

Medical supervision at USMS Nationals – including the roles of USMS Medical Coordinator, Local Medical Coordinator, Meet Director and Emergency Medical Personnel

1. The Meet Director shall arrange for emergency medical personnel (EMS), emergency response equipment and emergency transport to be present throughout the event, including all warm-up periods.
2. The Meet Director shall identify a local medical coordinator (LMC) who must be available for consultation throughout the event, but need not be physically present.
3. The USMS Sports Medicine and Science Committee Chair shall identify and notify the Meet Director of a USMS medical coordinator (UMC) available for consultation throughout the event. The UMC need not be physically present at the venue at all times.
4. The LMC and UMC shall provide their contact information to the Meet Director, including home phone number, cell phone number, hotel and/or home phone number and room, email address and indicate which is best for purposes of making contact during the meet.
5. The Meet Director shall provide the LMC and UMC with the above contact information including his/her own contact information.
6. Several months prior to the competition, the LMC, UMC and Meet Director shall review the written Emergency Action Plan (EAP) from the facility and determine whether it adequately covers the unique aspects of a Masters swimming championship meet. The LMC, UMC and Meet Director shall add to or modify the EAP as appropriate. Any changes to the facility EAP must be communicated to those who will be responsible for responding. The EAP should address the respective roles of lifeguards and EMS personnel.
7. Several weeks prior to the competition, the LMC, UMC and Meet Director shall discuss their understanding of their respective responsibilities and to determine whether he/she will be present at the competition and, if so, during what time periods.
8. On the first day of the competition, the LMC and/or UMC (whomever is present) and the Meet Director (or his/her designee) shall introduce themselves to the head EMS personnel and to meet officials (especially the head referee).
9. The UMC shall provide his/her contact information and the times he/she expects to be present at the venue to the Meet Director, head EMS personnel (each day if new personnel are expected

on different days) and the head referee. The contact information for the LMC and the Meet Director (or his/her designee) should also be provided to these individuals.

10. The LMC and/or UMC shall inquire as to whether the same head EMS personnel will be present each day of the competition. If not, the LMC and/or UMC should introduce themselves to any new head EMS personnel present on different days of the competition.
11. The UMC and/or LMC should clarify the respective roles of the UMC and LMC with EMS personnel and meet officials. In particular, it should be made clear whether the UMC and/or LMC is/are also competing in the championship. It may be helpful to explain the role of the meet referee to EMS personnel, particularly with regard to the swimmers responsibility to obtain permission from the meet referee in advance for wearing tape while competing.
12. No later than the first day of competition, the UMC shall provide copies of a blank medical log sheet and blank Report of Occurrence (ROO) forms to EMS personnel and to the Meet Director and explain who is responsible for completing these documents and what is to be done with them at the conclusion of the competition. If the EMS personnel prefer to use their own forms, discuss how we can obtain the information needed to complete ROO forms. This could include copies of redacted forms sent to the Meet Director and/or having the treated individual complete the ROO. Given the difficulty in obtaining such information after the completion of the championship, it is desirable to have completed ROO forms and medical log sheets collected by the Meet Director and or his/her appointee at the end of each day of competition.
13. If possible, include the head EMS personnel and UMC (LMC, if present) in the first meet officials meeting to be introduced, explaining how to find/contact them and to provide a quick review of the role of meet officials in activating the Emergency Action Plan for incidents that they observe occurring in the pool during an event.
14. The role of the UMC is not to provide diagnosis, treatment or medical advice to participants. This should not deter the UMC from acting in good faith as a Good Samaritan if in a position to be a first responder or to assist first responders. If present on-site, the LMC, as a licensed medical professional in the state in which the venue is located, may provide diagnosis, treatment or medical advice to participants. If not present on-site, the LMC may be consulted by telephone to provide medical advice to EMS personnel and injured participants.
15. The occurrence of any serious injury for which further treatment is deemed appropriate either immediately or at a later time, should be brought to the attention of the Meet Director or his/her appointee by the onsite EMS personnel as close to the time of occurrence as possible, so

that proper documentation (ROO) can be completed by the Meet Director or his/her appointee. Such ROOs should be copied and sent to Risk Management (RMSI). Copy should be retained by the Meet Director.

16. If the Meet Director, any meet official, EMS personnel or lifeguard, feels any swimmer should be prohibited from further competition in the interest of the swimmer's health or to prevent injury to others, the LMC must be contacted, as well as the UMC, by the on-site EMS or hospital emergency department licensed medical professional who has examined the swimmer. Only if both the LMC and UMC agree that the swimmer should be prohibited from further competition, should the swimmer be required to scratch the remaining events. It may be that both the LMC and UMC feel that further competition does not pose an absolute risk to the swimmer, and thus the swimmer may be advised by either the LMC or the UMC that further swimming may or may not worsen the condition, in which case the decision to continue competition should be left to the discretion of the swimmer.
17. It is not the role of the EMS personnel, LMC or UMC to provide unconditional release to swimmers to continue competition. In most cases, the best advice to give the competitor would be that if he/she decides to continue to participate, there is some possibility that further competition may or may not worsened the condition for which the swimmer sought care.
18. A summary report regarding medical issues encountered at the Championship event should be prepared by the UMC and presented to the Meet Director and Championship Committee no later than two months following the competition.