

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

**TABLE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
USMS GLOSSARY, PART 2, and PARTS 4–6 of the USMS CODE OF REGULATIONS**

The following proposed amendments to the USMS Code of Regulations are submitted to the House of Delegates for consideration at the annual meeting in accordance with articles 601.2, 601.4.1, 601.4.5, and 601.4.7.

The committee action is indicated as “recommended,” “recommended as amended,” or “not recommended.”

Amendments that are recommended by the committee require a majority vote of the House of Delegates to adopt.

Amendments that are not recommended by the committee require a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates to adopt.

Amendments that are presented as an “indivisible package” will be considered as a whole with a motion to adopt all of the changes in the entire package.

Number	Section	Description	Committee Action
L-1	Glossary	Add the terms “heat sheet” and “meet program” to the glossary.	Recommended
L-2	202.1 and 202.2	Delete parts of article 202 with the intent of moving these parts to Part 1 for sanctions and recognitions for pool events. Note: L-2 is an indivisible package with R-13.	Recommended
L-3	402.4	Add a nondiscrimination statement to the Code of Conduct.	Recommended as Amended
L-4A	506.1.1, 506.2.1	Substitute amendment to clarify Board of Directors membership and nominating processes. <i>(Submission after the Deadline)</i>	Recommended
L-4	506.1.1, 506.2.1-506.2.3	Codify aspects of the Election Operating Guidelines in the Administrative Regulations.	Not Recommended
L-5	506.2.4	Clarify term limits for members of the USMS Board of Directors.	Recommended as Amended
L-6	506.7.6	Codify the mechanism for development of policies pertaining to USMS elections.	Recommended as Amended
L-7	507.1.8 and 507.1.11	Delete the Open Water Committee as a standing committee of the House of Delegates and realign responsibilities with the Long Distance Committee. Note: L-7 is an indivisible package with LD-1.	Recommended

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE USMS GLOSSARY, PART 2, and PARTS 4–6

The following proposed amendments to the USMS Rules of Competition were submitted to the Legislation Committee in accordance with articles 601.2, 601.4.1, 601.4.5, and 601.4.7. If adopted by the House of Delegates, these amendments will take effect on January 1, 2022.

L-1 Glossary Legislation Committee pages xii and xiii add

Committee Action: Recommended

HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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Heat Sheet—A list of events with names of swimmers, heat assignments, lane assignments, ages, affiliations (e.g., club, workout group, and/or LMSC), and seed times.

Meet Program—Information provided to swimmers, coaches, and officials pertinent to the operation of a meet, which should include entry lists with names, ages, and affiliations (e.g., club, workout group, and/or LMSC), but may also include heat sheets and/or other information.

Rationale: Clarify terms referenced in Parts 1 and 2. Heat sheet is referenced in articles 104 and 105 with specific requirements. Meet program is referenced in article 202.

Note: L-2 is considered as an indivisible package with R-13 under the provisions in article 601.4.5.

L-2 202.1 and 202.2 Rules Committee pages 55-59 modify

Committee Action: Recommended as an indivisible package with R-13
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HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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ARTICLE 202:

Sanction/Recognition of Pool Events

202.1 Sanctions

~~Times achieved at sanctioned events are considered for USMS records, USMS Top 10 times, FINA Masters world records, and FINA Masters Top 10 times. All swimmers entered in sanctioned events shall be USMS members or shall be members of a FINA Member Federation.~~

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. The LMSC may establish a reasonable deadline to receive applications for sanction prior to the competition that will be in compliance with article 102.5.7.

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the meet announcement. After receiving a sanction application, the LMSC may transfer its sanctioning authority to another LMSC, provided both LMSCs and the applicant agree to the transfer in writing. Upon approval, all fees and sanction obligations shall be transferred to the accepting LMSC.

- (1) The entry forms, except those for postal events, shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in USMS policy (see *USMS Guide to Local Operations*, Sanctions section). All swimmers shall have signed the liability release before participating.
- ~~(2) The meet announcement shall include the statement “Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS Inc.” and may include the statement “Sanction number .” Entry forms and programs may include these statements.~~
- ~~(3) The meet announcement shall include ONE of the following statements for each course used for competition during the meet:
 - ~~(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 106.2.1.~~
 - ~~(b) The length of the competition course has been measured and is NOT in compliance with USMS articles 105.1.7 and 106.2.1. 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 106.2.1).~~
 - ~~(d) The length of the competition course is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 106.2.1, 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 meet announcement shall include a description of the timing systems intended to be used at the meet (see articles 103.18.5-103.18.9) and one of the following statements for each course:
 - ~~(a) Times from this competition will be eligible for world record, USMS record, and Top 10 consideration.~~
 - ~~(b) Times from this competition will be eligible for USMS records and Top 10 consideration, but not for world records.~~~~

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

~~(e) Times from this competition will be eligible for USMS Top 10 consideration, but not for world or USMS records.~~

~~(d) Times from this competition will not be eligible for world record, USMS record, or Top 10 consideration.~~

~~If a change in primary timing system is necessary before or during the meet, the meet director shall ensure that all swimmers are notified of the change.~~

~~(5)(2)~~ The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established by the House of Delegates. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

~~B~~ Entries shall not be accepted before the sanction has been issued. 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 issued.

~~CB~~ Approval of sanctions shall be made by the LMSC's authorized representative, and a record thereof shall be retained for two years.

~~DC~~ Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another.

~~ED~~ No sanction of any event shall be granted with the word "Olympic" or the word "Paralympic" or any derivative thereof used in any manner in connection with said event unless consent is obtained from the USOPC.

~~FE~~ 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 Constitution article C 7.3, an LMSC may grant exceptions to specific USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations when sanctioning a FINA Masters championship held within the United States of America.
- (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

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

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 provide proof of current Masters membership acceptable to the LMSC. 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 shall be displayed after the name in the meet program.

GF A sanction may be withheld from any individual or organization that has failed to conduct a prior sanctioned event in accordance with applicable USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations, or as stated on the ~~entry form~~ meet announcement.

HG Sanction may be withdrawn for failing to conduct the event in accordance with applicable USMS rules and administrative regulations and other stated requirements on the ~~entry form~~ meet announcement up until the conclusion of the event.

202.2 Recognized Events

~~Times achieved by USMS members at recognized events other than USA Swimming or FINA meets shall be considered for USMS 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. (See Appendix B for the required Observer’s Report.) USA Swimming and FINA sanctioned meets do not require observers (see article 202.3). USMS membership is not required for swimmers entered in recognized events.~~

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. The LMSC may establish a reasonable deadline to receive applications for recognition prior to the competition.
- B** Approval of recognitions shall be 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.
- D** No recognition of any event shall be granted with the word “Olympic” or the

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

word “Paralympic” or any derivative thereof used in any manner in connection with said event unless consent is obtained from the USOPC.

~~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) Starts, Strokes, and Relays (article 101) or Guidelines for Officiating Swimmers With a Disability (article 107)~~
- ~~(2) Swimwear Design (article 102.12.1)~~
- ~~(3) Determination of Official Time (articles 103.17.3, 103.18.1, 103.18.2, 103.18.3, and 103.18.4)~~
- ~~(4) Timing System Requirements for Records and Top 10 (articles 103.18.5-103.18.8 and 103.18.10)~~
- ~~(5) Records and Top 10 Times (articles 105.1, 105.2.1, 105.2.2, 105.3.2, 105.3.3, 105.3.4, 105.3.5, 105.3.6, 105.3.7, and 105.3.9)~~
- ~~(6) Minimum Standards for Facilities (articles 106.2.1, 106.2.3A, 106.3, 106.11.1, 106.11.2, 106.12, 106.13.2, 106.14, and 106.16)~~
- ~~(7) Relay leadoff split times that conform to articles 103.18.1 and 105.2.2A will be considered for events listed in article 102.5. USMS membership is not required for the other members of the relay team and the relay event itself need not conform to article 102.5.~~

~~F~~ World records can be set only in FINA or USMS sanctioned competitions, not recognized events.

~~GE~~ A recognition may be withheld from any individual or organization that has failed to conduct said competition in accordance with applicable USMS swimming rules and regulations, or as stated on the ~~entry form~~ meet announcement.

~~HF~~ Recognition for any meet held outside the jurisdiction of USMS, and not sanctioned by a FINA Member Federation, shall be obtained from the Executive Committee.

~~IG~~ Recognition may be withdrawn for failing to conduct the event in accordance with applicable USMS rules and administrative regulations and other stated requirements on the ~~entry form~~ meet announcement.

(Articles 202.3 and 202.4 remain unchanged.)

Rationale: Putting the pool-competition-related information from Part 2, including the pool-meet sanction and recognition information, into Part 1 will make it easier for meet hosts,

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

officials, and swimmers to find all the pool information they need in one part of the rule book.

R-13 108 Rules Committee page 52 Add

Committee Action: Recommended as an indivisible package with L-2

HOD Action: Adopted Adopted as Amended Defeated

**ARTICLE 108:
Sanction and Recognition of Pool Events**

108.1 Sanctions

Times achieved at sanctioned events are considered for USMS records, USMS Top 10 times, FINA Masters world records, and FINA Masters Top 10 times. All swimmers entered in sanctioned events shall be USMS members or shall be members of a FINA Member Federation.

108.1.1 Sanction Requirements—Sanctions shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with article 202.1 and the following requirements:

A Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the meet announcement.

- (1)** The meet announcement shall include the statement “Sanctioned by (LMSC name) for USMS Inc.” and may include the statement “Sanction number _____.” Entry forms and programs may include these statements.
- (2)** The meet announcement shall include ONE of the following statements for each course used for competition during the meet:
 - (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 106.2.1.
 - (b)** The length of the competition course has been measured and is NOT in compliance with USMS articles 105.1.7 and 106.2.1: 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 106.2.1).
 - (d)** The length of the competition course is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 106.2.1, 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.

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

(3) The meet announcement shall include a description of the timing systems intended to be used at the meet (see articles 103.18.5–103.18.9) and one of the following statements for each course:

(a) Times from this competition will be eligible for world record, USMS record, and Top 10 consideration.

(b) Times from this competition will be eligible for USMS records and Top 10 consideration, but not for world records.

(c) Times from this competition will be eligible for USMS Top 10 consideration, but not for world or USMS records.

(d) Times from this competition will not be eligible for world record, USMS record, or Top 10 consideration.

If a change in primary timing system is necessary before or during the meet, the meet director shall ensure that all swimmers are notified of the change.

H Entries shall not be accepted before the sanction has been issued. 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 issued.

I If an individual or organization has failed to conduct a sanctioned event in accordance with applicable USMS rules and administrative regulations, or as stated in the ~~entry form~~ meet announcement, a sanction may be withheld or withdrawn in accordance with articles 202.1.1F and G.

108.2 Recognized Events

Times achieved by USMS members at recognized events other than USA Swimming or FINA meets shall be considered for USMS 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. (See Appendix B for the required Observer's Report.) USA Swimming- and FINA-sanctioned meets do not require observers (see article 202.3). USMS membership is not required for swimmers entered in recognized events.

108.2.1 Recognition—Recognition shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with article 202.2 and the following requirements:

A The conduct of a recognized event shall conform to relevant USMS swimming rules and administrative regulations, including but not limited to the following:

(1) Starts, Strokes, and Relays (article 101) or Guidelines for Officiating Swimmers With a Disability (article 107)

(2) Swimwear Design (article 102.12.1)

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

- (3) Determination of Official Time (articles 103.17.3, 103.18.1, 103.18.2, 103.18.3, and 103.18.4)
 - (4) Timing System Requirements for Records and Top 10 (articles 103.18.5–103.18.8 and 103.18.10)
 - (5) Records and Top 10 Times (articles 105.1, 105.2.1, 105.2.2, 105.3.2, 105.3.3, 105.3.4, 105.3.5, 105.3.6, 105.3.7, and 105.3.9)
 - (6) Minimum Standards for Facilities (articles 106.2.1, 106.2.3A, 106.3, 106.11.1, 106.11.2, 106.12, 106.13.2, 106.14, and 106.16)
 - (7) Relay leadoff split times that conform to articles 103.18.1 and 105.2.2A will be considered for events listed in article 102.5. USMS membership is not required for the other members of the relay team and the relay event itself need not conform to article 102.5.
- B World records can be set only in FINA- or USMS-sanctioned competitions, not recognized events.
- C If an individual or organization has failed to conduct a recognized event in accordance with applicable USMS rules and administrative regulations, or as stated in the ~~entry form~~ meet announcement, a recognition may be withheld or withdrawn in accordance with articles 202.2.1E and G.

L-3 402.4.5-402.4.6 Diversity and Inclusion Committee page 94 modify

Committee Action: Recommended as Amended

HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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402.4 Unsporting Conduct

The following shall be considered unsporting conduct as it relates to Part 4:

[Sections 402.4.1–402.4.4 are unchanged]

402.4.5 Any intentional nonconsensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture, or other threatening language or conduct directed toward members, volunteers, ~~or staff, or bystanders~~ in connection with ~~a~~ USMS ~~event~~ administrative activities, events, or workouts.

402.4.6 ~~Any discrimination, or harassment, or expression regarded as offensive based on an individual's age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetics information, mental or physical disability, protected health and medical information, or any other status protected by federal, state, or local law, where applicable, directed toward members, volunteers, staff,~~

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

or bystanders in connection with a USMS administrative activities, events, or workouts. Application of Part 1: Swimming Rules regarding age groups, gender categories, swimwear, and guidelines for officiating swimmers with disabilities activity. Age requirements for USMS membership shall not be considered a as violations of this article.

[Renumber the remaining sections of article 402.5]

Rationale: Part 4 protects USMS members, volunteers, and staff from physical or sexual harassment by a USMS member. The addition will extend this protection to groups typically protected in the workplace, at schools, and other institutions. The groups listed match those used in USA Swimming’s code of conduct and commonly found in employee manuals.

Committee Notes: Amended from the version submitted by the Diversity and Inclusion Committee to substitute the terms “national origin” and “genetic information” for “culture” and “genetics” consistent with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws and policies. Amended “activity” to be “USMS events, administrative activities, and workouts,” which is consistent terminology with existing language in the rules and regulations.

Note: L-4A is a submission after the deadline under the provisions in article 601.2.3 and approved by a two-thirds-majority vote of the Legislation Committee.

L-4A 506.1.1, 506.2.1 -Legislation Committee page 96 modify

Committee Action: Recommended

HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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506.1.1 The voting members of the Board of Directors of this corporation shall consist of:

A Each voting member of the Executive Committee.

B An at-large director from each zone, ~~.,, nominated by that zone and elected by the House of Delegates.,,~~

506.2.1 An At-large directors from each zone, nominated by that zone, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. Their terms of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are elected.

Rationale: L4-A is a substitute amendment for L-4 that clarifies language on the nomination and election of board members, but does not add EOG guidelines to code.

L-4 506.1.1, 506.2.1-506.2.3 Pacific Northwest LMSC page 96 modify

Committee Action: Not Recommended

HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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506.1.1 The voting members of the Board of Directors of this corporation shall consist of:

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

- A Each voting member of the Executive Committee.
- B An at-large director from each zone, ~~is, nominated by that zone and elected by the House of Delegates.,~~

506.2.1 An at-large directors from each zone, nominated by that zone, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at annual meetings held in even-numbered years. Their terms of office shall commence at the close of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates at which they are elected.

506.2.3 The current election operating guidelines shall govern the nomination and election proceedings. These guidelines shall be consistent with the following:

- A An at-large director candidate shall be nominated by a member from within the zone of candidacy.
- B A candidate for at-large director shall be a member of an LMSC within the zone of candidacy.
- C A current at-large director in one zone who is nominated for at-large director in a different zone shall include nomination and reference letters with the nomination packet.
- D Each zone shall meet, consider all of its nominations, and determine to endorse or not endorse each candidate from that zone.
- E A list of candidates and endorsement status from each zone shall be provided to the HOD prior to the election.

Rationale: The stricken clause in 506.1.1(B) belongs in 506.2, which covers election of at-large directors. The additions to 506.2.3 codify important requirements for EOG.

Committee Notes: The committee does not recommend adoption of this proposed amendment on the rationale that it is not a good practice to codify some parts of the operating guidelines and not other parts. L-4A is offered as a substitute amendment to clarify language without codifying the EOG provisions.

L-5 506.2.4 Pacific Northwest LMSC pages 96-97 modify

Committee Action:	Recommended as Amended		
HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated

506.2.4 Each at-large director is eligible for election for no more than two consecutive terms, regardless of the nominating zone. No person ~~so~~ elected for two ~~successive~~ consecutive terms is eligible for reelection ~~as an at-large director~~ until after the lapse of two years have elapsed following the term of office to which that person was last elected, ~~even if that person was nominated by more than one zone during those two terms.~~

Rationale: Clarifies that an at-large director can be elected from another zone after an initial two-year term but can serve only two consecutive terms as an at-large director.

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

Committee Notes: Amended from the version submitted by Pacific Northwest to clarify language and terms.

L-6 506.7.6 Pacific Northwest LMSC pages 99 modify

Committee Action:	Recommended as Amended		
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HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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506.7.6 Elections Committee—The Elections Committee shall:

~~A Propose policies pertaining to the conduct of elections for USMS officers and Board member-at-large directors elections for approval by the Board of Directors.~~

~~B be-Be~~ responsible for conducting elections of officers and ~~Board members at-large directors~~, in accordance with election operating guidelines.

The members of the Elections Committee shall not have conflicts of interest with such elections. Candidates for election are not eligible to serve on the committee.

Rationale: Election operating guidelines are referred to in several places in the rules (506.2.3, 506.3.9, 506.7.6), but there is no mention of development or approval of those guidelines. This proposal specifies that election operating guidelines are developed by the Elections Committee and must be approved by the Board of Directors (as is done for financial policies in 506.7.3). The proposal also reformats 506.7.6 for clarity.

Committee Notes: Amended from the version submitted by Pacific Northwest to clarify language and terms.

Note: L-7 is considered as an indivisible package with LD-1 under the provisions in article 601.4.5.

L-7 507.1.8 and 507.1.11 Long Distance and Open Water Committees pages 101-102 modify

Committee Action:	Recommended as an indivisible package with LD-1		
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HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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507.1 Standing Committees

[Articles 507.1.1–507.1.7 are unchanged]

507.1.8 Long Distance Committee—The Long Distance Committee shall oversee the rules and administration of open water and long distance events. The committee shall solicit and review bid proposals and select the sites for the long distance championship events. The committee shall work in a coordinating and advisory capacity with event hosts and make recommendations to enhance the quality of long distance championship events. The Long Distance Committee shall promote the development of and participation in open water swimming. The committee shall develop educational resources for open water

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

participants and event directors. The committee shall increase awareness about open water swimming and identify opportunities to promote USMS. The committee shall maintain records and select the Long Distance All-American and Long Distance All-Star Teams. The committee shall assure that the competitive rules in Part 3 of the USMS rules and regulations provide for fair and equitable competition in the best interests of all USMS members and that these members are informed of current rules, interpretations, and changes. The committee may initiate and shall accept, consider, and report proposed amendments, with the committee's recommendations, at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates, in accordance with the provisions of Part 6. When necessary, the committee shall interpret and render opinions regarding any provision of the rules and regulations of USMS within the committee's jurisdiction as defined in article 601.1. The committee shall consist of the committee chair and no more than 16 additional members. ~~The Open Water Committee chair shall be an ex-officio member of the committee.~~

[Articles 507.1.9 and 507.1.10 are unchanged]

~~**507.1.11 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, with input from the Long Distance Committee, shall prepare guidelines pertaining to the management of USMS open water swimming for approval by the Board of 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.~~

[Renumber the remaining paragraphs in article 507.1]

Rationale: The promotion and development functions of the Open Water Committee are now being carried out by the National Office staff and the Open Water Safety Coordinator, making this standing committee of volunteers unnecessary if the other functions can be assumed by the Long Distance Committee.

Note: The following articles also need to be modified for consistency in Part 2.

203.1 Sanctions

[The preamble, article 203.1.1A, and 203.1.1B are unchanged]

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

[Paragraphs A and B are unchanged]

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~~

DELEGATE PACKET FOR 2021 USMS ANNUAL MEETING

~~Open Water Committee~~, that allow sanctioning of events that include USMS and non-USMS members.

Note: The following articles also need to be modified for consistency in Part 3. Amendments to Part 3 are within the jurisdiction of the Long Distance Committee.

LD-1 301.2.1 & 303.4.2 Long Distance and Open Water Committees pages 63, 68-69 modify

Committee Action: Recommended as an indivisible package with L-7

HOD Action:	Adopted	Adopted as Amended	Defeated
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301.2.1 Open Water Guide to Operations—The ~~Open Water-Long Distance~~ Committee shall develop and maintain a guide for conducting open water events for the use of USMS open water officials and event hosts. The guide shall contain the governing policies, management of rules, and links to education applying to open water swims.

303.4.2 Rules for Category I Swimwear for Open Water Events

[303.4.2A and B are unchanged]

C Exemptions to the restrictions in articles 303.4.2A–B may be granted to a swimmer, on a case by case basis, by the chair of the ~~Open Water-Long Distance~~ Committee or designee. Exemptions will be granted only for conflicts due to the swimmer’s verified religious beliefs or verified medical conditions.

- (1) Procedures for applying for an exemption will be published by the ~~Open Water-Long Distance~~ Committee and posted on the USMS website.
- (2) No exemptions to these restrictions will be granted for swimwear that would give a swimmer a competitive advantage.
- (3) The decision of the ~~Open Water-Long Distance~~ Committee chair may be appealed only to the entire ~~Open Water-Long Distance~~ Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.