

FAQs for Open Water and ePostal National Championships

Why bid? What's in it for the club that bids?

With your help, U.S. Masters Swimming will market your event to a larger audience and attract new swimmers to your event.

Who can I contact for more information or assistance?

See detailed guidelines and the application for [open water national championship](#) (OWNC) and [ePostal bids](#).

You can also contact the chair of the Long Distance Committee by emailing longdistance@usms.org.

Does the club need experience hosting a national championship?

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

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

The event host is charged \$3.00/swimmer for OWNCs and \$1.00/swimmer for ePostals.

There is a \$200 performance bond refundable if all the benchmarks are met for both OWNC and ePostal national championships.

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

Yes, there's a tutorial set up with Club Assistant, the host, and the liaison from the Long Distance Committee.

For OWNCs, is travel information required on the entry form or can it be put on the website?

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

How will USMS help the host market the event?

For OWNCs, the January-February issue of *SWIMMER* will feature a description of all open water national championships. *STREAMLINES* will also promote the open water national championships. The liaison may also suggest different ways to promote the event.

For ePostals, *STREAMLINES* will promote the ePostal national championships. The liaison may also suggest different ways to promote the event.

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

For OWNCs, 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.

For ePostals, there is no geographical rotation of events. The Long Distance Committee appreciates having new hosts bid on the 3000/6000 event and, because of the effort required to run a 5K/10K and 1-Hour event, gives preference to hosts that have hosted an ePostal event before.

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?

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