

2025 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Hybrid

Committee Name:	Southwest Zone	Session #:	N/A		
Committee Chair:	Arlette Godges, Southwest Zone Chair	Vice Chair:	N/A		
Minutes recorded by:	Lucila Davies, SPMS	Date/time of meeting:	August 29, 2025, 8:33 PM EDT		

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

NONE

Motions Passed:

1. Motion to approve the 2024 Southwest Zone Annual Meeting minutes
 - a. Outcome: Motion Passed (MSP - Moved, Seconded, Passed)
 - b. No discussion

Number of committee members present:	Absent:	Number of other delegates present:
Attendees: Alina de Armas, Omar de Armas, Lucila Davies, Arlette Godges (Zone Chair), Beata Konopka, Bex Friedberg, Cory Nguyen, Mary Jurey, Fiona Duncan, Jennifer Cooper, Barb Sloan, Judy Gillies, Becky Cleavenger, Christie Cirualo, Marilyn Fink, Mary Hull, Robin Smith, Rome Yount, Jeff Commings, Anita Cole, Barbara Dunbar, Kenny Brisbin		
Committee Members Absent:		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM EDT (5:00 PM PDT)

1. Arizona Report, Barb Sloan, Chair
 - Upcoming Events: Fall Classic Meet at Skyline Pool (Nov 1–2), Swim Across America hosted.
 - Membership: 1,272 (slightly behind last year's 1,300).
 - Expansion: New team at Oasis Swimming Pool (Surprise, AZ) and discussions on new aquatic center in Casa Grande.
 - Operations: Website restoration in progress after domain renewal issues
2. West Texas-New Mexico Report, Bex Friedberg, Chair
 - Bylaws: Board approval expected by end of next month; membership ratification deadline Nov 30.
 - Events: Two-day Abiquiu Lake open water swim/social with safety patrol on Sept 6–7; upcoming University of New Mexico meet (Oct 25).
 - Membership: Adult swimming participation growing, with new volunteers and strong event leadership.
 - Facilities: Development of the North Domingo Baca pool underway.
 - Operations: Lifeguard shortages noted at some clubs (e.g., High Altitude Masters in Santa Fe)
3. San Diego-Imperial (SI) Report, Barbara Dunbar, Chair:
 - Membership: Comparable to previous year for individuals and clubs.
 - Meets: Two sanctioned pool meets run so far this year
 - Finance: Operating reserves are sufficient, but reduced subsidization of meet expenses may be needed due to declining membership income and donations.
 - Challenges: Pool access, increased costs, and decreased staffing remain ongoing concerns.
4. Southern Pacific Masters Swimming (SPMS) Report, Ken Brisbin, Chair:
 - Membership: 4,444 (down 5% from 2024's 4,680); 90 clubs (up from 87).
 - Meets: 11 sanctioned pool meets (5 SCY, 6 LCM); 2 dual-sanctioned; 1 recognized; several upcoming SCM meets.
 - Open Water: 2 sanctioned, 1 dual-sanctioned, plus NCAA MPSF OW listed.
 - Initiatives: "Grown Up Swimming" – 7 meets plus All-Star Worlds (Oct 11, Long Beach); Expanding into LA market.
 - Coaching clinics planned for 2026; monthly coaches' Zooms ongoing.
 - Finance stable; grants provided to support teams, branding, and meet hosting.
 - Annual Meeting: Scheduled Nov 9, 2025, at Santa Clarita Aquatic Center (clinic, lunch, elections).

- USMS Annual Meeting: Sending 12 delegates with funding support.

Zone Championship Meet selection for 2026 (rotation was discontinued last year)

- SCY - Aril 11-12, Arizona
- LCM - note that LCM Nationals are in Sacramento in early August; zone meet could possibly be in Arizona in May or early June or elsewhere in June, July, or the end of August
- SCM - can be Southern Pacific in December
- Open Water - possibly in Southern Pacific (Lake Mission Viejo or Santa Barbara)
- Brief discussion of requirements regarding zone championship awards, etc.

New Business

- Sharing ideas between LMSCs
 - Collaboration among LMSC coach chairs to identify events that coaches and coach chairs from all LMSCs in the SW Zone can attend.
 - SP LMSC will put events from other SW zone LMSCs on the SP website calendar
 - Possible method of communication discussed - email as a suggestion
- Short discussion of a “drop-in swimmer” (visiting swimmers) issue in the NM LMSC
- Other - problems were noted with the current sanction process. An updated system is being implemented on or after November 1. Wait to sanction meets for 2026 until the new system is in place. A pool will need to be measurement certified prior to requesting a sanction.
 - Volunteers were thanked.
 - Lifeguard shortages widespread
 - Jeff Commings terms out in 2026 as the At Large SW Zone Representative on the board of directors. SW Zone members should consider who would be a good candidate

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM EDT (6:38 PM PDT)
