



# U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

## Position Description

<b>Position title</b>	LMSC Open Water & Long Distance Chair/Coordinator	
<b>Start date / End date or Term length</b>	Ongoing	Elected or appointed position, term varies by LMSC.
<b>Estimated hours/days required per month</b>	5 - 10 hours per month (subject to geographic/seasonal conditions)	
<b>Reports to</b>	LMSC Chair	
<b>Direct Reports</b>		
<b>Role overview and purpose, and how it relates to the organization's mission</b>		
This position is charged with ensuring that sanctioned open water events operate under USMS and LMSC guidelines in a safe manner. The position may also be charged with promoting USMS Postal events within the LMSC.		
<b>Key responsibilities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage the development of open water swims in the LMSC geographical area.</li> <li>• Work with local open water event hosts to promote USMS' common event guidelines, such as entries, results submissions, safety, overall event management</li> <li>• Oversee the LMSC open water sanction process (some LMSCs use the Open Water chair to sanction open water events)</li> <li>• Create or coordinate open water clinics</li> <li>• Work with event hosts to submit open water events to the USMS calendar</li> <li>• Create structure around open water training venues</li> <li>• Act as the liaison with the USMS Long Distance Committee and the event host when national championship events are being held in the LMSC</li> <li>• Help build and recruit open water events for national championship consideration</li> <li>• Enhance and maintain local policies based on USMS policies and guidelines for open water</li> <li>• Assure that event results are submitted to the Open Water events database (future)</li> <li>• Encourage swimmers in the LMSC to participate in the various postal swims</li> <li>• Work with LMSC Safety Chair, as needed.</li> </ul>		

**Key deliverables**

- Develop an annual calendar of LMSC Open Water events for member reference.
- When possible, conduct post-event reviews to communicate and apply lessons learned.
- Write or solicit articles on local open water accomplishments - submit to USMS and LMSC website, blogs, Facebook page, newsletter.

**Recommended skills, experience and attributes**

- Knowledge of Open Water and Long Distance policies including those for safety and organization.
- Ability to be organized and oversee a number of events at the same time.
- Review LMSC Open Water policies and propose changes when necessary.
- Experience in participating in OW events, hosting OW events, working with OW event organizers, attending OW safety conferences, working with or as a life safety personnel
- Recruiting well-trained volunteers to help conduct successful open water events.

**Recommended training**

- Review USMS Open Water Manual and other documents
- Participation in OW safety conferences and clinics. Working as a OW event director or safety officer.

**Benefits for the volunteer**

- Developing organizational skills.
- To learn more about OW racing, safety, personnel, athletes, etc.
- To work with local event directors.
- To learn about USMS's OW procedures, safety recommendations, operations, etc.

**Benefits to USMS**

- Providing local LMSCs information about hosting and setting up a safe OW race.
- Providing USMS feedback about local OW events so that comparisons can be made between different types of venues, safety setup, etc., which all can be used by USMS to better their OW water information database and personnel.

**Other suggested requirements of the role**

- Succession planning to recruit a capable successor for handling your role and responsibilities.