

L 1 Mission Statement page ix Modify

To promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming.

L 26 Vision Statement page ix ADD under the Mission Statement

USMS will be the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness in the United States and will make fitness through swimming available for as many adults as possible.

L 2 Glossary page xi Add

Chapter—a subordinate organization (subgroup) of a club that is a member of USMS registered through an LMSC. Individual members of a chapter are also members of the parent club.

L 4 201.1.3 Page 51 Modify

201.1.3 One-Event Registration

A Open Water One-Event Registration—An LMSC may offer a single-event registration that allows an athlete to participate in a USMS-sanctioned open water event. Membership cards shall not be issued for one-event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations, except that their swims shall not be eligible for USMS national open water awards and recognition. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

B Pool One-Event Registration—An LMSC may offer a single-event registration that allows an athlete to participate in one event sanctioned by that LMSC. Membership cards shall 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 shall not be considered for Top 10 tabulation and national or world records, All-American status or any other USMS special awards. One-event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

L 6 201.1.5 page 51 Modify

201.1.5 Fee—The annual membership fee and the one-event registration fee are 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.
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L 7 201.2.1 page 52 and page 84 Modify

201.2.1 Annual Membership—Annual membership for clubs is from the date of registration through December 31 of that year; however, a club applying for membership on or after November 1 will receive membership valid through December 31 of the following year.

502.1 LMSC Membership

Each LMSC shall consist of individual members and club members registered through that LMSC. An LMSC shall not place any restrictions on the formation of clubs.

L 9 202

page 53

Modify

ARTICLE 202 SANCTION/RECOGNITION OF POOL EVENTS

L 10 203

Page 56

Replace Article 203 contents with the following:

ARTICLE 203: SANCTION OF OPEN WATER EVENTS

203.1 SANCTIONS

Swims achieved by USMS members at sanctioned events are considered for USMS open water national awards and recognition, provided a designated USMS observer is present and verifies in writing that the conduct of the competition conforms to the applicable USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations.

203.1.1 Sanction Options—USMS shall offer sanction options as defined below.

- A Standard USMS Sanction**—Open water events restricted to USMS members, one-event registrants and Masters swimming members of a FINA member federation. All swimmers entered shall be considered part of the same event and shall swim under applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations.
- B Events Including Both USMS and USA Swimming Members**—USMS sanctioned open water event held in conjunction with a USA Swimming sanctioned open water event. USMS members shall swim under applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations and USA Swimming members shall swim under applicable USA Swimming rules and administrative regulations. USMS athletes and USA Swimming athletes may swim at the same time on the same course. Athletes holding both USMS and USA Swimming memberships must declare their affiliation, in writing, prior to the start of the event.
- C Other Sanctions**—The Board of Directors shall consider and may approve other sanction options recommended by the Long Distance Committee, with input from the Open Water Committee, that allow the sanctioning of events that include USMS and non-USMS members.

203.2 SWIMMER VERIFICATION

203.2.1 All swimmers entered in USMS sanctioned events as USMS members or Masters swimming members of a FINA member federation shall provide proof of current membership acceptable to the LMSC. All other swimmers entered shall provide proof of USMS one-event open water registration.

203.2.2 All swimmers entered in USMS sanctioned events as members of non-FINA governing bodies shall have membership verification acceptable to their governing body.

203.2.3 At the discretion of the event director and exclusive of national championship events, a swimmer may enter indicating “number pending,” as long as acceptable proof of membership is presented prior to the swimmer’s participation in the event.

203.3 SANCTION REQUIREMENTS

203.3.1 Jurisdiction—The LMSC in which the event originates shall have jurisdiction in issuing the sanction. If any events are to be swum in more than one LMSC, the other LMSC(s) may also issue a sanction for the event. The sanction fee shall be established by the LMSC with jurisdiction.

203.3.2 Requirements—The following requirements shall be followed by the sanctioning LMSC and sanction applicant.

- A** LMSCs shall use the prescribed sanction application form without additional requirements.
- B** Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC with jurisdiction.
- C** Sanctions shall be signed by the LMSC’s authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for two years.
- D** The LMSC’s authorized representative shall report the sanction to USMS.
- E** Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another.
- F** No sanction of any event shall 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.
- G** When sanctioning a FINA Masters World Championship open water event, an LMSC may grant exceptions to specific USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations in order to be in compliance with FINA rules.
- H** Sanctioned events may include nonconforming swims so long as they are conducted in a safe manner.

203.3.3 Entry Forms and Programs

- A** The entry forms shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in article 204. The language may only be modified by naming the sanctioning LMSC(s), sponsoring USMS club(s) and/or additional insured(s) following “UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING INC.” All swimmers, before participating, shall have signed the liability release.
- B** Entry forms and programs must bear the statement “Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS Inc. Sanction number: _____.”
- C** In the event of a dual sanction, entry forms and programs must identify the other sanctioning body.
- D** For competitive open water events that calculate individual scoring for place and/or club scoring, a swimmer’s valid club affiliation and age must be displayed after the name in the program, if a program is published.

203.3.4 Results – Event directors shall submit official electronic results of the event to the LMSC's authorized representative.

203.4 WITHDRAWAL OR DENIAL OF SANCTIONS

203.4.1 Sanction may be denied to any individual or organization that has failed to conduct previously sanctioned events in accordance with applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations, or as stated on the entry form.

203.4.2 Sanction may be denied to any individual or organization that has failed to demonstrate the ability or willingness to conduct the sanctioned events in accordance with applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations.

203.4.3 Sanction may be withdrawn from any individual or organization failing to conduct the sanctioned events in accordance with agreed upon USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations and other stated requirements on the entry form.

L 17 504.1.8 page 86 Delete

~~504.1.8 The president shall be empowered to appoint employees and contractors who are otherwise active in Masters swimming as members of the House of Delegates as needed for the benefit of the corporation.~~

L 18 504.2.5 page 86 Modify

504.2.5 To prescribe and amend the code for the governance of USMS.

L 19 504.2.6 page 86 Delete

~~504.2.6 To impose and enforce penalties for any violation of the code of USMS.~~

L 20 504.3.3 page 87 Modify

504.3.3 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 mail or electronic mail to each member's last known address at least three weeks prior to the meeting date.

L 21 506.1.2 page 89 Modify

506.1.2 The nonvoting members of the Board of Directors shall consist of the executive director, legal counsel, all past presidents not already voting members, a representative of each allied organization (as approved by the Board of Directors) and a representative from USA Swimming.

L 22 506.7.3 page 90 Add

506.7.3 Governance Committee — The Governance Committee shall be responsible for ongoing review and recommendations to enhance the quality and future viability of the Board and the USMS governance structure, including committees and local and regional divisions of USMS. The committee shall be composed of Board and non-Board members with relevant involvement or expertise in governance and organizational development. The president shall appoint all committee members and a chair of the committee.

L 23 507.1.10 page 93 Modify

507.1.10 Open Water Committee—The Open Water Committee shall promote the development of and participation in open water swimming. The committee shall develop educational resources for open water participants and event directors. The committee shall increase awareness about open water swimming and identify opportunities to promote USMS. The committee shall consist of the committee chair and sufficient members to execute the committee function. The Long Distance Committee chair shall be an ex officio member of the committee.

L 24 507.1.11 page 93 Modify

507.1.11 Recognition and Awards Committee—The Recognition and Awards Committee shall promote recognition of service to USMS. The committee shall review and approve proposals for all official USMS service awards and ensure that a history of all service awards is maintained. The committee shall be involved in determining method of recognition and recipient selection when appropriate. The committee shall consist of the committee chair, at least four Ransom J. Arthur award recipients, representatives from the Coaches, Long Distance, Records and Tabulation and History and Archives Committees, and sufficient other members to execute the committee function.

L 25 507.1.12 page 93 Modify

507.1.10 Records and Tabulation Committee -- The Records and Tabulation Committee shall establish and maintain a standardized process of recording and verifying times and shall publish the Top 10 times, All-American and All-Star rosters, and USMS national records annually for each course. The committee shall consist of the committee chair and sufficient members to execute the committee function.

Housekeeping:

HK 1 403.4.3 page 79 Modify

403.4.3 Matters of jurisdiction to the National Board of Review shall be initiated by a written grievance served upon the National Office accompanied by the filing fee. The written grievance shall set forth all parties against which the grievance is filed (respondents) and shall state the grounds for the grievance,

citing factual and legal issues in as much detail as possible. Instructions on how to file a grievance may be obtained from the National Office.

HK 2	403.10	Southern Pacific	page 81	Modify
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403.10 Documentation

The National Office shall maintain a permanent file of all physical evidence and written decisions pertaining to any matter that was reviewed by the National Board of Review or the Board of Directors pursuant to Part 4. That file shall be retained for at least 10 years after the date of any final decision or withdrawal of any matter brought under Part 4.

HK 3	501.1.3	Legislation Committee	page 83	Modify
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501.1.3 Affiliate—Organizations that have an interest in Masters swimming. Organizations shall apply to the National Office for affiliate membership. Membership shall be granted or denied by the Board of Directors and shall be coincident with the individual membership year. Dues for affiliate members shall be established by the Board and entitle each affiliate member to one nonvoting delegate to the House of Delegates. Additional nonvoting delegates may be granted by a majority vote of the Board.

HK 4	501.1.4	Legislation Committee	page 83	Modify
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501.1.4 Allied—Organizations that have an interest in Masters swimming and also have a national swimming program, national competition that provides for athlete development, due process, a rule book and an officials training program. Organizations shall apply to the National Office for allied membership. Membership shall be granted or denied by the Board of Directors and shall be coincident with the individual membership year. Dues for allied members shall be established by the Board and entitle each allied member to one nonvoting seat on the Board of Directors and one nonvoting delegate to the House of Delegates. Additional nonvoting delegates may be granted by a majority vote of the Board.