 Team events (as defined in Article 302.2.6).

A Team competitions shall be recognized for all postal championships and may be recognized for other championship events. Such awards, when recognized, shall be awarded for three-person male and female teams and four-person mixed teams.

B Age groups for team events shall be the same as those listed in Article 102.3.2A.

C Team events shall be determined by the Long Distance Committee.

304.3. SITE SELECTION

.1 Bids shall be due, in writing, to the Long Distance chairman no later than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

.2 Championships shall be awarded by the Long Distance Committee at the annual meeting.

.3 Events not awarded at the annual meeting may be awarded by the Long Distance chairman.

.4 Suitable bids shall comply with all applicable USMS swimming and long distance rules, policies, and procedures.

.5 The following area award system shall be followed for the bidding of non-postal long distance championships. Area definitions shall be the same as those in Article 104.3.1. (See Appendix D for map of areas.) Bids shall be received up to two years in advance of the year bid. If suitable bids are not received from a qualifying area, bidding shall be opened to all areas. *Postal national championships may be awarded to an organization for 2 consecutive years and will be awarded without regard to area.*

	Area 1 West	Area 2 Central	Area 3 East
1997	2 mi. cable	1 mi. Open water >3/<6 mi.	Open water >1/≤3 mi.
1998	Open water >1/≤3 mi. Open water ≥6 mi.	2 mi. cable	1 mi. Open water >3/<6 mi.
1999	1 mi. Open water >3/<6 mi.	Open water >1/≤3 mi. Open water ≥ 6 mi.	2 mi. cable

304.4 CONTRACT-Successful bidders of long distance championship events shall sign a written contract with USMS, which specifies the responsibilities of the meet host and of USMS, Inc.

304.5. FINANCIAL-The sponsoring organization shall agree to underwrite the full meet expenses including but not limited to the following:

.1 Costs associated with the meet (setting up the course, supplies, equipment, etc.).

.2 Cost of all national championship meet awards (medals and patches) and/or other appropriate awards.

.3 A fee of \$1 per individual entrant in the meet, which shall be paid within 7 days of the last day of acceptance of entries. A performance bond of \$200 shall be paid 10 days prior to the start of the event. All or a portion of the \$200 performance bond shall be returned to the sponsoring organization, based upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the meet contract.

.4 Costs reflected in national championship meet contracts.

.5 Complete financial statements, which shall be forwarded to the Long Distance Committee chairman within 60 days of the completion of the meet.

304.6. ENTRY FEES-The entry fees for long distance/open water national championship meets shall not exceed \$20 for individual events and \$5 per team member in team events. A surcharge may be added for swimmers in individual events, subject to the approval of the chairman of the Long Distance Committee.

304.7. RULES OF CONDUCT

.1 Meet Director-The meet director shall follow the applicable swimming and long distance rules of USMS and the policies and procedures established by the Long Distance Committee with regard to the planning and execution of the requirements for a national championship.

.2 Entry Forms-Entry forms shall be reviewed by the Long Distance Committee chairman and the LMSC for content and sanctioning prior to distribution. Acceptable entry forms shall be sent to the Long Distance chairman, all LMSCs, and the USMS national office at least 90 days prior to the first day of the meet.

.3 Officials-The Long Distance Committee shall appoint a meet advisor to aid the meet director and ensure that all rules are observed.

.4 Costume-Costume regulations for national championship meets shall be the same as those for non-national championship events, as stated in Article 304.4. Wet suit competitors shall be excluded for the purposes of Articles 305.8 through 306.2.

.5 Assistance During the Race

A Feeding is permissible, but use of alcohol or illegal drugs is forbidden.

B Paddlers and escort boats are authorized if approved by the meet director.

304.8. RESULTS-Individual and team results and records (when appropriate) shall be tabulated and distributed to the Long Distance Committee chairman, all participants in the meet, and the clubs they represent.

.1 Results shall be organized by sex and age group in order of finish and shall include the name (as it appears on the USMS registration card), official time/distance, age, and club affiliation of each participant.

304.9. CLUB SCORING-Club scores may be officially tallied or recognized for national long distance/open water championship events at the discretion of the event host.

.1 Club scoring for the 1-hour swim will be based on total club yardage. Three divisions will be recognized based on the number of swimmers entered in the event from each club, at the discretion of the event host.

304.10. AWARDS

.1 National championship meet medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chairman shall be awarded at least to the first three place winners of individual championships in each age group.

.2 National championship meet medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chairman shall be awarded to the members of at least the first three place winners of team championships in each age group.

.3 A USMS championship patch will be awarded to each individual champion and each scoring member of a championship team. An individual will receive only one patch per meet.

304.11. ALL-AMERICAN RECOGNITION-The national champion in each age group of each individual national long distance/open water championship event shall qualify as a member of the USMS All-American Long Distance Swimming Team for the calendar year in which the event was conducted.

.1 The meet director shall submit the names and USMS registration numbers of competitors achieving All-American status to the Long Distance Committee chairman in accordance with the USMS meet contract.

ARTICLE 305: RECORDS

305.1. RECORDS

.1 Individual national records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway events (1-mile and 2-mile) and time/distance pool events (1-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal). Team national records will be maintained in all events for which individual national records are kept. The records shall be for three-person male and female teams and four-person mixed teams.

.2 Record times shall be swum in a sanctioned event and shall be routed through the sanctioning body to the Long Distance Committee chairman.

.3 No national records will be maintained in open water events because of differences in courses, currents, and other physical factors.

.4 When a record attempt has been timed to the nearest second, .99 second shall be added to the time submitted. When a record attempt has been timed to the nearest tenth of a second, .09 second shall be added to the time submitted.

.5 Long distance national records may be established by using a swimmer's split time in an individual event if:

A The intent to record a split time is brought to the attention, in writing, of the event director,

B The swimmer completes the full distance of the scheduled event without being disqualified, and

C The split is swum during a distance pool event that is a longer version of the record attempt.

PART FOUR: ATHLETES' RIGHTS, HEARINGS, AND APPEALS

ARTICLE 401: ATHLETES' BILL OF RIGHTS

401.1. PROTECTION-USMS and its LMSCs shall respect and protect the right of every individual who is eligible and qualified to participate in events conducted in compliance with reasonable national and applicable international requirements, rules, and regulations.

401.2. RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE-No member of USMS, nor any organization affiliated with USMS, may deny or threaten to deny any eligible individual the opportunity to participate in events sanctioned/recognized by USMS.

401.3. REPORTING-Any individual who alleges that a right as set forth in Article 401.2 has been denied or is about to be denied, by a person or organization affiliated with USMS, shall immediately inform the executive secretary of USMS, who shall promptly cause an investigation to be made and steps to be taken to settle the controversy without unnecessary delay.

401.4. INVESTIGATION

.1 Role of the executive secretary-Whenever an individual, or party acting on an individual's behalf, informs the executive secretary of USMS of an alleged violation of rights as set forth in Article 401.2, the executive secretary, or any member of the Executive Committee of USMS appointed for this purpose by the president, shall review all the related evidence of the case and make a report, with a preliminary recommendation, to the review section within 30 days or sooner if the situation requires.

.2 Role of the review section-The review section shall review the case and preliminary recommendation and take whatever action it deems appropriate. Any of the parties involved who are dissatisfied with the decision of the review section may appeal said decision under the provisions set forth in Article 403.1.

ARTICLE 402: REVIEW SECTION

402.1. COMPOSITION OF THE REVIEW SECTION

.1 Members-The review section shall be composed of the legal counsel of USMS and each zone representative.

.2 Chairman-The president of USMS shall appoint the chairman of the review section from among its members and shall designate a panel of no fewer than three members, one of whom shall be the zone representative in whose zone the alleged violation occurred, to hear and decide any case before the review section.

402.2. JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY OF THE REVIEW SECTION

.1 General Jurisdiction-As hereinafter set forth, USMS, through the review section or any body assigned exclusive jurisdiction, has the authority to:

A Determine the eligibility and right of any athlete to compete.

B Impose and enforce penalties, including censure, suspension, or expulsion from membership, for any violation of the rules and regulations of USMS or for actions that bring disrepute upon USMS or upon the sport of swimming.

C Interpret any provision of the rules and regulations of USMS with the exception of the swimming and long distance swimming rules.

D Vacate, modify, sustain, stay, or reverse any decision or order properly submitted for review, or remand the matter for further action.

E Investigate any election impropriety or cause for removal of a national committee member or national officer and take corrective action.

F Issue such interim orders as may be necessary pending a final decision of any body granted exclusive jurisdiction.

G Review any exercise of the powers by another committee as provided in Article 402.2.2.

.2 Exclusive Jurisdiction

A Upon a majority vote of the review section panel assigned to a case, or upon a majority vote of the review section, an appropriate body within the LMSC in which the matter occurred may be assigned exclusive jurisdiction of any matter within the purview of Article 402, when the best interest of Masters Swimming will be served thereby.

B Upon a majority vote of the USMS Board of Directors, or upon a two-thirds vote of the USMS House of Delegates, the USMS House of Delegates may be assigned exclusive jurisdiction of any

matter within the purview of this article, when the best interests of Masters Swimming will be served thereby.

402.3. PROCEDURES

The procedures to be taken in reference to all hearings shall be as follows:

.1 Formal Hearing

A The respondent shall be given notice in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address, or by personal service, detailing the charges or the circumstances that are believed to require answers, explanation, or clarification.

B The written statement of charges shall also contain:

- 1.** The penalties that may ensue if such charges are proved.
- 2.** A date at which time a hearing will be held, with the request that the person charged appear before the review section panel, with the right to have personal representation at the hearing.
- 3.** A stated date of not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days after the date of mailing of such notification.
- 4.** A request that the person charged answer in writing to the chairman of the review section panel all the charges set forth in such written statement.
- 5.** A request that this written answer be delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than 10 days prior to the date of the hearing.

C The decision shall be rendered at the time of the hearing, or within 24 hours thereafter.

ARTICLE 403: APPEAL

403.1. APPEAL PROCEDURES-The decision of the review section shall be final in all cases, subject only to appeal to the Board of Directors of USMS, and thereafter to the USMS House of Delegates. An appeal to either body must be taken within 20 days after mailing of written notice of the decision to be appealed. Upon timely petition to the president of USMS, and upon showing of good cause therefore, the time for appeal from a decision may be extended. The chairman of the body to which a decision is appealed shall set a date for appellate hearing not less than 30 days after receipt of the notice of appeal, nor after the next regularly scheduled meeting of that body that occurs 30 days or more after said receipt. The appeal decision, including findings of fact, shall be reduced to writing and mailed by certified or registered mail to all parties within 10 days of hearing. Any person representing a real party in interest in the case may appeal.

PART FIVE: UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING, INC. ORGANIZATION AND BYLAWS

ARTICLE 501: MEMBERSHIP

501.1. MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES-The membership of United States Masters Swimming, Inc., hereinafter sometimes referred to as the corporation, shall consist of:

.1 Club members, which are swimming clubs for Masters swimmers. Every swimming club that competes in Masters Swimming competition sponsored by the corporation shall register with the corporation through its respective LMSC.

.2 Individual members, who register with the corporation through an LMSC.

.3 Any organization that is interested in swimming on either the national or local level. The House of Delegates may establish classes for such membership.

501.2. MANDATORY MEMBERSHIPS-All members of the House of Delegates and Board of Directors and all members of any committee of the corporation shall hold an individual membership in the corporation.

501.3. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY-Membership in the corporation shall not be denied by virtue of race, creed, sex, religion, political affiliation, disability, or national origin.

ARTICLE 502: LOCAL MASTERS SWIMMING COMMITTEE (LMSC)

502.1. LMSC MEMBERSHIP-Each LMSC shall consist of individual members and club members currently registered through that LMSC.

502.2. BYLAWS-Each LMSC shall be governed by bylaws which are consistent with USMS objectives and goals.

502.3. ANNUAL MEETING-Each LMSC shall hold an annual meeting open to all individual members registered with USMS through the LMSC.

502.4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS-Each LMSC shall provide for periodic election of officers in its bylaws.

502.5. FILING OF BYLAWS-Each LMSC shall file a copy of its current bylaws with the USMS national office.

502.6. BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS-Appendix D contains official boundary descriptions for each LMSC.

502.7. RECORDS AND RECORD KEEPING-Each LMSC shall comply with the financial record keeping and reporting requirements of USMS. The LMSC shall forward to the USMS national office the minutes of the annual meeting and annual financial reports within 4 months of the end of the LMSC's fiscal year.

ARTICLE 503: HOUSE OF DELEGATES

503.1. MEMBERSHIP-The House of Delegates of the corporation shall consist of the following:

.1 One member from each LMSC. If the LMSC has over 300 annual registrations, it is entitled to one additional member. For each additional 500 annual registrations, the LMSC is entitled to one more member in the House of Delegates. Figures shall be determined by the records of the national registrar for the previous year or June 15 of the current year, whichever is the greater.

.2 All members of the Executive Committee.

.3 All past presidents.

.4 All members of the Zone Committee.

.5 All members of the Rules, Legislation, and Long Distance Committees, the controller, and the chairmen of all standing committees appointed by the president shall be at-large members, if not already members.

.6 The president of the corporation shall be empowered to appoint up to 10 percent of the total membership of the House of Delegates as at-large members of the House of Delegates.

.7 All members of the House of Delegates shall remain until their successors are selected, except that membership may be terminated by resignation filed with the secretary.

503.2. POWERS-The powers of the House of Delegates shall be as follows:

.1 To admit to group membership or individual membership any organization or person eligible under this code and who applies.

.2 To prescribe and amend the code for the government of the corporation.

.3 To impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the code of the corporation.

.4 To call regular and special meetings of the corporation and to fix the time and place for holding all meetings not fixed by this code.

.5 To collect and expend the monies of the corporation.

.6 To institute, locate, conduct, and manage all national championship meets.

.7 To explain, define, and interpret any provisions of this code or other rules of the corporation, including the rules of competition.

503.3. MEETINGS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

.1 The annual meeting of the House of Delegates shall be held at such time and place, within or without the state of Ohio, as may be fixed in the notice of such meeting.

.2 Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be held at any time, pursuant to a resolution of either the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

.3 A written notice of all annual and special meetings of the House of Delegates, stating the time, place, and preliminary agenda, shall be given to each member of the House of Delegates by mailing the same to each member's last known address at least 3 weeks prior to the meeting date.

.4 Each member of the House of Delegates shall have one vote on each matter submitted to the House of Delegates of the corporation for vote, consent, waiver, release, or other action. There shall be no voting by proxy.

.5 A quorum shall consist of those members of the House of Delegates present and voting.

ARTICLE 504: OFFICERS

504.1. POSITIONS-The elected officers of the corporation shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. No person may concurrently hold more than one such office.

504.2. ELECTIONS AND TERM OF OFFICE

.1 All officers of the corporation shall be elected by the members of the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in odd-numbered years. Elected officers shall hold office for 2 years or until their successors are elected and qualified.

.2 Each officer is eligible for election to the same office for two terms. No person so elected for two successive terms is eligible for re-election to the same office until after the lapse of 2 years following the terms of office to which that person was last elected.

504.3. VACANCIES-Vacancies in any office of the corporation may be filled for the unexpired term by the Board of Directors at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

504.4. DUTIES OF OFFICERS-The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

.1 The president shall:

A Order meetings of the corporation as provided in the code and preside at all meetings of the corporation.

B Exercise all the duties pertaining to this office in accordance with the code.

C Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

D Appoint legal counsel who shall serve at the pleasure of the president.

.2 The vice-president has duties as assigned by the president and has all the powers and performs the duties of the president should the president be unable or incapable of performing such duties.

.3 The secretary shall make proper arrangements to:

A Keep the records of the corporation and the House of Delegates.

B Conduct all official correspondence of the corporation.

C Issue all official notices of all meetings of the House of Delegates and Board of Directors.

D Serve as secretary of the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors.

.4 The treasurer shall:

A Be the custodian of all corporate funds.

B Receive all funds of the corporation and deposit to the accounts of the corporation.

C Disburse funds as directed by the controller, or by the House of Delegates.

D Invest funds of the corporation in a prudent manner for the benefit of the corporation, in accordance with the investment policies established by the Finance Committee.

E Maintain adequate and accurate financial records which document the income and disbursement of the corporation's funds.

F Submit all financial records to the Internal Audit Committee annually within 5 months following the end of the corporation's fiscal year.

ARTICLE 505: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

505.1. MEMBERSHIP-The Board of Directors of this corporation shall consist of:

.1 The president, the vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer.

.2 Each member of the Zone Committee.

.3 Past presidents not already on the board.

.4 The chairmen of all standing committees.

.5 The legal counsel.

.6 The controller.

.7 An ex-officio member from United States Swimming.

505.2. TERM OF OFFICE-Directors shall be elected or appointed for a 2-year term.

505.3. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS-The Board of Directors of the corporation shall at all times be composed of individuals, of whom at least 80 percent are active Masters swimmers in the United States.

505.4. VACANCIES-Any vacancies that may occur on the Board of Directors, except vacancies in the officers, caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled for the unexpired term by someone appointed by the president from among the members of the House of Delegates.

505.5. POWERS-The Board of Directors shall have the authority to act for the corporation between meetings of the House of Delegates.

505.6. MEETINGS-Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at any time or place, within or without the state of Ohio, pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Directors or to a call signed by the president or any three directors. Two weeks' written notice of such meeting shall be given to each Director. Notice of any meeting may be waived in writing before such meeting. Special matters may be voted upon by the Board of Directors by mail, but no action can thus be taken without the endorsement of a majority of all directors.

505.7. QUORUM-The presence of a majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

505.8. VOTING PRIVILEGES-Each member of the Board of Directors shall have one vote with the exception of the past presidents. The immediate past president shall have one vote and all other past presidents shall be ex-officio members. Ex-officio members shall have voice but no vote.

ARTICLE 506: COMMITTEES

506.1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

.1 The Executive Committee of this corporation shall consist of:

A The president, the vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer.

B The Zone Committee chairman.

C The legal counsel.

D The immediate past president.

.2 The Executive Committee shall have the authority to act for the corporation between meetings of the Board of Directors.

506.2. STANDING COMMITTEES-The president shall appoint the chairman of each committee. Whenever possible, each committee shall have representation from each zone. Unless otherwise noted, the president, with the concurrence of the committee chairman, shall choose other members necessary to carry out the duties of the committee.

.1 Championship Committee-The Championship Committee shall include one member from each zone, and at least two members without experience in the direction of national championship meets. Duties of the committee include receiving bid proposals, reviewing bids, making recommendations to the House of Delegates for national championship meets, and coordinating the date and site with other

swimming championships. The Championship Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to national championship hosts.

.2 Coaches Committee-The Coaches Committee shall promote Masters Swimming from an organizational standpoint in the conduct of Masters Swimming workouts and by providing leadership and personnel for approved programs and projects at national championship meets. The Coaches Committee may serve in an advisory capacity to the Executive Committee and to other committees concerning those items that would affect the coaching of Masters Swimming and the promotion of organized programs for Masters Swimming.

.3 Convention Committee-The Convention Committee shall coordinate with USAS in the preparation of each year's national convention and carry out the operational needs of the House of Delegates and its committees at convention.

.4 Finance Committee-The Finance Committee shall consist of nine members from the House of Delegates, with at least one from each zone. The treasurer, the chairman of the Internal Audit Committee, and the controller shall serve as ex-officio members of the committee.

A The Finance Committee shall:

1. Develop policies pertaining to the financial affairs of the corporation.
2. Receive and review the annual reports of the Internal Audit Committee, treasurer, and controller.
3. Prepare or cause to be prepared a summary of the above reports to be presented to the House of Delegates at each annual convention.
4. Annually receive and compile all budget requests from each officer and committee for the next fiscal year.
5. At each annual convention, prepare the corporation's budget for the next fiscal period and, after approval of the budget by the committee, submit same to the House of Delegates for approval.

B Committee requests for budget items or requests for funding that are disapproved by the Finance Committee (or those not submitted to the Finance Committee) may be approved by the House of Delegates by a two-thirds vote.

.5 Fitness Committee-The Fitness Committee shall study and develop fitness swimming activities for the general membership at the national level, and encourage such activities at the local level. The committee shall educate adults on the fitness benefits of swimming.

.6 Insurance Committee-The Insurance Committee shall study and review the insurance needs of USMS and shall recommend policies, procedures, and appropriate insurance coverage for USMS, its participants, and its programs.

.7 Internal Audit Committee-The Internal Audit Committee shall consist of at least two members of the corporation appointed by the president with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, one of whom shall be designated by the president as chairman. The members of the committee shall make

their reports to the House of Delegates through the Finance Committee. The Internal Audit Committee shall:

A Receive the financial records of the corporation from the treasurer and the controller.

B Examine at least annually all financial records received pursuant to Article 506.2.7A to determine the accuracy and validity of the records maintained by the treasurer and controller.

C Prepare and audit the annual income statement and balance sheet of the corporation, along with any other appropriate financial statements as of the close of the corporation's fiscal year.

D Present the financial statements listed in Article 506.2.7C to the Finance Committee as soon as practical after the close of the fiscal year with a statement as to the Internal Audit Committee's position regarding the accuracy and validity of those documents.

E Submit to the Finance Committee recommendations for the improvement of the financial management of the corporation.

F Receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of its duties, following authorization by an officer or the chairman of the Finance Committee.

.8 International Committee-The International Committee shall encourage, promote, and coordinate Masters Swimming on an international basis, and shall be empowered to bid for international championship meets.

.9 Legislation Committee-The Legislation Committee shall consist of members of the House of Delegates, with two from each zone. The Legislation Committee is charged with considering all code change proposals of an administrative or organizational nature and maintaining consistency within the code of regulations. The Legislation Committee may initiate and shall consider proposed amendments in accordance with the provisions of Part Six-Amendment Procedures.

.10 Long Distance Committee-The Long Distance Committee shall consist of twelve members from the House of Delegates, with at least one member from each zone. The chairman shall be the USMS liaison to the USS Long Distance Committee. The Long Distance Committee may initiate and shall consider proposed amendments in accordance with the provisions of Part Six-Amendment Procedures.

.11 Marketing/Publications Committee-The Marketing/Publications Committee shall define the marketing and communications goals and objectives that are supportive of the purpose and philosophy of Masters Swimming, and shall execute the activities and produce materials necessary to accomplish these goals and objectives.

.12 Officials Committee-The Officials Committee shall consist of the chairman appointed by the president for a 2-year term, one member from each zone whenever possible, and any other members the president shall deem necessary to perform the work of the committee. The duties of the Officials Committee shall be to develop policies and procedures that further the goal of having all USMS sanctioned events officiated by competent officials on a uniform basis throughout the country, applying all USMS rules, at all levels, for all ages, at all meets.

.13 Planning Committee-The Planning Committee shall consist of at least one member from each zone; the committee as a whole shall represent a broad range of experience in all aspects of the Masters Swimming program. The committee shall develop long range plans, goals, and objectives related to the vitality and quality of the Masters Swimming program and shall recommend appropriate projects, policies, and priorities in response to issues that affect USMS programs. The committee shall conduct periodic reviews of the organizational structure and shall suggest changes designed to enhance communications, efficiency, and productivity.

.14 Records and Tabulation Committee-The Records and Tabulation Committee shall establish and maintain a standardized process of recording and verifying times and publishing the Top Ten times and USMS national records annually for each course.

.15 Registration Committee-The Registration Committee shall include one member from each zone and one member-at-large. Duties of the committee shall include preparing regulations, soliciting and evaluating bids for the position of national registrar in even-numbered years, and presenting the most qualified bid or bids for approval to the House of Delegates.

.16 Rule Book Committee-The Rule Book Committee shall be responsible for budgeting, planning, designing, editing, producing, and distributing the USMS rule book as approved by the House of Delegates.

.17 Rules Committee-The Rules Committee shall include two members of the House of Delegates from each zone. The Rules Committee may initiate and shall consider proposed amendments in accordance with the provisions of Part Six-Amendment Procedures.

.18 Sports Medicine, Health, and Safety Committee-The Sports Medicine, Health, and Safety Committee shall research and advise USMS on subjects related to sports medicine, health, and safety. The committee shall stimulate and encourage research in the health benefits, medical problems, physiology, and psychology of Masters Swimming.

.19 Zone Committee-The Zone Committee shall consist of a representative from each zone elected by the delegates from each LMSC within each zone. Zone representatives shall be elected at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates for 2-year terms. Zone representatives shall be residents of their zones, and a change of residency out of the zone shall cause a vacancy. The President shall appoint a member of the zone to fill the unexpired term. The zone representatives shall select the chairman of the committee from within or without the committee. The committee shall carry out the responsibilities assigned to it by the policies of the House of Delegates, the president, the USMS code of regulations, and the stated needs of the LMSCs.

The Zone Committee shall act as the Nominating Committee. The committee shall canvass qualified and interested persons and present one or more candidates for each office at least 1 month before the annual meeting in which elections are held. Additional candidates may be nominated at the annual meeting by two delegates to the House of Delegates, provided the nominee(s) gives written consent.

506.3. AD HOC COMMITTEES-The president may establish other committees on an ad hoc basis that are deemed necessary to carry out the duties of the president. Each committee shall meet annually in conjunction with the annual meeting of the House of Delegates, if requested by the committee chairman, a committee member, or any member of the House of Delegates.

ARTICLE 507: FINANCIAL POLICY

507.1. FISCAL YEAR-The corporation shall have a 1-year fiscal period for tax and accounting purposes commencing on the first day of January.

507.2. CONTROLLER-The controller shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the president and shall report to the Finance Committee. The controller shall:

- .1 Establish and maintain the financial records of the corporation using generally accepted accounting principles and practices.
- .2 Record corporate income from the registrar and all other sources on the books of the corporation.
- .3 Receive and record all invoices and/or bills, which invoice and/or bills shall have been approved by an officer or committee chairman or other person authorized to approve such expenses.
- .4 Authorize the treasurer to disburse corporate funds pursuant to paragraph .3 above.
- .5 Prepare annual financial summaries of the corporation's financial status within 5 months following the end of the fiscal year.
- .6 Prepare the annual financial reports showing the income and disbursements of the corporation, which shall be similar to those reports required of nonprofit organizations by section 6056 of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or corresponding provisions of any subsequent tax laws). Such annual financial reports shall be made available for inspection by members of the general public at the corporation's principal office on request made within 180 days after notice of its availability.
- .7 Prepare the corporation's annual tax returns.
- .8 Submit all financial records to the Internal Audit Committee annually within 2 months following the end of the fiscal year.
- .9 Submit recommendations for improvements in the management of the corporation's fiscal affairs to the chairman of the Finance Committee as requested or deemed advisable.
- .10 Be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the position, following authorization by an officer or the chairman of the Finance Committee.

507.3. FEES-Fees shall be as established by the House of Delegates.

ARTICLE 508: INDEMNIFICATION AND DISSOLUTION

508.1. INDEMNIFICATION

.1 Each person who is or was a director, officer, or employee of the corporation (including the heirs, executors, administrators, or estate of such person) shall be indemnified by the corporation to the full extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Law of the state of Ohio against any liability cost or expense incurred in the capacity as director, officer, or employee, or arising out of the status as a

director, officer, or employee (including serving at the request of the corporation as a director, trustee, officer, employee, or agent of another corporation).

.2 The corporation may maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any such person against any such liability, cost, or expense. For the purpose of Article 508.1, references to "the corporation" include all constituents absorbed in a consolidation or merger as well as the resulting or surviving corporation.

508.2. DISSOLUTION

.1 If deemed advisable by the members, the corporation may be dissolved pursuant to the applicable provision of the corporation laws of the state of Ohio.

.2 Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, literary, or scientific purposes as shall qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

PART SIX: AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 601: AMENDMENTS

601.1. COMMITTEE JURISDICTION

.1 **Rules**-Proposed changes to the rules for competition (Part One) and the Glossary shall be considered by the Rules Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

.2 **Long Distance**-Proposed changes to the Rules for Long Distance Swimming (Part Three) and the Glossary shall be considered by the Long Distance Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

.3 **Legislation**-Proposed changes to the code of regulations (Preamble, Goals and Objectives, Glossary, Part Two, Part Four, Part Five, Part Six, and Appendix D-LMSC and Zone Boundaries) shall be considered by the Legislation Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

.4 **Executive Committee**-Proposed changes to all other sections of the USMS code of regulations and rules of competition shall be considered by the Executive Committee or committee designated by the president. Such proposals are not subject to the provisions of Articles 601.2, 601.3, 601.4, and 601.5.

601.2. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

.1 **Authorization**-Changes to the USMS code of regulations and rules of competition may be proposed only by an LMSC, a standing committee of the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, or the Executive Committee.

.2 Format-Proposed changes shall be in such form as to show the entire section as it will read if adopted, with any changes in language underlined if new and lined out if deleted.

.3 Submission Deadline-Proposed changes by an LMSC must be submitted to the chairman of the Rules, Legislation, or Long Distance Committee not later than July 10.

.4 Publication of Proposed Amendments-All proposed changes to the rules or code shall be published and mailed to each LMSC and each member of the House of Delegates not later than August 15.

601.3. MODIFICATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS-Proposed amendments may be modified in any manner by the Rules, Legislation, or Long Distance Committee, where appropriate, while under consideration by said committee. Such modification must be germane to the subject matter and intent of the proposed change.

601.4 ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS-The USMS code of regulations and rules of competition may only be altered, amended, repealed, or otherwise changed at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates and only as follows:

.1 Rules-In even-numbered years, Part One and the Glossary may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting, if submitted to and reported out favorably by the Rules Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if submitted to and NOT reported out favorably by the Rules Committee.

.2 Long Distance-In even-numbered years, Part Three and the Glossary may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if submitted to and reported out favorably by the Long Distance Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if submitted to and NOT reported out favorably by the Long Distance Committee.

.3 Legislation-In odd-numbered years, the Preamble, Goals and Objectives, Glossary, Part Two, Part Four, Part Five, Part Six, and Appendix D-LMSC and Zone Boundaries may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates present and voting if submitted to and reported out favorably by the Legislation Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if submitted to and NOT reported out favorably by the Legislation Committee.

.4 Emergency Amendments-Emergency amendments may be passed by a nine-tenths vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if they are not submitted in conformity with Articles 601.4.1, 601.4.2, and 601.4.3, and only if properly submitted to, deemed an emergency, and reported out favorably by the appropriate governing committee as defined in Article 601.1.

.5 USS Amendments that Affect USMS Rules

A Amendments to USS Articles 101, "Individual Strokes and Relays," and 102, "Conduct and Officiating of All Swimming Competition," shall automatically be adopted by USMS, unless the USMS House of Delegates votes to reject those amendments. Votes to reject shall not be considered emergency amendments (this action shall take effect immediately).

B If amendments to USS Articles 101 and 102 are adopted between the annual meetings of the House of Delegates, the corresponding portions of Part One shall automatically be adopted by USMS, except that such amendments may be altered, amended, repealed, or changed by a nine-tenths vote of the Rules Committee and a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

601.5 EFFECTIVE DATE-Unless otherwise specified, all changes approved as prescribed shall become effective on January 1 of the year following their adoption.

Summary of Amendment Procedures	Even Years	Odd Years
Rules (Part One and Glossary)		
If reported out favorably by committee	Majority	*
If NOT reported out favorably by committee	2/3	*
Long Distance (Part Three and Glossary)		
If reported out favorably by committee	Majority	*
If NOT reported out favorably by committee	2/3	*
Legislation (Preamble, Goals and Objectives, Glossary, Part Two, Part Four, Part Five, Part Six, and Appendix D)		
If reported out favorably by committee	*	Majority 2/3
If NOT reported out favorably by committee		
*Emergency Amendments: by a 9/10 vote ONLY if properly submitted, deemed an emergency, and reported out favorably by the appropriate committee.		

APPENDIX A: RECORDS

Records Current as of:

USMS Short Course Meters: October 21, 1997

USMS Short Course Yards, & Long Course Meters: February 12, 1997

World Short Course Meters, Long Course Meters: November 1, 1997

USMS Long Distance: November 1, 1997

EFFECTIVE DATES: The records in this listing reflect applications received by the above effective dates. Some records achieved by these effective dates may not yet have been submitted or processed.

DISCREPANCIES AND ERRATA: The USMS record is faster than the world record in some events. Possible reasons for these discrepancies include: (a) the application for the USMS record has been approved, but the application for the world record still is in progress; (b) a birth certificate was not submitted as proof of age; (c) certification of pool length was not submitted; (d) the application for the world record was not submitted within 60 days of the date of the performance; or (e) the method of calculating age differs between FINA and USMS.

CORRECTIONS: Any questions about the listed records should be addressed to:

"Pool" Records

Pieter Cath
Records/Tabulation Committee
35400 Bainbridge Rd.
Solon, OH 44139-3029
Records@usms.org

Long Distance Records

Sally Ann Dillon
Long Distance Committee
P.O. Box 9499
Truckee, CA 96162
LongDistance@usms.org

APPENDIX B: INFORMATION FOR MEET DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS

ENFORCEMENT OF RULES

USMS rules shall be applied uniformly regardless of age.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN USS AND USMS RULES

USMS follows Articles 101 and 102 of the U.S. Swimming technical rules with the following exceptions:

Starts, Strokes, and Relays

- **Forward start.** The forward start may be taken from the starting block, the pool deck, or a push from the wall. The starter shall direct the swimmers to assume a position with at least one foot at the front of the block, the edge of the deck, or on the wall before the command "Take your mark." Those starting in the water must have at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting block. The forward start or the short course yards backstroke start shall be used for freestyle events.
- **Backstroke start.** *For short course yards events*, the feet may be placed in any position on the wall or on the gutter of the pool, and the swimmer may assume any desired starting position that does not

remove either foot completely from the water, or either hand from the starting grips or pool edge. Standing in or on the gutter is not permitted at any time before the start. *For short course meters and long course meters events*, USMS and USS follow the same rules.

- **Backstroke turn.** The swimmer who turns past vertical and, in a continuous motion, grabs the wall before pushing off with the feet while on the back is considered to have executed a "continuous turning action."
- **Backstroke.** Standing in or on the gutter (any course) and curling the toes over the lip of the gutter (short course meters and long course meters) is not permitted after the start.
- **Butterfly.** The breaststroke or whip kick may be used exclusively or interchangeably with the dolphin kick at any time during the race. However, when the breaststroke or whip kick is used, the arms must be recovered over the top of the water at least once per breaststroke or whip kick, except after the last such kick before the turn or finish.
- **Relays.** Relay swimmers who cannot exit the water quickly enough to prevent interference with automatic officiating equipment may be allowed to hold on to the lane line until all relays have finished, allowing them to exit the pool more slowly or via the ladders at the conclusion of the race.

Swimming Competition

- **Officials.** The minimum number of officials at USMS sanctioned or recognized Masters Swimming meets shall include the following:
 - One referee
 - One starter
 - Two stroke and turn judges
 - Two timers per lane (if automatic timing is not being used)The referee and starter may double as stroke and turn judges, but the referee and starter may not be the same person. The referee shall be certified as a stroke and turn judge, starter, or referee by USS, YMCA, or any other USMS-approved certifying body.
- **Warm-up.** If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of five lanes or more, one lane shall be set aside for warm-up/warm-down during the conduct of the meet. If there is no other warm-up/warm-down area available in pools of four or fewer lanes, swimmers shall be allowed to swim to the other end of the pool at the end of each heat and a warm-up/warm-down period must be offered at least once during each half-hour of competition.
- **Timed Finals.** All Masters events shall be conducted on a timed final basis.
- **Seeding.** Age groups, sexes, and events of the same distance 200 yards or longer may be combined so that no swimmer has to swim alone and lanes may be filled.

It is recommended that when swimmers are seeded by time and not by age groups, the fastest two swimmers in each age group shall not be seeded into outside lanes. It is recommended that they be moved inward one lane, or given the center lane in the next slowest heat, whichever is the most appropriate placement.

Seeding at meets other than national championship meets may be either fast-to-slow or slow-to-fast. Seeding may differ for sprint and distance events. The meet announcement shall state the seeding for all events.

At the discretion of the meet director, competitors in the freestyle events over 200 meters may be required to swim two-to-a-lane when only one course is available for the event. When events are swum two-to-a-lane, obstructing another swimmer by swimming across the lane or

otherwise interfering with the other swimmer may disqualify the offender, and the offender shall be removed from the lane as soon as practical.

- **Counters.** A swimmer in any individual event of 400 yards or meters or more, except the individual medley, may appoint one counter to call lengths or indicate lengths by visual sign.
- **Records.** USMS records may only be established by USMS-registered swimmers in sanctioned or recognized competition. Because swimmers from different age groups and sexes may compete in the same heat or event, winning the heat or event is not required to establish a record.

Relay lead-off split times will be considered for records or Top Ten times, provided the swimmers complete the event without being disqualified, and provided automatic timing is used.

Required documentation for USMS records includes the referee's signature, as well as the tape from the automatic or semi-automatic (with three buttons) timing equipment, or the time card bearing times and signatures from *three* timers.

- **Scratch Procedures.** Any swimmer or relay team not reporting for or competing in an event shall not be penalized.
- **Protests.** Protests arising from competition shall be made within 30 minutes after the race in which the alleged infraction took place. If the protest is not resolved immediately, the protester shall at that time file a written protest with the chairman of the Local Masters Swimming Committee (LMSC) or the chairman's representative having jurisdiction over the event. If the LMSC does not satisfactorily resolve the protest within 10 days, the protester may appeal in writing to the USMS Rules Committee chairman within the next 5 days for final adjudication, whose decision shall then be binding on all parties.
- **Relay Take-Off Judges.** Relay exchanges shall be observed by a minimum of two officials acting independently of each other. One of them shall be assigned to the side of the course, and the other may be assigned next to the lane on the other side of the course, or next to the first official. When automatic relay take-off judging equipment is in use, a team will be disqualified only when there is dual confirmation of an illegal take-off (i.e., visual and automatic equipment).
- **Eligibility.** The eligibility of a participant for a particular age group will be determined by age as of the *last* day of the meet.

Long Distance Swimming

- **Costume.** Multiple swim caps and neoprene caps are allowed in any USMS long distance competition. Separate wetsuit divisions may be offered in non-national championship events.

PREPARATION OF MEET RESULTS

Meet results must include the name of the meet; the location of the meet (name of pool, city, and state); the date of the meet; the name and address of the meet director; the name and certification status of the officials (referee, starter, and stroke and turn judges); and the sanction or approval number.

The results of each event shall be published in the following order:

Individual events:

1. Print women's results first, then men's results.
2. Within each sex, print results by age group from youngest to oldest.
3. Within each age group, print results in the following stroke order: freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly, and individual medley.
4. Within each stroke, print events in order from shortest to longest.

Relay events:

1. Print women's relay results first, then men's relay results, then mixed relay results.
2. Within each sex, print results in the following order: 200 freestyle relay, 200 medley relay, 400 freestyle relay, 400 medley relay, and 800 freestyle relay.
3. Within each relay event, print results by age group from youngest to oldest.

Results, tapes, timing printouts, time cards, heat sheets, timers' heat sheets or swimmer lists, and other information used to compile results and records shall be kept for a minimum of 1 year after the conclusion of the meet.

USMS AND WORLD RECORD APPLICATIONS

Documentation Requirements for USMS Records:

- Completed "Application for USMS and/or World Record."
- Copy of the tape from the electronic timing device bearing the signature of the meet referee *and/or* the time card bearing the times from three stopwatches, the signature of each timer, and the signature of the meet referee.

Documentation Requirements for World Records:

- All documentation required for USMS records.
- Proof of age consisting of a copy of the swimmer's birth certificate or passport (this is a one-time requirement for each swimmer).
- Completed "Pool Length Certification Form" (this is a one-time requirement for each pool).
- The record application must be received within 60 days following the date of the performance.

Documentation Requirements for USMS Long Distance Records:

- Completed "Application for USMS Long Distance Record."
- Proof of achieved time or distance swum.
- For postal events, a lap-count check-off sheet listing all split times and bearing the signature, name, address, and phone number of the lap counter/timer.
- For cable swims, the technique used to measure the course and the signature, name, address, and phone number of the person who measured the course.

APPENDIX C: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MASTERS SWIMMING SCHEDULE

USMS NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

1998 USMS Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 30-October 4. Contact: Betsy Durrant, 211 Sixty-Sixth Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23451-2040. Phone (757) 422-6811.

1999 USMS Convention, San Diego, Calif. September 15-18. Contact: Betsy Durrant, 211 Sixty-Sixth Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23451-2040. Phone (757) 422-6811.

USMS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

1998 USMS Short Course Championships, Indiana University Natatorium, Indianapolis, Ind. May 7-10, 1998. Contact: Sharon Wise, 1025 Mt. Auburn Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46224. Phone: (317) 247-7129.

1998 USMS Long Course Championships, International Swimming Hall of Fame, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. August 20-23. Contact: Stu Marvin, International Swimming Hall of Fame, 501 Seabreeze Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316. Phone: (954) 468-1580.

1999 USMS Short Course Championships, Santa Clara International Swim Center, Santa Clara, Calif. May 13-16, 1999. Contact: Alma Guimarin, 2150 Paseo Del Oro, San Jose, CA 95142. Phone: (408) 947-2298.

1999 USMS Long Course Championships, University of Minnesota Aquatic Center, Minneapolis, MN 55066. August 19-23, 1999. Contact: Paul Windrath, 2612 Eunice Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066. Phone: (612) 388-8524. E-mail: pwindrath@compuserve.com.

USMS LONG DISTANCE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

1998 USMS 1 Hour Postal Championships, DC Masters. January 1-31, 1998. Contact: Joann Leilich, 7209 Hansford Ct., Springfield, VA 22151. Phone: (703) 354-2130.

1998 USMS 5 and 10 Kilometer Postal Championships, Inland Northwest Masters. May 15-September 30, 1998. Contact: Elin Zander, S. 13927 Traver Lane, Valleyford, WA 99036. Phone: (509) 448-5250.

1998 USMS 3000 Yard Postal Championships, Adirondack District Masters Swimming. September 1-October 31, 1998. Contact: Ann Svanson, P.O. Box 425, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. Phone: (518) 893-1967.

1998 USMS 1 Mile Open Water Championships, Greenwich Swim Committee. July 4, 1998. Contact: Kathy Salvo, 95 Columbus Place, #1, Stamford, CT 06907. Phone: (203) 322-6162.

1998 USMS 1-3 Mile Open Water Championships, Sierra Nevada Masters. August 8, 1998. Contact: Nancy Rose, P.O. Box 9122, Truckee, CA 96162. Phone: (916) 582-1214.

1998 USMS 2-Mile Cable Championships, Dunwoody Aquatic Masters. June 13, 1998. Contact: Bill Black, P.O. Box 88863, Atlanta, GA 30356-8863. Phone: (770) 698-8020.

1998 3-6 Mile Open Water Championships, Dunwoody Aquatic Masters. September 12, 1998. Contact: Bill Black, P.O. Box 88863, Atlanta, GA 30356-8863. Phone: (770) 698-8020.

1998 USMS 6+ Mile Open Water Championships, Santa Cruz Masters. August 1, 1998. Contact: Joel Wilson, P.O. Box 8422, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. Phone: (408) 425-5762.

1999 USMS 1 Hour Postal Championships, Empire State Masters Swim Club. January 1-31, 1999. Contact: Jon Einsidler, 10 Waterside Plaza, Apt. 6D, New York, NY 10010. Phone: (212) 684-2979.

1999 USMS 5 and 10 Kilometer Postal Championships, Pacific Northwest Association. May 15-September 30, 1999. Contact: Jane A. Moore, 1867 Fifty-Eighth St. NE, Tacoma, WA 98422-1517. Phone: (253) 925-0803.

1999 USMS 3000 Yard Postal Championships, Florida Maverick Masters. September 1-October 31, 1999. Contact: Marie Huntinge, 1755 Georgia Ave. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33703. Phone: (813) 521-1172.

1999 USMS 1 Mile Open Water Championships, Seal Beach Swim Club. Pacific Ocean, Seal Beach, Calif. July 17, 1999. Contact: Anne Welty, 68 Rivo Alto Canal, Long Beach, CA 90803. Phone: (562) 424-4227, X 236.

1999 USMS 1-3 Mile Open Water Championships, Ohio Masters Swim Club. Lake Erie, Cleveland, Ohio. August 1, 1999. Contact: Maureen Koss, 3400 Wooster, Apt. 215, Rocky River, OH 44116. Phone: (216) 333-7521.

1999 USMS 2-Mile Cable Championships, Virginia Masters Swim Team. Chris Green Lake, Charlottesville, Va. Contact: Joyce Mullins, 3104 Waterton Dr., Midlothian, VA 23113. Phone: (804) 323-0483.

1999 3-6 Mile Open Water Championships, Malibu Polar Bear and Breakfast Club, Southern California Aquatics. Pacific Ocean, Catalina Island, Calif. Contact: Tom Katsouleas, 20452 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90265. Phone: (801) 456-3657.

1999 USMS 6+ Mile Open Water Championships, Malibu Polar Bear and Breakfast Club, Southern California Aquatics. Pacific Ocean, Catalina Island, Calif. September 25, 1999. Contact: Bonnie Adair, 2310 Twenty-Ninth St., Santa Monica, CA 90405-2010. Phone: (310) 451-6666.

INTERNATIONAL MEETS

1998 VII World Masters Swimming Championships, Casablanca, Morocco. June 19-30, 1998. Contact: Tracy Grilli, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NY 03053-0185. Phone: (603) 537-0203. *If requesting entry packet, please enclose \$1 to cover mailing costs.*

1998 NIKE World Masters Games, Gresham, Oregon. August 10-15, 1998. Contact: 1-800-98-GAMES (1-800-984-2637) for entry packet/information or write 55 SW Yamhill, Portland, OR 97204-3312.

APPENDIX D: ZONE AND LMSC BOUNDARIES

Zones

Breadbasket-Colorado, Iowa, Midwestern, Minnesota, Missouri Valley, North Dakota, Ozark, South Dakota, Wyoming.

Colonies-Adirondack, Connecticut, Delaware Valley, Maryland, Metropolitan, New England, New Jersey, Niagara, Potomac Valley, Virginia.

Dixie-Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southeastern, Southern.

Great Lakes-Allegheny Mountain, Central, Indiana, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin.

Northwest-Alaska, Inland Northwest, Montana, Oregon, Pacific Northwest, Snake River, Utah.

Oceana-Hawaii, Pacific.

South Central-Arkansas, Border, Gulf, Oklahoma, North Texas, South Texas.

Southwest-Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial, Southern Pacific.

LMSC NUMERIC CODES AND ABBREVIATIONS

3 AD Adirondack

56 AK Alaska

11 AM Allegheny Mountain

48 AZ Arizona

23 AR Arkansas

53 BD Border

21 CE Central

32 CO Colorado

5 CT Connecticut

8 DV Delaware Valley

14 FL Florida

50 FG Florida Gold Coast

45 GA Georgia

25 GU Gulf

39 HI Hawaii

16 IN Indiana

35 IW Inland Northwest

40 IA Iowa

41 KY Kentucky

18 LE Lake Erie

9 MD Maryland

6 MR Metropolitan

19 MI Michigan

29 MW Midwestern

30 MN Minnesota

28 MV Missouri Valley

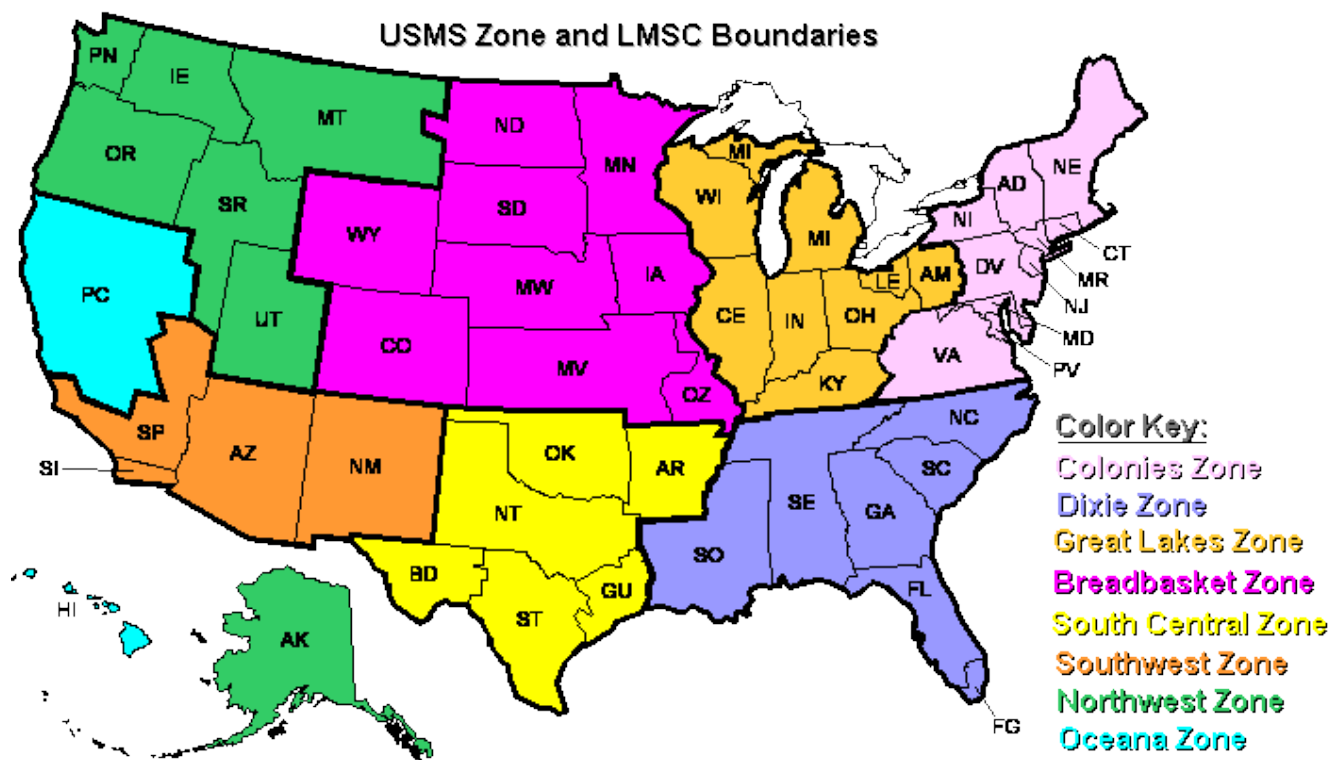
31 MT Montana

2 NE New England

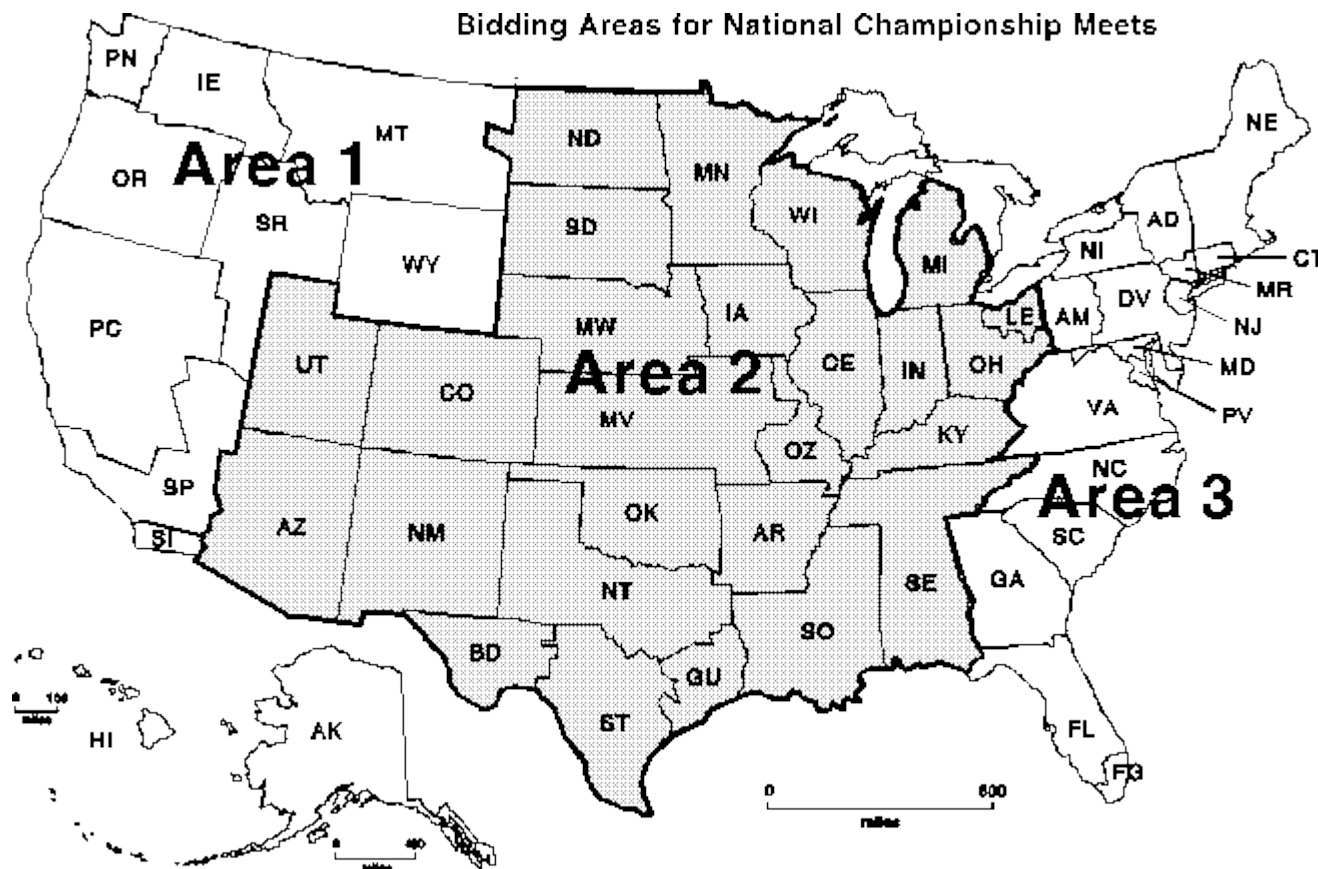
7 NJ New Jersey

42 NM New Mexico

- 4 NI Niagara
- 13 NC North Carolina
- 52 ND North Dakota
- 26 NT North Texas
- 17 OH Ohio
- 27 OK Oklahoma
- 37 OR Oregon
- 22 OZ Ozark
- 38 PC Pacific
- 36 PN Pacific Northwest
- 10 PV Potomac Valley
- 44 SI San Diego-Imperial
- 59 SR Snake River
- 55 SC South Carolina
- 54 SD South Dakota
- 43 ST South Texas
- 15 SE Southeastern
- 24 SO Southern
- 33 SP Southern Pacific
- 34 UT Utah
- 12 VA Virginia
- 20 WI Wisconsin
- 58 WY Wyoming



Bidding Areas for National Championship Meets



LMSC Boundaries

Adirondack-The state of New York east and north of Oswego, Onondaga, Cortland, Broome, Sullivan, Orange, and Dutchess Counties

Alaska-The state of Alaska.

Allegheny Mountain-The state of Pennsylvania west of Potter, Clinton, Center, Huntingdon, and Bedford Counties. In the state of West Virginia the counties of Marshall, Brooke, Ohio, and Hancock. In the state of Ohio the counties of Columbiana, Belmont, and Jefferson.

Arkansas-The state of Arkansas. In the state of Texas the County of Bowie.

Arizona-The state of Arizona.

Border-That part of the state of Texas west of but not including the counties of Val Verde, Sutton, Schleicher, Tom Green, and Coke, and south of but not including the counties of Mitchell, Howard, Martin, and Andrews.

Central-The state of Illinois except the counties of St. Clair, Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Monroe, and Madison.

Colorado-The state of Colorado.

Connecticut-The state of Connecticut.

Delaware Valley-The state of New Jersey south of Mercer and Monmouth Counties. The state of Delaware. In the state of Maryland the County of Cecil. The state of Pennsylvania east of and including Potter, Clinton, Center, Huntingdon, and Bedford Counties.

Florida-The state of Florida except the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Dade, Monroe, and that part of Hendry County east of Route 833; and also excluding the counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, Bay, and that part of Calhoun and Jackson Counties west of the Apalachicola River.

Florida Gold Coast-In the state of Florida the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Dade, Monroe, and that part of Hendry County east of Route 833.

Georgia-The state of Georgia.

Gulf-That part of the state of Texas bounded on the north by and including the counties of Robertson, Leon, Houston, Angelina, Nacogdoches, and Shelby; on the east by the state of Louisiana; on the south by the Gulf of Mexico; and on the west by and including the counties of Fort Bend, Wharton, Colorado, Waller, Grimes, Robertson, Brazos, and Matagorda.

Hawaii-The state of Hawaii.

Indiana-The state of Indiana except the counties of Floyd and Clark.

Inland Northwest-In the state of Washington the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Stevens, Spokane, Lincoln, Grant, Kittitas, Asotin, Columbia, Yakima, Franklin, Adams, Whitman, Walla Walla, Garfield, Benton, Pend Oreille, and that portion of Klickitat County east of Highway 97 and including the City of Goldendale. In the state of Idaho the counties of Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce, Idaho, Clearwater, and Boundary.

Iowa-The state of Iowa except the counties of Lyon, Osceola, Sioux, O'Brien, Plymouth, Cherokee, Woodbury, Ida, Monona, Crawford, Harrison, Shelby, Pottawattamie, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont, and Page.

Kentucky-The state of Kentucky except the counties of Campbell, Kenton, and Boone. In the state of Indiana the counties of Floyd and Clark.

Lake Erie-In the state of Ohio the counties of Tuscarawas, Seneca, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Summit, and Wayne.

Maryland-The state of Maryland except the counties of Cecil, Montgomery, and Prince Georges.

Metropolitan-The state of New York south of and including Sullivan, Orange, and Dutchess Counties.

Michigan-The state of Michigan.

Midwestern-The state of Nebraska. In the state of Iowa the counties of Lyon, Osceola, Sioux, O'Brien, Plymouth, Cherokee, Woodbury, Ida, Monona, Crawford, Harrison, Shelby, Pottawattamie, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont, and Page.

Minnesota-The state of Minnesota. In the state of Wisconsin the counties of St. Croix, Dunn, and Pierce.

Missouri Valley-The state of Kansas. The state of Missouri including and bounded by the counties of Schuyler, Adair, Macon, Randolph, Audrain, Callaway, Cole, Moniteau, Morgan, Benton, Hickory, Polk, Greene, Christian, and Taney.

Montana-The state of Montana except the counties of Dawson and Wibaux.

New England-The states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine.

New Jersey-The state of New Jersey north of and including the counties of Mercer, Monmouth, and Ocean.

New Mexico-The state of New Mexico.

Niagara-The state of New York west of and including the counties of Oswego, Onondaga, Cortland, and Broome.

North Carolina-The state of North Carolina.

North Dakota-The state of North Dakota. In the state of Montana the counties of Dawson and Wibaux.

North Texas-The state of Texas bounded on the south by but not including the counties of Winkler, Ector, Midland, Glasscock, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Mills, Lampasas, Bell, Milam, Robertson, Leon, Houston, Angelina, Nacogdoches, and Shelby; on the west by the state of New Mexico; on the east by the state of Louisiana and the state of Arkansas; and on the north by the state of Oklahoma and the County of Bowie, Texas.

Ohio-The state of Ohio except the counties of Seneca, Crawford, Columbiana, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Summit, Wayne, Belmont, Jefferson, and Tuscarawus. In the state of Kentucky the counties of Campbell, Kenton, and Boone.

Oklahoma-The state of Oklahoma.

Oregon-The state of Oregon except Malheur County. In the state of Washington the counties of Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, and that portion of Klickitat County west of Highway 97.

Ozark-The state of Missouri east of and including the counties of Scotland, Knox, Shelby, Monroe, Pike, Montgomery, Osage, Miller, Camden, Dallas, Webster, Douglas, and Ozark. In the state of Illinois the counties of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, and Monroe.

Pacific-The state of California north of but not including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino. In the state of Nevada the counties of Humboldt, Washoe, Lyon, Storey, Mineral, Douglas, Churchill, Pershing, Lander, and Carson City.

Pacific Northwest-The state of Washington west of but not including the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas, and Yakima, and north of but not including the counties of Cowlitz, Skamania, and Klickitat.

Potomac Valley-The District of Columbia. In the state of Maryland the counties of Montgomery and Prince Georges. In the Commonwealth of Virginia the counties of Arlington and Fairfax and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church.

San Diego-Imperial-In the state of California the counties of San Diego and Imperial.

Snake River-The state of Idaho except the counties of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, and Idaho. In the state of Nevada the counties of Elko, White Pine, and Eureka. In the state of Oregon the County of Malheur.

South Carolina-The state of South Carolina.

South Dakota-The state of South Dakota.

South Texas-The state of Texas bounded on the east by and including the counties of Milam, Burtleson, Washington, Austin, Fayette, Lavaca, and Jackson; on the south by the Gulf of Mexico and the Republic of Mexico; on the west by and including the counties of Val Verde, Sutton, Schleicher, Tom Green, and Coke; and on the north by and including the counties of Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Mills, Lampasas, Bell, and Milam.

Southeastern-The state of Alabama. The state of Tennessee. In the state of Florida the counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, and Bay, and that part of Jackson and Calhoun Counties west of the Apalachicola River.

Southern-The states of Louisiana and Mississippi.

Southern Pacific-In the state of California the counties of San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, and Santa Barbara. In the state of Nevada the counties of Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, and Nye.

Utah-The state of Utah.

Virginia-The Commonwealth of Virginia except the counties of Arlington and Fairfax and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church. The state of West Virginia except the counties of Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, and Marshall.

Wisconsin-The state of Wisconsin except the counties of St. Croix, Dunn, and Pierce.

Wyoming-The state of Wyoming.

APPENDIX E: USMS DIRECTORY

USMS Executive Committee

President: Nancy Ridout
Vice President: Jack Geoghegan
Secretary: Betsy Durrant
Treasurer: Jeanne Ensign
Past President: Mel Goldstein
Legal Counsel: Jeanne Crouse
Zone Chairman: Hugh Moore

USMS National Office

Executive Secretary: Tracy Grilli
National Registrar: Diane and Bill Black

ZONE REPRESENTATIVES AND LMSC CHAIRMEN

Breadbasket Zone - Kessler, Laura

Colorado: Bill Koerber
Iowa: Paul Eure
Midwestern: Erin M. Sullivan
Minnesota: Wayde Mulhern
Missouri Valley: Daniel Fisher
North Dakota: Will Gosnold
Ozark: Leo Letendre
South Dakota: Todd R. Connelly
Wyoming: Mel Dyck

Colonies Zone - Lynn Hazlewood

Adirondack: Ann McNeil
Connecticut: Michael A. Laux
Delaware Valley: Maureen Kilgariff
Maryland: Barbara Protzman
Metropolitan: Bob Kolonkowski
New England: D. Barr Clayson
New Jersey: Paul Cox
Niagara: George McVey
Potomac Valley: David Diehl
Virginia: Forrest Sullivan

Dixie Zone - June Krauser

Florida: Harold Ferris
Florida Gold Coast: Randy Nutt
Georgia: Lisa Watson
North Carolina: Ceil Blackwell

South Carolina: Tomi Richards
Southeastern: Rick Harris
Southern: L.J. Schmitt

Great Lakes Zone - Skip Thompson

Allegheny Mountain: Stanley Prazer
Central: David Ackermann
Indiana: Jim Barber
Kentucky: William Tingley
Lake Erie: Lily Kron
Michigan: Donald J. Kroeger
Ohio: Jack Kangas
Wisconsin: John Bauman

Northwest Zone - Dave Radcliff

Alaska: Annie Haxby
Inland Northwest: Bill Bresko
Montana: Steven Holloway
Oregon: Eric Guest
Pacific Northwest: Jane A. Moore
Snake River: Richard Cooke
Utah: Priscilla Kawakami

Oceana Zone - Richard Smith

Hawaii: Bruce Clark
Pacific: Julie Paque

South Central Zone - Kris Wingenroth

Arkansas: Carolyn Haefner
Border: Don Mehl
Gulf: Leslie Ronacher
North Texas: Kim Shaw
Oklahoma: Ashley Nance
South Texas: Keith Bell

Southwest Zone - Bonnie Adair

Arizona: Judy Gillies
New Mexico: Joe Tesmer
San Diego-Imperial: Don Hubbard
Southern Pacific: Bonnie Adair

USMS COMMITTEES

Championship Committee

Rousseau, Sandi (Northwest), Chairman

Bell, Keith (South Central)
Boak, Carolyn (Oceana)

Carling-Smith, Heather (Northwest)
Carrow, Hill (Dixie)

Daily, John (Great Lakes)
Donner, Gener (Southwest)
Fasbender, Barry (Oceana)
Fox, Jean (Dixie)
Gendreau, Ed (Colonies)
Marvin, Stu (Colonies)

Miller, Jim (Colonies)
Moore, Michael (Oceana)
Peck, Larry (Dixie)
Schofield, Steve (Southwest)
Watson, Lisa (Dixie)
Windrath, Paul (Breadbasket)

Coaches Committee

Rabalais, Scott (Dixie), Chairman

Adair, Bonnie (Southwest)
Bekoff, Michelle (Dixie)
Berry, Rob (Colonies)
Buchanan, Jack (Breadbasket)
Carlson, Lee (Northwest)
Cooper, Leslie (Colonies)
Gibson-Rick, Lorie (Colonies)
Grilli, David (Colonies)

Huestis, Doug (Oceana)
Mehl, Don (South Central)
Mester, Tom (Great Lakes)
Nellen, Maxine (Colonies)
Nessel, Edward (Colonies)
Stack, Brian (Oceana)
Talbot, Tina (Oceana)
Zeitner, Robert (Great Lakes)

Computer On-Line Committee

Matysek, Jim (Colonies), Chairman

Ackerman, Dave (Great Lakes)
Campesi, Craig (Colonies)
Fortoul, Paul (Colonies)
Frost, Dan (Northwest)
Hazlewood, Lynn (Colonies)
House, Carl (Dixie)

Lyndon, Tom (Colonies)
McCauley, Wayne (Southwest)
Moore, Michael ex officio (Oceana)
Paque, Julie (Oceana)
Raver, Bruce (Colonies)
Simon, George (Dixie)

Convention Committee

Heather, Michael (Southwest), Chairman

Cunningham, Carolyn (Oceana)
Gilligan, Chris (Great Lakes)
Grilli, Tracy (Colonies)
Gruender, Edie (Southwest)
Kreipe, Marie (Breadbasket)

Lamott, David (Southwest)
Mayer, Art (Colonies)
Smath, Meg (Great Lakes)
Tingley, Joanne (Great Lakes)
Wallace, Marie (Southwest)

Endowment Fund Board (ad hoc)

Church, Doug (Great Lakes), Chairman

Abramowitz, Roy (Northwest)
Carrow, Hill (Dixie)
Crouse, Jeanne (Colonies)
Durrant, Betsy (Colonies)
Ensign, Jeanne (Northwest)
Geoghegan, Jack (Colonies)
Goldstein, Mel (Great Lakes)

Miller, Jim (Colonies)
Miller, Nancy (Colonies)
Moore, Hugh (Northwest)
Rague, Suzanne (Northwest)
Ridout, Nancy (Oceana)
Walsh, Stephanie (Colonies)

Finance Committee

Rague, Suzanne (Northwest), Chairman

Abramowitz, Roy ex officio (Northwest)
Church, Doug (Great Lakes)
Cooper, Katie (Dixie)
Ensign, Jeanne ex officio (Northwest)
Johnson, Conrad (Colonies)
Moxie, Jeff ex officio (Southwest)

Newquist, Frank (Northwest)
Roof, Anna Lea (Breadbasket)
Shaw, Kim (South Central)
Spire, Greg (Oceana)
Tesmer, Joe (Southwest)

Fitness Committee

Chambers, Mo (Oceana), Chairman

Amsbary, M.J. (Great Lakes)
Bateman, Wendy (South Central)
Baxter, Cindy (Oceana)
Bekoff, Michelle (Dixie)
Frost, Dan (Northwest)
Gibson-Rick, Lorie (Colonies)
Grilli, David (Colonies)
Harper, Jane (South Central)
Kroeger, Donald (Great Lakes)

McVey, George (Colonies)
Prazer, Stan (Great Lakes)
Schwab, Dore (Oceana)
Talbot, Tina (Oceana)
Tesmer, Joe (Southwest)
Thayer, George (Northwest)
Timmons, Patricia (Colonies)
Whitters, Rob (Colonies)

Insurance Committee

Driscoll, Colleen (Colonies), Chairman

Bateman, Wendy (South Central)
Carlson, Lee (Northwest)
Dillon, Sally ex officio (Northwest)
Donnelly, Jerianne (Colonies)
Donner, Gener (Southwest)
Kangas, Jack (Great Lakes)
Kreipe, Marie (Breadbasket)

Laux, Mike (Colonies)
Levinson, Alan (Oceana)
McGuire, Ann (Dixie)
Paque, Julie ex officio (Oceana)
Salvatore, Jack (Southwest)
Spire, Greg (Oceana)
Sullivan, Forrest (Colonies)

Internal Audit Committee

Moxie, Jeff (Southwest), Chairman
Cunningham, George (Oceana)
Shaw, Kim (South Central)

International Committee

Krauser, June (Dixie), Chairman

Buchanan, Peggy (Breadbasket)
Cunningham, George (Oceana)
David, Irene (Great Lakes)
Donnelly, Dorothy (Colonies)
Gruender, Dan (Southwest)
Johnson, Elizabeth (South Central)

Kurtzman, Joe (Dixie)
Newquist, Frank (Northwest)
Pierson, Ginger (Northwest)
Reid, Walt (Northwest)
Tingley, Bill (Great Lakes)
Whitten, Phil (Southwest)

ISHOF Committee (ad hoc)

Boak, Tom (Oceana), Chairman

Boak, Carolyn (Oceana)
Geoghegan, Jack (Colonies)
Goldstein, Mel (Great Lakes)
Haartz, Ted (Colonies)

Krauser, June (Dixie)
Nielson-Bell, Sandy (South Central)
Rague, Suzanne (Northwest)

Legal Counselors (ad hoc)

Crouse, Jeanne (Colonies), Chairman

Carrow, Hill (Dixie)
Church, Doug (Great Lakes)
David, Irene (Great Lakes)
Geoghegan, Jack (Colonies)
Gruender, Dan (Southwest)

Harris, Rick (Dixie)
Laux, Mike (Colonies)
Mc Neil, Anne (Colonies)
Winn, Christine (Oceana)

Legislation Committee

Zander, Elin (Northwest), Chairman

Buchanan, Jack (Breadbasket)
Copeland, Rob (Colonies)
Donnelly, Jerianne (Colonies)
Earley, Bill (Southwest)
Ferguson, Darlynn (Great Lakes)
Kessler, Laura (Breadbasket)
Kurtzman, Joe (Dixie)
Letendre, Leo ex officio (Breadbasket)
Marcantonio, Marcia (South Central)

Merrick, Bob (Southwest)
Moore, Jane (Northwest)
Peterson, Steve (Northwest)
Reid, Bill (Great Lakes)
Smath, Meg ex officio (Great Lakes)
Smith, Richard (Oceana)
Tillotson, Frank (Dixie)
Tribuzi, Craig (South Central)
Winn, Christine (Oceana)

Long Distance Committee

Dillon, Sally (Northwest), Chairman

Barber, Jim ex officio (Great Lakes)
Burton, Karen (Breadbasket)
Chinn, MD, Colin (Southwest)
Crumbine, Peter (Colonies)
Hazelwood, Lynn (Colonies)
Johnston, Graham (South Central)
Koss, Maureen (Great Lakes)

Leskowitz, Ernie (Oceana)
Levinson, Alan (Oceana)
Nutt, Randy (Dixie)
Schofield, Steve (Southwest)
Wright, Jill (Northwest)
Zeitner, Robert (Great Lakes)

Marketing/Publications Committee

Carrow, Hill (Dixie), Chairman

Barber, Jim (Great Lakes)
Burns, Richard (Oceana)
Evans, Clay (Southwest)
Goldstein, Mel (Great Lakes)
Haneman, Lil (Dixie)
Mc Cowan, Linda (Great Lakes)
Morrin, Debbie (Colonies)
Nielson-Bell, Sandy (South Central)

Radcliff, David (Northwest)
Rinker, Melissa (Great Lakes)
Rodrigues, Gerry (Southwest)
Rousseau, Sandi ex officio (Northwest)
Smethurst, Ev (Southwest)
Watson, Mary Lee (Dixie)
Wheeler, Jim (Oceana)

Officials Committee

Tingley, Bill (Great Lakes), Chairman

Baxter, Cindy (Oceana)
Diehl, David (Colonies)
Dillon, Sally (Northwest)
Gillies, Judy (Southwest)
Harper, Jane (South Central)
Hart, Don, ex officio (USS)
Hungerford, Barney (Colonies)

Koerber, Bill (Breadbasket)
Kohnken, Charles (Dixie)
Mc Neil, Anne (Colonies)
Moore, Michael (Oceana)
Nordlund, Eric (Great Lakes)
Rabalais, Scott ex officio (Dixie)
Turcotte, Bobbie (Southwest)

Planning Committee

Miller, Nancy (Colonies), Chairman

Alexander, Joan (Oceana)
Black, Bill (Dixie)
Cunningham, George (Oceana)
Ewix, Junie (Dixie)
Gillin, Gordon (Southwest)
Holloway, Steven (Northwest)

Johnson, Lucy (Southwest)
Keffer-Sharpe, Kathy (South Central)
Mc Neil, Anne (Colonies)
Thompson, Frank (Great Lakes)
Walsh, Stephanie (Colonies)
Windrath, Paul (Breadbasket)

Professional Management Committee (ad hoc)

Moore, Hugh (Northwest), Chairman

Board of Directors, ()

Zalesky, Carol ex officio (USS)

Recognition & Awards Committee (ad hoc)

Watson, Mary Lee (Dixie), Chairman

Baxter, Cindy (Oceana)

Boak, Tom (Oceana)

Casey, Kathrine (Northwest)

Collins, Michael (Southwest)

Donnelly, Dorothy (Colonies)

Dummer, Gail (Great Lakes)

Geoghegan, Jack (Colonies)

Goldstein, Mel (Great Lakes)

Gruender, Dan (Southwest)

Gruender, Edie (Southwest)

Haartz, Ted (Colonies)

Hromada, Sarah (Breadbasket)

Hutinger, Paul (Dixie)

Krauser, June (Dixie)

Laux, Mike (Colonies)

Rague, Suzanne (Northwest)

Reid, Walt (Northwest)

Ridout, Nancy (Oceana)

Spannuth, John (Dixie)

Taft, Ray (Oceana)

Taft, Zada (Oceana)

Wales, Ross (USS)

Records and Tabulation Committee

Cath, Pieter (Great Lakes), Chairman

Blackwell, Ceil (Dixie)

Doerr, Richard (South Central)

Gendreau, Ed (Colonies)

House, Carl (Dixie)

Lee, Peter (Great Lakes)

Miller, David (Southwest)

Pierson, Ginger (Northwest)

Protzman, Barbara (Colonies)

Reid, Walt (Northwest)

Smith, Joan (Oceana)

Windes, Rick (Oceana)

Windrath, Mary Beth (Breadbasket)

Registration Committee

Hromada, Sarah (Breadbasket), Chairman

Black, Bill ex officio (Dixie)

Black, Diane ex officio (Dixie)

Bloom, Don (Oceana)

Guest, Eric (Northwest)

Kohnken, Charles (Dixie)

Pipes, Adrienne (Southwest)

Roddin, Jeff (Colonies)

Roof, Anna Lea (Breadbasket)

Shaw, Kim (South Central)

Simon, George (Dixie)

Tingley, Joanne (Great Lakes)

Rule Book Committee

Smath, Meg (Great Lakes), Chairman

Barber, Jim (Great Lakes)

Donnelly, Dorothy (Colonies)

Fink, Marilyn (Southwest)

Grilli, Tracy (Colonies)

Haneman, Lil (Dixie)

Lyndon, Tom (Colonies)

Miller, David (Southwest)

Peterson, Steve (Northwest)

Watson, Mary Lee (Dixie)

Windrath, Mary Beth (Breadbasket)

Rules Committee

Letendre, Leo (Breadbasket), Chairman

Boak, Tom (Oceana)	Johnson, Elizabeth (South Central)
Buchanan, Peggy (Breadbasket)	Kavadas, Janet (Northwest)
Casey, Kathrine (Northwest)	Koerber, Bill (Breadbasket)
Collins, Michael (Southwest)	Krauser, June (Dixie)
Cooper, Katie (Dixie)	Rabalais, Scott ex officio (Dixie)
Cooper, Leslie (Colonies)	Smath, Meg ex officio (Great Lakes)
David, Irene (Great Lakes)	Tingley, Bill ex officio (Great Lakes)
Diehl, David (Colonies)	Tripp, Thomas (Great Lakes)
Fasbender, Barry (Oceana)	Wingenroth, Kris (South Central)
Gillies, Judy (Southwest)	Zander, Elin ex officio (Northwest)

Safety Education Committee

Paque, Julie (Oceana), Chairman

Davies, Renee (Southwest)	McGuire, Ann (Dixie)
Driscoll, Colleen ex officio (Colonies)	Smith, Leslie (South Central)
Gray, Dan (Northwest)	Sullivan, Forrest (Colonies)
Harris, Rick (Dixie)	Wheeler, Jim (Oceana)
Kangas, Jack (Great Lakes)	Wilkins, Rhea (Colonies)
Levine, Betty Ann (Breadbasket)	

Sports Medicine Committee

Miller, Jim (Colonies), Chairman

Amsbary, M.J. (Great Lakes)	Mehl, Don (South Central)
Antoniou, Alex (Colonies)	Moore, Jane (Northwest)
Carling-Smith, Heather (Northwest)	Nessel, Edward (Colonies)
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Levine, Betty Ann (Breadbasket)	Stack, Brian (Oceana)
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USS Representative to Board of Directors

Zalesky, Carol ex officio (USS)

Zone Committee

Moore, Hugh (Northwest), Chairman

Adair, Bonnie (Southwest)	Radcliff, David (Northwest)
Hazelwood, Lynn (Colonies)	Smith, Richard (Oceana)
Kessler, Laura (Breadbasket)	Thompson, Frank (Great Lakes)
Krauser, June (Dixie)	Wingenroth, Kris (South Central)

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS AND LIAISONS

Controller - Abramowitz, Roy (Northwest)

FINA Representative - Krauser, June (Dixie)

Historian - Smith, Joan (Oceana)

International Swimming Hall of Fame Liaison - Krauser, June (Dixie)

MSI Representative - Goldstein, Mel (Great Lakes)

Parliamentarian - Wheeler, Jim (Oceana)

SWIM Magazine Editor - Ludwig, Susan (Dixie)

United States Aquatic Sports Representative - Ridout, Nancy (Oceana)

United States Swimming Liaison - Haartz, Ted (Colonies)

USS Representative to Board of Directors - Zalesky, Carol ex officio (USS)

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APPENDIX F: USMS HISTORY

Recipients of the Ransom J. Arthur Award

This award is given in honor of Captain Ransom J. Arthur, M.D., who, by his sacrifice, perseverance, and dedication to improving the health of adults through swimming, established the Masters Swimming program in the United States. The award is given annually to the person who has done the most to further the objectives of Masters Swimming.

1973: Ransom J. Arthur
1974: June Krauser
1975: Hal Onnusseit
1976: F.H. "Ted" Haartz
1977: Dr. Paul Hutinger
1978: Mildred and Ham Anderson
1979: Ray and Zada Taft
1980: Enid Urich
1981: Cindy Baxter and Ed Reed Sr.
1982: Harry Rawstrom
1983: Dorothy Donnelly
1984: Reg Richardson
1985: Michael A. Laux
1986: Judge Robert Beach
1987: Ross Wales
1988: John Spannuth
1989: Dan and Edie Gruender
1990: Jack Geoghegan
1991: Tom Boak
1992: Walt Reid
1993: Kathrine Casey and Gail Dummer
1994: Nancy Ridout
1995: Mary Lee Watson
1996: Suzanne Rague
1997: Mel Goldstein

Recipients of the USMS Coach-of-the-Year Award

This award is presented annually to the coach who has done the most to further the objectives of Masters Swimming.

1986: Jim Miller, M.D.
1987: Kerry O'Brien
1988: Keith Bell
1989: William Tingley
1990: Michael Collins
1991: Judy Bonning
1992: Clay Evans and Gerry Rodrigues
1993: Coach Emmett Hines
1994: Todd Samland
1995: Scott Rabalais

1996: Mo Chambers
1997: Bonnie Adair

Recipients of the David Yorzyk Memorial Award

This award is presented annually to the swimmer who performs the most outstanding 400 yard individual medley at the Short Course National Championships.

1986: Elsa Matila
1987: Ardeth Mueller
1988: Cameron Reed
1989: Drury Gallagher
1990: Gail Roper
1991: Fred Wiggin
1992: June Krauser
1993: Tim Garton
1994: Karlyn Pipes
1995: Ray Taft
1996: Jack McCoy
1997: Betsy Jordan

Recipients of the USMS National Championship Meets Award

1993: Paul Windrath, Wade Mulhern, June Krauser
1994: Gene Donner, George McVey, Betty Barry, Tom Boak
1995: John Zell, Mel Goldstein
1996: F.H. "Ted" Haartz
1997: Sandi Rousseau

USMS Inductees Into the International Swimming Hall of Fame

1995: Clara Walker and Gus Langner
1996: Ardeth Mueller and Ray Taft
1997: Gail Roper and Tim Garton

USMS National Championship Meets

1970: 5/2-3, Amarillo, Tex., 46 swimmers (SC)
1971: 5/7-8, Amarillo, Tex., 108 swimmers (SC)
1972: 5/19-21, San Mateo, Calif., 325 swimmers (SC); 8/11-13, Bloomington, Ind., 188 swimmers (LC)
1973: 5/18-20, Santa Monica, Calif., 500 swimmers (SC); 8/10-12, Chicago, Ill., 500 swimmers (LC)
1974: 5/17-19, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 561 swimmers (SC); 9/6-8, Santa Clara, Calif., 584 swimmers (LC)
1975: 5/16-18, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 663 swimmers (SC); 8/29-31, Knoxville, Tenn., 394 swimmers (LC)
1976: 5/14-16, Mission Viejo, Calif., 800 swimmers (SC); 8/27-29, St. Louis, Mo., 514 swimmers (LC)
1977: 5/13-15, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 611 swimmers (SC); 8/25-28, Spokane, Wash., 525 swimmers (LC)
1978: 5/19-21, San Antonio, Tex., 560 swimmers (SC); 8/31-9/3, Providence, R.I., 540 swimmers (LC)
1979: 5/4-7, Mission Viejo, Calif., 1020 swimmers (SC); 8/23-26, Dearborn, Mich., 689 swimmers (LC)
1980: 5/16-18, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 875 swimmers (SC); 8/29-9/1, Santa Clara, Calif., 987 swimmers (LC)

1981: 5/23-26, Irvine, Calif., 1209 swimmers (SC); 8/13-16, Canton, Ohio, 741 swimmers (LC)
 1982: 5/21-24, The Woodlands, Tex., 910 swimmers (SC); 8/26-29, Portland, Ore., 915 swimmers (LC)
 1983: 5/28-31, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 1208 swimmers (SC); 8/25-28, Indianapolis, Ind., 908 swimmers (LC)
 1984: 5/26-29, Industry Hills, Calif., 1227 swimmers (SC); 8/23-26, Raleigh, N.C., 840 swimmers (LC)
 1985: 5/10-13, Milwaukee, Wis., 1021 swimmers (SC); 8/17-20, Providence, R.I., 800 swimmers (LC)
 1986: 5/15-18, Fort Pierce, Fla., 1231 swimmers (SC); 8/21-24, Portland, Ore., 933 swimmers (LC)
 1987: 5/15-18, Stanford Univ., Calif., 2328 swimmers (SC); 8/21-24, The Woodlands, Tex., 872 swimmers (LC)
 1988: 5/19-23, Austin, Tex., 1405 swimmers (SC); 8/25-28, Buffalo, N.Y., 1071 swimmers (LC)
 1989: 5/4-7 Boca Raton, Fla., 1755 swimmers (SC); 8/17-20, Grand Forks, N.D., 586 swimmers (LC)
 1990: 5/18-21, Los Angeles, Calif., 1592 swimmers (SC); 8/17-20, The Woodlands, Tex., 829 swimmers (LC)
 1991: 5/16-19, Nashville, Tenn., 1529 swimmers (SC); 8/22-25, Elizabethtown, Ky., 720 swimmers (LC)
 1992: 5/21-24 Chapel Hill, N.C., 1502 swimmers (SC); 8/20-23, Federal Way, Wash., 1150 swimmers (LC)
 1993: 5/20-23, Santa Clara, Calif., 2055 swimmers (SC); 8/19-22, Minneapolis, Minn., 1085 swimmers (LC)
 1994: 5/13-16, Tempe, Ariz., 1912 swimmers (SC); 8/25-28, Buffalo, N.Y., 716 swimmers (LC)
 1995: 5/18-21, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 1992 swimmers (SC); 8/24-27, Gresham, Ore., 1010 swimmers (LC)
 1996: 5/9-12, Cupertino, Calif., 2048 swimmers (SC); 8/22-25, Ann Arbor, Mich., 1176 swimmers (LC)
 1997: 5/15-18, Federal Way, Wash., 1438 swimmers (SC); 8/14-17, Orlando, Fla., 881 swimmers (LC)
 1998: 5/7-10, Indianapolis, Ind. (SC); 8/20-23, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (LC)
 1999: 5/13-16, Santa Clara, Calif. (SC); 8/19-23, Minneapolis, Minn. (LC)

World Championship Meets

1986: 7/12-16, Tokyo, Japan, 3400 swimmers
 1988: 10/9-16, Brisbane, Australia, 3594 swimmers
 1990: 8/6-13, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1743 swimmers
 1992: 6/25-7/5, Indianapolis, Ind., USA, 2406 swimmers
 1994: 6/4-10, Montreal, Canada, 3474 swimmers
 1996: 6/23-7/2, Sheffield, England, 3837 swimmers
 1998: Casablanca, Morocco

USMS Annual Meetings and National Officers

1971: Lake Placid, N.Y.
 1972: Kansas City, Kan. Ransom J. Arthur P, Judge Robert Beach VP
 1973: W. Yellowstone, Mont. Ransom J. Arthur P, Judge Robert Beach VP
 1974: Washington D.C. June Krauser P, David Beardsley S
 1975: New Orleans, La. June Krauser P, David Beardsley S
 1976: Phoenix, Ariz. June Krauser P, David Beardsley S
 1977: Columbus, Ohio June Krauser P, F.H. Ted Haartz S
 1978: San Antonio, Tex. F.H. Ted Haartz P, Enid Uhrich S
 1979: Las Vegas, Nev. F.H. Ted Haartz P, Don Rankin VP, Enid Uhrich S, Reg Richardson T, Bobbi Turcotte ZC
 1980: Snow Bird, Utah F.H. Ted Haartz P, Michael A. Laux VP, Enid Uhrich S, Reg Richardson T, Bobbi Turcotte ZC
 1981: Snow Bird, Utah F.H. Ted Haartz P, Michael A. Laux VP, Enid Uhrich S, Reg Richardson T, Bobbi Turcotte ZC
 1982: Memphis, Tenn. Michael A. Laux P, Verne Scott VP, Dorothy Donnelly S, Reg Richardson T, Bobbi Turcotte ZC
 1983: Cincinnati, Ohio Michael A. Laux P, Verne Scott VP, Dorothy Donnelly S, Reg Richardson T, Gail Dummer ZC

1984: Indianapolis, Ind. Michael A. Laux P, Verne Scott VP, Dorothy Donnelly S, Reg Richardson T, Gail Dummer ZC
1985: Phoenix, Ariz. Michael A. Laux P, Verne Scott VP, Dorothy Donnelly S, Reg Richardson T, Dore Schwab ZC
1986: Fort Worth, Tex. Tom Boak P, Gail Dummer VP, Nancy Ridout S, Kevin Kelly T, Dore Schwab ZC
1987: Atlanta, Ga. Tom Boak P, Gail Dummer VP, Nancy Ridout S, Kevin Kelly T, Edie Gruender ZC
1988: St. Louis, Mo. Tom Boak P, Gail Dummer VP, Nancy Ridout S, Kevin Kelly T, Edie Gruender ZC
1989: Portland, Ore. Tom Boak P, Gail Dummer VP, Nancy Ridout S, Kevin Kelly T, Pat Maley ZC
1990: Pittsburgh, Penn. Dan Gruender P, Nancy Ridout VP, Mel Goldstein S, Suzanne Rague T, Pat Maley ZC
1991: Louisville, Ky. Dan Gruender P, Nancy Ridout VP, Mel Goldstein S, Suzanne Rague T, Betsy Durrant ZC
1992: Minneapolis, Minn. Dan Gruender P, Nancy Ridout VP, Mel Goldstein S, Suzanne Rague T, Betsy Durrant ZC
1993: Los Angeles, Calif. Dan Gruender P, Nancy Ridout VP, Mel Goldstein S, Suzanne Rague T, Betsy Durrant ZC
1994: Kansas City, Mo. Mel Goldstein P, Jim Miller, M.D. VP, Suzanne Rague S, Lucy Johnson T, Betsy Durrant ZC
1995: Houston, Tex. Mel Goldstein P, Jim Miller, M.D., VP, Suzanne Rague S, Lucy Johnson T, Betsy Durrant ZC
1996: Orlando, Fla. Mel Goldstein, P, Jim Miller, M.D., VP, Suzanne Rague S, Lucy Johnson T, Stephanie Walsh ZC
1997: Burlingame, Calif. Mel Goldstein, P, Jim Miller, M.D., VP, Suzanne Rague, S, Lucy Johnson, T, Stephanie Walsh, ZC
1998: Cincinnati, Ohio
1999: San Diego, Calif.