

Colonies Zone

Committee Members

Douglas Sayles, Chair; Jeremy Gross, Vice Chair.

Voting Members: All USMS 2025 annual meeting delegates from the Colonies Zone.

Ex-Officio: Jessica Reilly

Introduction

Colonies Zone membership is up slightly (< 1.0%) versus this time in 2024, and our 10 LMSCs sanctioned or recognized 74 meets (sans cancelations) in the past year. Thank you to our dedicated LMSC governance volunteers, club leaders, coaches, and event directors!

Colonies Zone Membership					Pool Meets in Prior 12 Months			
LMSC	8/14/2025	8/8/2024	8/14/2023	8/14/2022	8/14/2025	8/10/2024	8/14/2023	8/14/2022
Adirondack	235	166	154	171	4	4	3	1
Connecticut	530	522	436	514	7	9	10	6
Delaware Valley	965	904	797	852	9	10	8	4
Maryland	611	687	652	740	7	9	11	8
Metropolitan	1,349	1,537	1,581	1,489	4	3	4	4
New England	2,060	1,968	1,804	1,891	16	20	14	12
New Jersey	1,000	969	1,033	1,089	6	6	9	6
Niagara	695	638	634	623	11	11	11	10
Potomac Valley	1,925	1,933	1,911	2,099	6	7	7	6
Virginia	1,023	992	976	989	4	5	8	5
Total	10,393	10,316	9,978	10,457	74	84	85	62

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. Zone Communications
 - a. The zone chair fielded questions from and checked in with LMSC officers, emailed them and HOD delegates occasional reminders and updates, and sent zone-wide e-newsletters about upcoming [programs](#) and [events](#).
 - b. The zone chair, vice chair, and LMSC officers from NE, DV, PV, and NJ coordinated with each other and facility reps to plan and host zone championships and discuss potential future meet venues.
 - c. Coordinated July meeting of LMSC reps with USMS BOD members.
2. Webmaster Ray Novitske maintained the [zone website](#).
3. Recorder Chris Stevenson updated [zone records files](#) for each course.
4. Maintained the [Colonies Zone Facebook Group](#).
5. Zone Championships: 2024-2025 Season Recap
 - a. [SCM: December 13-15, 2024, Worcester Polytechnic Institute \(MA\)](#). **371 registered swimmers & 53 teams in 2024** vs 306 & 53 in 2023, 300 & 46

in 2022, and 216 & 40 in 2021. The Saturday session was suspended for 90 minutes due to a heart attack. The swimmer survived thanks to the quick response of the facility staff and an ER physician who was participating in the meet. The 2024 meet lost money partly due to paying lane timers, which was a consequence of holding the meet during college final exams.

- b. [SCY: March 15 & 21-23, 2025, Harvard University \(Boston, MA\)](#). **662 registered swimmers & 69 teams in 2025** vs 285 & 57 in 2024 at JRSSC (VA) in 2024, 225 & 48 at Rutgers (NJ) in 2023, and 298 & 38 at WPI (MA) in 2022. The 2025 meet made a slight profit.
- c. LCM: The zone chair, vice chair, and NJ LMSC officers met with club and facility reps to discuss [Jersey Aquatic Center](#) hosting a zone championship. The facility opted to initially run this new LCM meet as a sanctioned non-championship event but subsequently canceled it due to low enrollment.

6. Zone Championships: 2025-2026 Season Preview

- a. SCM: WPI (the usual meet venue) and other championship-caliber SCM venues in New England are not available this fall, with the possible but increasingly unlikely exception of [Boston University Aquatics Center](#). Besides BU, LMSC officers are pursuing [Nassau County Aquatic Center](#) in Long Island and [Graham Aquatic Center](#) in York, PA, the status of which is TBD. The [Union College pool](#) in Schenectady, NY, is also a possibility but is geographically remote. Potential dates: Nov. 15-17, Dec. 5-7 or 12-14.
- b. [SCY: April 10-12, 2026, Jim McKay Natatorium, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA](#). Co-hosted by meet beneficiary GMU Swimming & Diving and the PV LMSC. **Goals: 400+ swimmers and \$10K profit** for the varsity coach to consider hosting this meet annually and reestablish our 17-year pre-pandemic zone championship tradition at GMU.

Colonies Zone Annual Meeting Agenda:

[Thursday, August 21 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm EDT | Zoom Registration Link](#)

1. Call to Order & Welcome
2. Reports (Chair, Vice Chair, Webmaster, Recorder, USMS At-Large Director)
3. Zone Chair Election
4. Zone Service Award
5. Zone Championships
6. Expenses / Budget (if needed)
7. New Business
8. LMSC Updates
9. Adjourn