



## 2023 USMS Open Water National Championship Bids

Greetings! The [2023 USMS Open Water National Championship Bid Form](#) is available now. We encourage all interested organizations to submit bids.

The bid form is an easy-to-use document that has been updated for your convenience. Please fill out the appropriate bid form and submit by **August 1, 2021**. Attachments to the bid form, such as maps for OW swims, logos, registration fees, and pertinent event details, are not required but will be considered. They should be emailed to me at the address at the bottom of the page. A safety plan for the OW events is required to be submitted with the bid.

You will receive an immediate email response acknowledging confirmation that your bid form was received. Please follow up via phone (number below) if you do not receive an email confirmation within 24 hours.

Site/host selection for the 2023 events will occur *prior* to the 2021 USMS Annual Convention. Committee collaboration, review and discussion of all bids will take place via conference calls before the Convention. We will schedule phone interviews with bidders and select bid winners in August/September.

**Please refer to the 2021 USMS Rulebook article 307.3 for additional information regarding site selection for national championships.**

Selection will be based on the overall suitability of the bid received. Additionally, the area in which the event is to be held, safety, the online entry method and the annual event schedule are also considerations. The use of Club Assistant as the online entry system is preferred for open water national championships. Bids received after the deadlines listed above may not be considered if a qualified, timely bid has already been received for the same event. We encourage bidding for multiple events to strengthen your options.

Bidders will find an OW event calendar, information, manuals, and other important resources at [USMS Open Water Central](#).

Note: ePostal National Championships are currently in transition to make improvements and grow participation as we look ahead to future years. Bids for ePostal National Championships are not being accepted this year.

Please feel free to share this information with any interested party and contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Ali Hall**

Chair, Long Distance Committee

415.238.2251. (Please use for texting purposes only.)

[LongDistance@usmastersswimming.org](mailto:LongDistance@usmastersswimming.org)

## FAQs for Open Water National Championship Bids

Question: Why bid? What is in it for the club that bids?

Answer: By partnering with U.S. Masters Swimming, your event will be marketed to a larger audience and attract new swimmers.

Q: Who can I contact for more information or assistance?

A: See detailed guidelines and the application for open water national championship (OWNC) . You can also contact the chair of the Long Distance Committee by emailing [longdistance@usmastersswimming.org](mailto:longdistance@usmastersswimming.org) .

Q: Does the club need experience hosting a national championship?

A: No, but it's helpful to have experience running a successful event.

Q: What's the additional cost to putting on a championship event?

A: The event host is charged \$3.00/swimmer.

Q: If Club Assistant is used for entries, is there assistance available?

A: Yes, there's a tutorial set up with Club Assistant, the host, and the liaison from the Long Distance Committee. USMS also covers the \$1.50/swimmer Club Assistant transaction fee for sanctioned open water events.

Q: Is travel information required on the entry form or can it be put on the website?

A: Yes, the event website can be used for many details of the event.

Q: How will USMS help the host market the event?

A: OWNCs will be promoted in a variety of ways including SWIMMER magazine and STREAMLINES email newsletters. The liaison may also suggest different ways to promote the event.

Q: What's the best way to increase the chances of winning a bid?

A: The Long Distance Committee has a geographical rotation for events. The bid receives higher consideration when it is "in area." Open water festivals that offer multiple swims at one venue are also given higher consideration.

Q: How does the host incorporate a national championship open water event into an established annual open water event or established open water festival? Is it run as a separate swim or a standalone event?

A: The national championship event must have a separate heat or wave from the other events included in the open water festival.