

## Legislation Proposals for 2016 Rule Book

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### Goals and Objectives (capitalize “Swimming” in C; insert comma after “psychology” in E)

**C** To encourage organizations and communities to establish and sponsor Masters ~~swimming~~ **Swimming** programs.

...

**E** To stimulate research in the sociology, psychology,<sup>2</sup> and physiology of Masters swimming.

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### Glossary (various capitalization, punctuation, and text changes)

**Club**—an organization or group of permanent character that is a member of USMS, registered through an LMSC, and that actively promotes and/or participates in Masters ~~swimming~~ **Swimming**.

...

**Escort Craft**—boats or paddle boards that accompany swimmers in **an** open water swim for safety and logistical support, including the person or people that staff them.

**Event**—any clinic, demonstration, series of races in a given stroke and distance, or meet;<sup>2</sup> including pool, long distance, and open water.

...

**FINA**—~~Federation~~ **Fédération** International de Natation (International Federation of Swimming).

...

**Foul**—an instance of obstruction, interference, collision,<sup>2</sup> or equipment malfunction that prevents the successful completion of a race.

...

**Masters Swimming**—a program including training, competition,<sup>2</sup> and other activities affiliated with United States Masters Swimming through the participation of USMS members or through a USMS sanction.

...

**Medical Identification Item**—an item worn by a swimmer that identifies medical conditions, emergency contacts,<sup>2</sup> or other information necessary to protect the health of the swimmer. Medical identification items are not considered part of swimwear.

...

**Member**—an individual, club,<sup>2</sup> or organization registered with USMS.

...

**Recognized Events**—the written acknowledgment by an LMSC for a designated competition conducted in conformance with relevant USMS rules, or a demonstration, clinic,<sup>2</sup> or exhibition conducted by USMS member clubs, individual members,<sup>2</sup> or organizations other than USMS in which both members and nonmembers may participate. Times or distances achieved by members at recognized competitions will be considered for recording purposes by USMS.

...

**Sanction**—the written authorization of an LMSC to permit members to participate in a specific competition, demonstration, clinic, exhibition,<sup>2</sup> or Swim-A-Thon®.

...

**Session**—any portion of a pool meet distinctly separated from other portions of the meet by locale, time, day,<sup>2</sup> or type of competition; i.e., first day and second day, morning and evening, etc., exclusive of a short break between events such as before the start of distance events or relays.

...

**Warning Signal**—a bell, whistle, air horn, or other appropriate audible device.

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**201.1** (insert and delete text)

### **201.1 Membership of Individuals**

All swimmers participating in events sanctioned by USMS, with the exception of events falling under articles 203.1.1B and 203.1.1C, must be members of USMS registered through their LMSC or members of their nation’s recognized Masters swimming governing body.

...

### **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 USMS or world records, All-American status, or any other USMS special awards. one-event registration forms must include the statement “Times swum under one-event registration are not eligible for USMS Top 10 or records consideration.” One-event registrations shall be identified as such in the meet results.
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**201.1.4** (insert and delete text)

### **201.1.4 Membership Application Forms**

- A Membership application forms**—Individual membership application forms may be obtained from the registrar of the LMSC. The form, fully completed, shall be submitted with the applicable fee to the registrar of the LMSC or an official designee of the LMSC, who shall issue a membership card. Individuals may apply for membership through the USMS website or by obtaining an application form from the registrar of the LMSC. The LMSC shall provide a link to an electronic membership card or issue a membership card upon request.
- B Liability release**—All membership applications application forms shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in USMS policy.
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**201.2.1** (change “November 1” to “October 1”)

**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 October 1 will receive membership valid through December 31 of the following year.

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201.2.2 (insert and delete text)

**201.2.2 Club Membership Forms Application**—Clubs may apply for membership through the USMS website. Membership forms for clubs may be obtained or by obtaining an application form from the registrar of the LMSC. Renewal forms will be accepted October 1 for the next registration year. The completed form shall be submitted with the applicable fee to the registrar of the LMSC. The National Office shall issue a certificate of club membership.

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201.3.5 (insert and delete text)

**201.3.5** 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 registration. A swimmer may declare unattached status at any time without written application. A swimmer intending to compete in an event after declaring unattached status shall notify the LMSC registrar of the declaration of unattached status prior to the event. It is recommended that swimmers who intend to compete as unattached in a meet contact their registrar prior to the meet and request that their registration status be changed. The registrar shall change the club affiliation of the swimmer to the UC and note the effective date.

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202 (capitalize “Pool Events”)

**ARTICLE 202:**

**Sanction/Recognition of ~~pool events~~ Pool Events**

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202.1 (insert and delete text)

**202.1 Sanctions**

Times achieved at sanctioned events are considered for USMS national records, USMS Top 10 times, and FINA world records. All swimmers entered in sanctioned events shall be USMS members, or shall have valid travel permits or their equivalents, or shall have other acceptable proof of current Masters membership.

**202.1.1 Sanction Requirements**—Sanctions shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

- A** Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held. Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the entry form and applicable fee.
  - (1)** The entry forms shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in USMS policy. All swimmers, before participating, shall have signed the liability release.
  - (2)** Event entry forms and programs must bear the statement “Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS Inc. Sanction number: \_\_\_\_\_.” Event entry forms and programs may include the statement “Sanction number \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - (3)** Meet information shall include ONE of the following statements:
    - (a)** The length of the competition course without a bulkhead is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1.
    - (b)** The length of the competition course has been measured and is NOT in compliance with USMS articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1: Times achieved in the meet will NOT be eligible for USMS Top 10 and records.
    - (c)** The length of the competition course is not on file with USMS. Eligibility of times achieved in this meet will be contingent upon pool length measurement and

approval with USMS; if bulkheads are present, their placement must also be confirmed by measurements at the meet (USMS articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1).

- (d) The length of the competition course is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1, but as a bulkhead course, is subject to length confirmation. Eligibility of times for USMS Top 10 and records will be contingent on verification of bulkhead placement.
- (4) The sanction fee shall be established by the LMSC consist of a national fee established by the House of Delegates. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

Insert new 202.1.1B

**B** Entries shall not be accepted before the sanction has been granted. Paper forms shall not be distributed, online entry systems shall not be activated, and the event shall not be listed as sanctioned on the USMS Calendar of Events until the sanction has been granted.

**BC** Approval of All sanctions shall be signed made by the LMSC's authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for two years.

**CD** 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.

**DE** 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 further promotion of swimming, for an approved charity, or for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

**EF** 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.

**FG** 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, or when the sanctioned event is held simultaneously in conjunction with a USA Swimming sanctioned meet, with applicable USA Swimming rules and administrative regulations.
- (2) In order to be in compliance with FINA rule C.7.23, an LMSC may grant exceptions to specific USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations when sanctioning a FINA Masters World Championship.
- (3) Sanctioned events may include nonconforming swimming events so long as they are conducted in a safe manner. Nonconforming swimming events are events not defined in article 102.5, article 307.2.2G–J, or that would typically result in the disqualification of participants as defined in article 102.13. USMS records and Top 10 times shall not be maintained in nonconforming events except for initial distances and relay leadoff split times for distances that are also events defined in article 102.5.
- (4) Sanctioned events may be conducted in facilities not meeting the dimensional tolerance for required pool length, but the results of those events shall not count for USMS records and Top 10. It must be noted in the meet information that events conducted in these facilities are noncompliant.

- (5) All swimmers shall submit with their entries copies of their current membership cards or travel permits, or supply proof of current Masters membership 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 membership is presented prior to the swimmer’s participation in the event.
- (6) A swimmer’s valid affiliation and age must be displayed after the name on the heat sheet or in the program.

Insert new H

**H** Pursuant to article 202.1.1A, after receiving a sanction application the sanctioning LMSC may transfer its sanctioning administration to another LMSC, provided both agree to the transfer in writing. All fees and sanction obligations under article 202.1.1 will be transferred to the accepting LMSC.

**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.

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## 202.2 (insert and delete text)

### 202.2 Recognized Events

Times achieved at recognized events shall be considered for USMS ~~national~~ records and Top 10 times if 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. USMS membership is not required for swimmers entered in recognized events. Times achieved by USMS members at events sanctioned ~~or approved~~ by USA Swimming shall be considered for USMS ~~national~~ records and Top 10 times without formal application for recognition. Times achieved by USMS members at events sanctioned by a FINA member federation shall be considered for USMS ~~national~~ records and Top 10 times without formal application for recognition if the USMS member(s) register for the meet as USMS members. Times achieved by USMS members at the FINA World Masters Championships shall automatically be considered for USMS records and Top 10 without formal application for recognition and without further documentation. It is the responsibility of the swimmer to submit times obtained in recognized events with complete documentation to the appropriate ~~LSMC~~ LMSC Top 10 recorder and the Records and Tabulation Committee chair.

**202.2.1 Recognition**—Recognition shall 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 which the event is to be held, and applications shall be accompanied by the recognition fee. The recognition fee shall consist of a national fee established by the House of Delegates. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.
- B** Approval of All recognitions shall be signed made by the LMSC’s authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for two 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 further promotion of swimming, for an approved charity, or** for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

- E The conduct of a recognized event shall conform to relevant USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations, including but not limited to, the following:
- (1) Article 101 Starts, Strokes, and Relays  
or article 108 (Swimmers With a Disability)
  - (2) Article 102.12.2 Swimwear Restrictions
  - (3) Article 103.18.3 Timing Resolution
  - (4) Articles 103.18.1, Official Time  
103.18.2, 103.18.4,  
103.18.5, and 103.18.7
  - (5) Articles 105.1, 105.2.1, Records and Top 10 Times  
105.2.2A, 105.3.2,  
105.3.6A, and 105.3.8
  - (6) Articles 107.2.1, Minimum Standards for Facilities  
107.2.3A, 107.3,  
107.11.1, 107.11.2,  
and ~~107.13~~ 107.14

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**203.1** (delete “national”)

**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.

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**203.3** (insert and delete text)

**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 **or online sanctioning system** without additional requirements.
- B** Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC with jurisdiction.
- C** **Approval of sanctions** ~~Sanctions~~ shall be **signed made** by the LMSC’s authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for two years.
- D** The LMSC’s authorized representative shall **report ensure that** the sanction **application is forwarded to the USMS National Office for approval of the safety plan to USMS.**
- E** Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another.

insert new F

**F** 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 further promotion of swimming, for an approved charity, or for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.

**FG** 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.

**GH** 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.

**HI** Sanctioned events may include nonconforming swims so long as they are conducted in a safe manner.

insert new J

**J** The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established by the House of Delegates. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

### 203.3.3 Entry Forms and Programs

**A** The entry forms shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in USMS policy. All swimmers, before participating, shall have signed the liability release.

**B** Entry forms, programs, and results must bear the statement “Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS Inc. Sanction number: \_\_\_\_\_.”

**C** An event securing sanctions from more than one governing body shall identify all sanctioning bodies on entry forms, programs, and results.

Insert new D

**D** Entries shall not be accepted before the sanction has been granted. Paper forms shall not be distributed, online entry systems shall not be activated, and the event shall not be listed as sanctioned on the USMS Calendar of Events until the sanction has been granted.

**DE** 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.

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### 204.1 (insert new text at end of last sentence)

#### 204.1 Release

All individual membership application forms and sanctioned entry forms shall include a liability release. The liability release shall be signed by the person registering or entering. The liability release shall conform to the language and format specified by USMS policy (see USMS Guide to Operations, Sanctions section).

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### 401.2 (insert and delete text in first sentence)

#### 401.2 Participation

No member of USMS or any organization associated with USMS may deny or threaten to deny any eligible individual the opportunity to participate in USMS administrative activities or deny any member the opportunity to host or participate in and sanctioned or recognized events USMS activities without

just cause. It is not a violation of this article to restrict an individual's eligibility based on one or more of the following: ...

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**403.4** (insert and delete text)

**403.4.1** Because certain disputes are most appropriately heard at the national level, the National Board of Review has original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear:

- A** Any complaint from members of USMS where more than one LMSC is involved.
- B** Any complaint of violation of article 402.4.4, providing false information, or article 402.4.8, causing a credible and material risk to safety.
- C** Any complaint initiated by USMS.

Insert new D

**D** Any complaint in which LMSC bylaws, rules, policies, or procedures preclude filing of a grievance by a USMS member.

**E** Upon a majority vote of the Executive Committee, the National Board of Review may be assigned exclusive and immediate jurisdiction at any stage of any matter within the purview of this article 403 to serve the best interests of Masters ~~swimming~~ **Swimming**.

**403.4.2** The National Board of Review has appellate jurisdiction to hear appeals of LMSC decisions.

**403.4.3** ~~Matters of jurisdiction to the National Board of Review shall be initiated by a written filing made in accordance with the National Board of Review procedures.~~

~~**A** Matters of jurisdiction to the National Board of Review shall be initiated by a written filing made in accordance with the National Board of Review procedures.~~

~~**B** Requests to the National Board of Review for review of LMSC decisions shall be initiated by a written request for review filed in accordance with the National Board of Review procedures.~~

Insert new 403.4.4

**403.4.4** Requests to the National Board of Review for review of LMSC decisions shall be initiated by a written request for review filed in accordance with the National Board of Review procedures.

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**403.5** (insert new 403.5.12)

**403.5 Authority of the National Board of Review**

Insert new 403.5.12

**403.5.12** Take such further action and make such further directives as deemed necessary under the circumstances.

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**403.9** (insert new text)

**403.9.2** The Board **of Directors** panel may assess costs and fees against any or all named parties.

**403.9.3** The review by the Board **of Directors** panel shall be on the basis of the record from the National Board of Review and written briefs and shall not include new evidence. However, by majority vote, the Board **of Directors** panel may decide to take new evidence and hear testimony.

**403.9.4** The Board **of Directors** panel shall render a final and binding decision and a written decision shall be sent to all parties.



**403.9.5** The review by the Board **of Directors** panel shall be on the basis of the record from the National Board of Review and written briefs. The Board **of Directors** panel may decide in its sole discretion to take new evidence and hear testimony.

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502 (replace "The" with "A")

#### ARTICLE 502:

##### Local Masters Swimming Committee (LMSC)

**The A** Local Masters Swimming Committee is a subordinate organization of the corporation with supervisory responsibilities within a specified geographical territory.

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502.4 (lowercase "of")

#### 502.4 Election **Of of** Officers

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503.6 (capitalize "Masters Swimming")

#### 503.6 Communications

Zone chairs shall enhance communications among the LMSCs to promote Masters **swimming Swimming** within the zones.

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504.1 (insert and delete text)

#### 504.1 Membership

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

Delegates of USMS shall consist of the following:

**504.1.1** One member from each LMSC. If the LMSC has **over more than** 300 individual members, it is entitled to one additional member. For each additional 500 individual members, the LMSC is entitled to one more member in the House of Delegates. Figures shall be determined by the records of the National Office for the previous year or June 15 of the current year, whichever is the greater.

**504.1.2** All voting members of the Board of Directors.

**504.1.3** All past presidents.

**504.1.4** All zone chairs.

**504.1.5** All voting members of the Finance, Legislation, Long Distance, and Rules Committees, the chairs of all standing committees, **the convention coordinator, the rule book coordinator,** the legal counsel, and the National Board of Review chair.

**504.1.6** ~~Nonvoting delegates from affiliate and allied members.~~

**504.1.76** ~~The president of USMS shall be empowered to appoint At-large members representing up to 10 percent of the total membership of the House of Delegates. These members shall be appointed by the president of USMS as at large members of the House of Delegates.~~

**504.1.7** ~~Nonvoting delegates from affiliate and allied members.~~

**504.1.8** ~~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.~~

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504.2 (insert and delete text)

#### 504.2 Powers

The powers of the House of Delegates shall be as follows:

- 504.2.1 To determine the mission and objectives that shall govern USMS in all of its activities.
- 504.2.2 To delegate responsibility and authority to other USMS entities as prescribed in USMS code and by USMS policy. However, the following powers are fully the responsibility of the House of Delegates and shall not be delegated:
- ~~504.2.3 The following powers are fully the responsibility of the House of Delegates and shall not be delegated:~~
- A ~~Elect~~ To elect officers and directors (Note: The nomination and election procedures may be delegated).
  - B ~~Amend~~ To amend the *USMS Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition*.
  - C ~~Review~~ To review and approve the annual budget.
- 504.2.43 To admit to group membership or individual membership any organization or person eligible under this code and who applies.
- 504.2.54 To prescribe and amend the code for the governance of USMS.
- 504.2.65 To call regular and special meetings of USMS and to fix the time, place, and manner for holding all meetings not fixed by this code.
- 504.2.76 To collect and expend the monies of USMS.
- 504.2.87 To create, modify, or disband standing committees.
- 504.2.98 To alter, amend, repeal, or otherwise change any provision of the *USMS Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition*. Explanation and interpretation shall be delegated to the chair and/or committee of jurisdiction.
- 504.2.109 To receive and approve all annual reports.

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504.3.1 (change "Ohio" to "Florida")

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

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505.3.2A (insert text at end of sentence)

- A Chair their respective divisions as designated in Appendix E.

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506.3–506.6 (insert and delete text)

**506.3 Powers**

The powers of the Board of Directors shall be:

- 506.3.1 To act for USMS and the House of Delegates between meetings of the House of Delegates, except that it shall not have the authority to assume the nondelegable powers of the House of Delegates set forth in article 504.2.3.

Insert new 506.3.2

506.3.2 To alter, amend, or repeal the articles of incorporation.

506.3.23 To adopt and amend policies of USMS.

506.3.34 To create, modify, or disband committees of the Board.

506.3.45 To provide for efficient and effective use of financial and other resources.

506.3.56 To prepare or cause to be prepared, prior to each annual meeting, the USMS budget for the next fiscal period and submit same to the House of Delegates for approval.

506.3.67 To consider and make determinations regarding budget variance requests.

- 506.3.78** To employ, evaluate, and terminate an executive director, who shall report to the Board of Directors.
- 506.3.89** To oversee elections of officers and Board members, in accordance with election operating guidelines. Conduct of elections of officers and Board members shall be delegated to an ad hoc committee composed of at least three members of the House of Delegates, none of whom have conflicts of interest with such elections.
- 506.3.910** To exercise the emergency power to adopt or suspend any swimming rule (Part 1 or Part 3) or administrative regulations of competition (Part 2) provided that the Board, with the advice and consent of the Rules Committee for Part 1, Legislation Committee for Part 2, Long Distance Committee for Part 3, and legal counsel, determines that immediate action is required to serve the interests of USMS. An action taken under this emergency provision shall be effective until the next meeting of the House of Delegates. The president shall make a detailed report of the actions taken to the entire membership of the House of Delegates within 30 days of the action taken.

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**506.4** (insert and delete text)

**506.4 Meetings**

~~A minimum of two meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each year (one at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates and one midyear). Meetings held by conference call shall be held on a regular basis. Other 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.~~

**506.4.1** A minimum of two meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each year.

**506.4.2** Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at any time or place, within or without the state of Florida, pursuant to (i) a resolution of the Board of Directors or (ii) a call signed by the president or any three directors. Two days' written notice of such meeting shall be given to each director. Notice of any meeting may be waived in writing before or after such meeting.

**506.4.3** The Board of Directors may participate in any regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through the use of, any means of communication, including telephone, by which all directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting. A director participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

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**506.7.3** (insert and delete text)

**506.7.3 Finance Committee**—The Finance Committee shall:

- A** Propose policies pertaining to the financial affairs of USMS for approval by the Board of Directors.
- B** Receive and review the reports of the treasurer and ~~controller~~ **National Office**.

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506.7.5 (add apostrophe to “Board of Directors’ approval”)

**506.7.5 Investment Committee**—The Investment Committee shall be responsible for developing and submitting written recommendations for **Board of Directors’** approval of investment objectives, asset allocation targets, and performance measurement standards that are consistent with the overall fund investment goals. ...

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507.1 (insert and delete text)

**507.1.3 Fitness Education Committee**—The Fitness Education Committee shall promote the fitness, health, and lifestyle benefits of Masters ~~swimming~~ **Swimming**. ...

...

**507.1.5 Legislation Committee**—The Legislation Committee may initiate and shall .... The Rules Committee chair ~~and the rule book coordinator~~ shall be **an** ex officio ~~member~~ **members** of the committee.

...

**507.1.7 Long Distance Committee**—The Long Distance Committee shall oversee the rules and administration of open water and long distance events. ... The ~~rule book coordinator and~~ Open Water Committee chair shall be **an** ex officio ~~members~~ **member** of the committee.

...

**507.1.10 Recognition and Awards Committee**—The Recognition and Awards Committee ... The committee shall consist of the committee chair, at least four Ransom J. Arthur ~~award~~ **Award** recipients, ...

**507.1.11 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.

...

**507.1.13 Rules Committee**—The Rules Committee shall ensure that the competitive rules in Part 1 of the USMS rules and regulations provide for fair and equitable competition in the best interests of all USMS members. ... The Legislation Committee chair, ~~the rule book coordinator~~, the Officials Committee chair, and the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee chair shall be ex officio members of the committee.

**507.1.14 Sports Medicine and Science Committee**—The Sports Medicine and Science Committee shall educate members and the public on topics of sports medicine and science. The committee shall stimulate and encourage research pertaining to Masters ~~swimming~~ **Swimming**. ...

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507.3.1 (insert and delete text)

**507.3.1 Coordinators**—The president, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, ~~shall~~ **may** appoint ~~the~~ coordinators. The Board of Directors may grant a coordinator the same rights and responsibilities as the chairs of standing committees. A coordinator, with the concurrence of the president, may appoint a working group to assist the coordinator.

~~**A—Convention coordinator**—The convention coordinator shall cooperate with U.S. Aquatic Sports 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.~~

~~**B—Rule book coordinator**—The rule book coordinator shall design, ensure the accuracy of, and produce the rule book and other materials or media, as approved by the House of Delegates. The rule book coordinator shall be an ex officio member of the Legislation, Long Distance, and Rules Committees.~~

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**510.1** (insert and delete text)

**510.1 Coverage**

Each person who is or was a director, officer, or employee of USMS (including the heirs, executors, administrators, or estate of such person) shall be indemnified by USMS to the full extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Law of the state of **Ohio Florida** 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 USMS as a director, trustee, officer, employee, or agent of another not-for-profit organization).

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**511** (change “Ohio” to “Florida”)

**ARTICLE 511:**

**Dissolution**

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

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**601.1** (rearrange 601.1.1–601.1.5 and delete and insert text)

**601.1 Committee Jurisdiction**

~~**601.1.1** **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 601.1.2, 601.1.3, 601.1.4, and 601.1.5.~~

**601.1.21** **Legislation Committee**—Proposed changes to the Code of Regulations (Organizing Principles, Glossary, Part 2: Administrative Regulations of Competition, Part 4: Athletes’ Rights, Hearings, and Appeals, Part 5: United States Masters Swimming Inc.: Organization and Bylaws, and Part 6: Amendment Procedures) shall be considered by the Legislation Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

**601.1.32** **LMSC Development Committee**—Proposed changes to the Code of Regulations (Appendix D: Zone and LMSC Boundaries) shall be considered by the LMSC Development Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

**601.1.43** **Long Distance Committee**—Proposed changes to Part 3: Open Water and Long Distance Swimming Rules and the Glossary shall be considered by the Long Distance Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

**601.1.54** **Rules Committee**—Proposed changes to Part 1: Swimming Rules and the Glossary shall be considered by the Rules Committee for report and recommendation to the House of Delegates.

**601.1.5 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 601.1, 601.2, 601.3, and 601.4.

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601.3 (insert text)

**601.3 Modification of Proposed Amendments**

Proposed amendments may be modified in any manner by the Legislation, LMSC Development, Long Distance, or Rules Committees, or the House of Delegates, where appropriate, while under consideration by said body. Such modification must be germane to the subject matter and intent of the proposed change. Such modification by the Legislation, LMSC Development, Long Distance, or Rules Committees requires a majority vote. Such modification by the House of Delegates requires a two-thirds vote.

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601.4 (insert and delete text; capitalize “With” in 601.4.7A)

**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:

**601.4.1 Rules**—In even numbered years, Part 1 and the Glossary may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and recommended by the Rules Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and NOT recommended by the Rules Committee.

**601.4.2 Long Distance**—In even numbered years, Part 3 and the Glossary may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and recommended by the Long Distance Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and NOT recommended by the Long Distance Committee.

**601.4.3 Legislation**—In odd numbered years, the The Organizing Principles, Glossary, Part 2, Part 4, Part 5, and Part 6 may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and recommended by the Legislation Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and NOT recommended by the Legislation Committee.

**601.4.4 LMSC Development**—In odd numbered years, Appendix D may be amended by a majority vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and recommended by the LMSC Development Committee, or by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates members present and voting if the proposed amendments are submitted to and NOT recommended by the LMSC Development Committee.

...

**601.4.7 USA Swimming Amendments That Affect USMS Rules**

**A** Amendments to USA Swimming articles 101, “Individual Strokes and Relays,” 102, “Conduct and Officiating of All Swimming Competition,” and 105, “Guidelines for

Officiating Swimmers ~~with~~ With a Disability in USA Swimming Meets,” 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.~~ Amendments to USA Swimming article 103, “Facility Standards,” may be recommended by the Rules Committee for adoption by the House of Delegates. ~~Votes to accept shall not be considered emergency amendments.~~

Table, page 102 (delete)

<b>Summary of Amendment Procedures</b>		
	<b>Even Years</b>	<b>Odd Years</b>
<b>Rules</b> (Part 1 and Glossary)		
If recommended by committee	Majority	*
If NOT recommended by committee	2/3	
<b>Long Distance</b> (Part 3 and Glossary)		
If recommended by committee	Majority	*
If NOT recommended by committee	2/3	
<b>Legislation</b> (Organizing Principles, Glossary, Part 2, Part 4, Part 5, and Part 6)		
If recommended by committee	*	Majority
If NOT recommended by committee		2/3
<b>LMSC Development</b> (Appendix D)		
If recommended by committee	*	Majority
If NOT recommended by committee		2/3
<b>*Emergency Amendments:</b> by a 9/10 vote ONLY if properly submitted to, deemed an emergency by, and recommended by the appropriate committee.		

## Changes Needed in Parts 1 and 3 and Appendices A and B for Consistency

Table of Contents, page v (delete “National”)

105.3 USMS <del>National</del> Records.....	39
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**102.1.2** (replace “national” with “USMS”)

**102.1.2** USMS members 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 nonsanctioned or nonrecognized activities will not be recorded for official purposes and cannot be used for LMSC rankings or ~~national-USMS~~ Top 10 times, All-American status, or qualification times for USMS national championship meets.

**103.18.4 (table)** (delete “national”)

<b>Timing method</b>	<b>Official time level</b>
Automatic timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World records, USMS <del>national</del> records, and USMS Top 10 times</li> <li>• Initial splits for all purposes</li> <li>• Relay leadoff times for all purposes</li> </ul>

Semiautomatic with three buttons or manual with three watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World records, USMS <del>national</del> records, and USMS Top 10 times</li> <li>Initial splits and relay leadoff times for world records and USMS Top 10 times</li> </ul>
Semiautomatic with two buttons or manual with two watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USMS Top 10 times</li> <li>Initial splits and relay leadoff times for USMS Top 10 times</li> </ul>

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**104.5.3C(1)** (replace “national” with “USMS”)

**(1) Altitude adjustment**—Times achieved at an altitude of 3,000 feet or higher may be adjusted, for national qualifying times purposes only, by subtracting the adjustment times (in seconds) from the actual time achieved. The specific adjustments for each age group and gender are found in Appendix B. The adjustments shall be determined every four years starting in 1998. The adjustment times for men and women competitors shall be calculated by multiplying the time adjustment in the following table by the ratio of the 200-yard freestyle ~~national~~ USMS record for the age group to that of the 25–29 200-yard freestyle for men and women, respectively. The values in the following table shall be those determined and used for the same purpose by USA Swimming.

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**104.5.4A(2)** (delete “national”)

**(2) Foreign swimmers**—National championship meets shall include and welcome foreign swimmers, except that they may not qualify for USMS Top 10 and All-American awards nor set USMS ~~national~~ records.

---

**105.1.3** (delete “national”)

**105.1.3 LMSC Responsibility**—Each LMSC is responsible for reporting the Top 10 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.

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**105.1.4** (replace “national” with “USMS” and delete “national”)

**105.1.4 Required Information**—To be considered for ~~national~~ USMS Top 10 times or for USMS ~~national~~ records, eligibility for all individual times and relay leadoff times is based on current USMS membership. The results must contain the full name (as it appears on the USMS membership card) and age of each swimmer. All relay times must include the name of the club and the full name (as it appears on the USMS membership card), the age, and for mixed relays, the gender of each swimmer.

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**105.1.8** (delete “national”)

**105.1.8** USMS ~~national~~ records shall be published annually in the *USMS Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition*.

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**105.2.1** (replace “National” with “USMS”)

**105.2.1** The ~~National~~ USMS Top 10 Times list shall be published annually for each age division and for each gender for the events listed under article 102.5.



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**105.3** (delete “National” and “national”)

**105.3 USMS ~~National~~ Records**

**105.3.1** The fastest official time by a USMS member in each event in a USMS-sanctioned or USMS-recognized competition, as verified in accordance with article 105.3.8, shall be designated as a USMS ~~national~~ record. For open water and long distance records, see article 308.

...

**105.3.6** Split times shall be considered for USMS ~~national~~ records if: ...

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**307.8.1G** (replace “national” with “USMS”)

**307.8.1** ...

**G** Special information (~~national~~ **USMS** records, overall place, place among gender, etc.).

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**307.9.1B** (replace “national” with “USMS”)

**307.9.1** ...

**B** Club point scoring for the 3000 and 6000-yard and 5 and 10-km postal national championships shall be calculated based on a predetermined formula, approved by the Long Distance Committee, to fit the age group ~~national~~ **USMS** record times for each gender.

---

**308.1** (replace “national” with “USMS”)

**308.1.1** Individual ~~national~~ **USMS** records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway swims (1-mile and 2-mile) and time/distance pool events (one-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal). Relay ~~national~~ **USMS** records shall be maintained in all of these quarter-mile straightaway swims and long-distance pool events.

**308.1.2** To be considered for a ~~national~~ **USMS** record, individual participants and relays must enter and complete the swim in a sanctioned event, with results routed through the event host to the Long Distance Committee chair.

**308.1.3** With the exception of the quarter-mile straightaway swims specified in article 307.2.2, no ~~national~~ **USMS** records will be maintained in open water events due to differences in courses, currents and other physical factors.

...

**308.1.6** Long distance ~~national~~ **USMS** records for cable swims may not be established by using a swimmer’s split time in an individual event.

**308.1.7** Long distance ~~national~~ **USMS** records for postal swims may be established by using a swimmer’s split time in an individual event if: ...

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**Appendix A** (delete “national” and correct typo)

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** The records in this listing reflect applications received by the above effective dates. Some records achieved by these effective dates ~~my may~~ not yet have been submitted or processed. For the most up-to-date and complete records listings, please check the USMS ~~national~~ pool records database online at: [www.usms.org/comp/usmsrecords.php](http://www.usms.org/comp/usmsrecords.php).

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Appendix B, page 144 (delete “national” and insert serial comma; I also noticed that beginning at the bottom of page 142 the text is only left-adjusted and not fully justified)

**FMS1.14 Records**—Applications for FINA Masters world records must be submitted within 60 days from the end of the event. Applications may be submitted only for performances at USMS-sanctioned meets. World records can be established only in fresh water and will not be recognized in any kind of sea or ocean water. Applications for USMS ~~national~~ records must be submitted within 90 days of the end of the season. A one-time pool measurement is required unless there are changes to the pool causing the measurements to change. Measurement procedures are determined by the Federation. [FINA MSW 5, SW 12.10, and Masters Swimming World Record Detailed Application Instructions, Point 6; USMS 105.3.8, 105.5, and Appendix B]

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Appendix B, page 150 (delete “National” and insert “USMS”)

**Documentation requirements:**

- “Complete the above form, lines 1 to 17, in its entirety. Line 18 is for use by the Records Administrator. ~~National~~ USMS records are due within 90 days of the end of the season of the swim.