

2021 and 2022 Open Water and ePostal National Championships

We are not sorry to say that the year 2020 is almost over. There have been public health restrictions and cancelled events and vacations. In fact the whole year has been a real logiam.



2020 Open Water season has been a bit of a log jam.



We're ready to put 2020 behind us and start 2021 NOW.



Ready to put 2020 behind us and start 2021 with a BIG celebration!



We'd like to start off by showing you where the OWNC areas are in the nation. Each year the LD committee tries to spread the events around the nation. We even have a rotation schedule that is published online and in the rule book.



We'll start off 2021 with a BIG celebration! Because, as you know, everything in Texas is BIG: There's Texas Long Horns – the San Antonio River Walk – the Dallas Cowboys – the Houston Texans - Big cowboy hats and Boerne Lake in Boerne, TX. It's a NEW OW NC Venue that is a big 100 acres with no gaspowered boats allowed. It is just north of the city limits of Boerne.



On May 15th and 16th we'll begin the 2021 USMS OWNC season with the 1-mile Sprint and a 6000-meter-Long Distance Championships in Boerne Lake. Boerne was named in honor of German author and publicist Ludwig Börne. It was first settled by a group of German Free Thinkers, who were intellectual liberal abolitionists who enjoyed conversing in Latin and who believed in utopian ideals that guaranteed basic human rights to all. They'd fit right in in 2020. They reveled in passionate conversations about science, philosophy, literature, and music. In 1887 the railway came to Boerne, which was a big boost to the economy. It was incorporated in 1909.

The average temperature in Boerne, TX in May is 61 degrees but can go as high as 104. Between those extremes should be very pleasant.

Boerne is 20 minutes north of San Antonio, approx. a 35 minute drive from the San Antonio airport. The lake is fresh water and used for all water sports.



On June 26th Central Oregon Masters will host the 2 mile cable OWNC at Foster Lake in Sweet Home, OR. Sweet Home is 100 miles from both Bend, OR and Portland, OR.

The course is a quarter mile straightaway length of cable with buoys on it and includes an in-water start and finish. 1 and 2 mile cable swims are the only USMS OW swims that have records. That's because the courses are built and maintained with specifications laid out by USMS rules. There can only be a variance of 6 inches in quarter mile cable courses. In the US there are only 4 cable swim venues.

Foster Lake had its first race in 2011 and has since hosted a national championship every 3-4 years.

Foster Lake was created by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1936. The shallow part of the lake on which we swim was once home to Native Americans. Occasionally people find cultural artifacts. The swim cable passes directly over the foundations of both a homestead and an outbuilding built long ago, quite near the old paved river road now covered by the lake.



The July 10th 2-mile Middle-Distance OWNC in Newport Beach, CA is hosted by the Newport Beach Ocean Lifeguard Assoc. and is another NEW OWNC venue. The event was created by the late Newport Beach Lifeguard Captain Buddy Belshe in 1976 to help celebrate the United States Bicentennial.

The Newport Beach Pier to Pier Two Mile Ocean Swim is swum from Balboa Pier to Newport Pier. The Balboa Pier was built in 1906 as a project to help develop the Balboa Peninsula. The race finishes two miles later at the Newport Pier, once known as the oldest pier in Orange County, CA. The Newport Pier was originally known as McFadden Wharf and was used to offload lumber and other goods from vessels stopping in Newport Beach. The current Newport Municipal pier was reconstructed on the same site in 1940 and still stands today. Newport Beach is known for good surfing and sandy beaches. The Newport Harbor once supported maritime industries but today it is used mostly for recreation.

Like all Southern CA ocean swims, there will be plenty of fast people, so start getting ready right now.



The Applegate Lake 10K marathon distance OWNC in Jacksonville, OR will be on July 17th. It is hosted by Rogue Valley Masters. Along with the 10K, they also conduct a 5K and 2.5K concurrently on Saturday. Then following up with a 1500 on Sunday, followed by a 3x500 pursuit relay, using seed times generated from the 1500; folks can make a weekend of it! Our 10K is four laps of a 2500 M course with a feed station at the start/finish area.

The cool clean waters of Applegate Lake is located in the SW corner of Oregon about 27 miles southwest of Medford in the Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest.

The lake was formed in 1980 when the Army Corps of Engineers completed construction of the 242-foot tall Applegate Dam as part of a flood-control project. The lake and dam were named for Lindsey Applegate, who led a party of settlers, including his own family, through the Rogue River Valley in 1848 on the way to mines in California. The lake stretches over 4.6 miles long and serves as one of two large multi-purpose Corps of Engineers reservoirs in the Rogue River basin.

This venue has hosted several USMS OWNC events in the past. Get ready for a beautiful marathon swim in the heart of the Siskiyou Mountains.



On July 24th the final OWNC for 2021 will be in Lake Memphremagog, in Newport, VT. The 10-mile ultramarathon distance is hosted by Kingdom Games.

Lake Memphremagog (a French name) is a fresh water glacial lake located between Newport, Vermont, United States and Magog, Quebec, Canada. The 31-mile-long lake spans both Quebec and Vermont but is mostly in Quebec. The name Memphremagog is derived from the Algonkian language and means "where there is a big expanse of water".

Each year the Kingdom Games consist of a 25 km, 10 Mile, 6 Mile and 3 Mile Swims.

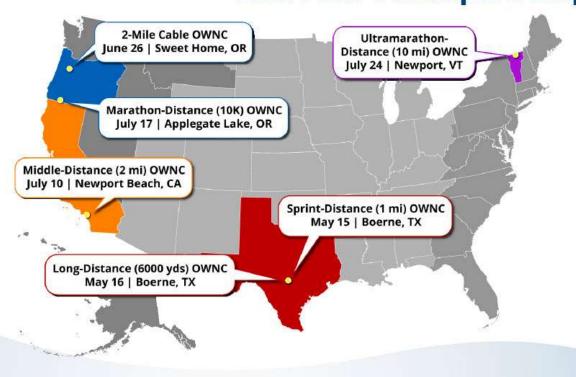
The Kingdom Swims have been in existence annually since 2009. In 2011 a 25K international swim was added. In 2013 New England Kingdom Swim Week was started and has been operating on an annual basis with growing numbers. There are now 15 days of swims each year, including a two day Memphremagog Winter Swim Festival in a 2 lane pool cut in the ice on Lake Memphremagog.

The first time these swims were brought to my attention, I had never heard of them. Everyone should look up their website: www.kingdomgames.co. Besides many training tips for longer swim, there is information on Memphre, the lake's legendary lake creature who is friendly, elusive, and protective of swimmers in distress. The first sighting was in 1816. Since then there have been 150 sightings. There is even a lake swim so you can look for him – but do you have to be in distress for him to look for you?



U.S. MASTERS

SWIMMING2021 Open Water National Championships





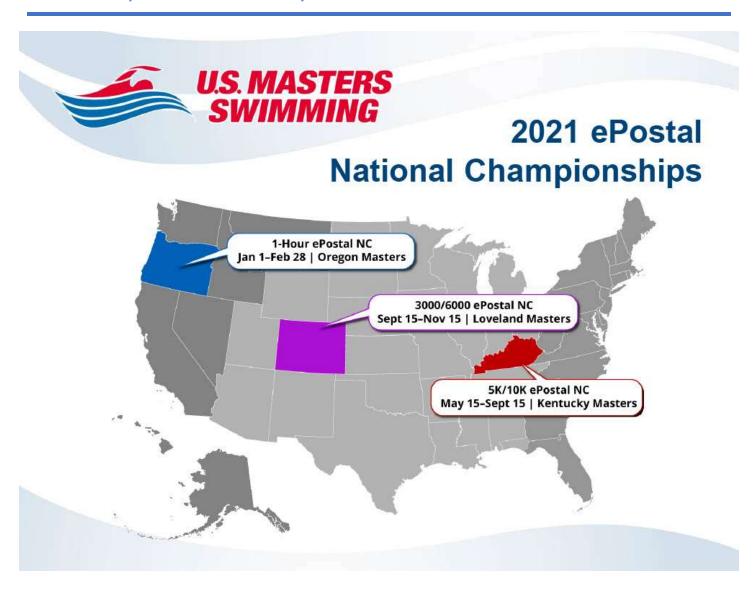
2021 ePostal National Championships



The One Hour ePostal in January and February will be hosted by the Oregon LMSC.

The 5K/10K ePostal will be hosted by Kentucky Masters.

The 3000/6000-yd ePostal will be hosted by Loveland Masters.



Congratulations to the 2021 USMS NC hosts. Thank you for all you do.

Now it's time to announce the 2022 LD NC hosts.



Congratulations to Our 2021 National Championship Hosts! We're looking forward to a great year.

Our first 2022 OWNC will be in Del Valle Lake, in Livermore, CA. The 5K Long Distance NC will be on June 11^{th} .











The final 2022 OWNC will be at Lake George, NY on August 20th. They will host the 10K Marathon Distance.



U.S. MASTERS **SWIMMING** 2022 Open Water **National Championships** Ultramarathon-Distance (25K) OWNC July 23 | Newport, VT 2-Mile Cable OWNC August 13 | Lake Placid, NY Long-Distance (5K) OWNC June 11 | Del Valle, CA Sprint-Distance (1 mi) OWNC July 16 | Cleveland, OH Middle-Distance (2 mi) OWNC Marathon-Distance (10K) OWNC July 31 | Santa Cruz, CA August 20 | Lake George, NY



2022 ePostal National Championships



Davis Aquatic Masters will host the OHeP.

Palm Beach Masters will host the 5/10K ePostal.

Sawtooth Masters will host the 3000/6000-yd ePostal.





Congratulations to Our 2022 National Championship Hosts!