

2025 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Hybrid

Committee Name: Southeast Zone

Session #:1

Committee Chair: Ed Saltzman

Vice Chair:

Minutes recorded by: Lisa Watson

Date/time of meeting: 8/21/25 7 PM EDT

Actions Requiring Approval by the House of Delegates:

1.

Motions Passed:

1.

Number of committee members present: 38

Absent:

Number of other delegates present: 1

Committee members present: Ed Saltzman (Chair), Cheryl Kupan, Helen Naylor, Lisa Watson, Kirk Clear, Dick Brewer, Celia Wolff, Scott Bay, Nicole Smith, Catherine Rust, Britta O'Leary, Rob Copeland, Vesna Shelnutt, Roger von Jouanne, Sara Dunn, Conner Bailey, Trey Taylor, Lisa Baldone, William Ryan Kloppe, Cotton Martin, Aaron Schneider, Wendy Enderle, Barbara Protzman, Sonny Nguyen, Kyle Deery, Leslie Scott, Andy Kroupa, Peter Fechheimer, Erika Braun, Elaine Krugman, Carolyn Moore, Mark Rubacky, Julia Dussiliere, Ed Coates

Committee Members Absent:

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM EST.

1. **ROLL CALL**-attendance is listed above.
2. **APPROVAL OF 2024 MINUTES** Rob Copeland moved to approve the 2024 minutes. Lisa Watson seconded the motion. MSA to approve the 2024 minutes.
3. **ZONE REPORTS**
Chair (Ed Saltzman): Everything is up to date on the SE Zone webpage. An average of 92.3% of last year's registration numbers for the SE Zone have reregistered this year, so our zone is in good shape. Conner Bailey asked for a comparison with other Zones. Ed will get that information and report back. September 30 is the deadline for the LMSC Standards Surveys to be corrected and submitted. Ed encouraged our LMSCs to work on any open items and submit their surveys. After that date, the results will be sent to the Board of Directors. Records are all up to date except for 3 meets.
Webmaster (Dick Brewer): Dick has 9 upcoming meets listed on the Southeast Zone website for 2025. 6 meets are listed for 2026. All Zone minutes since 1988 are on file. All newsletters since 1992 are on file as well.
Top Ten (Andy Dyer): Andy was not present at the meeting.
4. **LMSC Reports**

Florida (Cheryl Kupan): Florida's registration numbers are down by 382 members from last year. They are having an LMSC meeting next week and will discuss ways to help meet directors (such as giving stipends for hosting a meet) and to give membership scholarships for older financially needy swimmers. They will also be revising their current bylaws. The Rowdy Gaines meet will now continue with it's new time period and will be held January 30 – Feb 2. The Florida LMSC is low on officials and is trying to

recruit volunteers to be certified as officials. There is a concern with conflicting meets being held on the same weekend.

Florida Gold (Barb Protzman): Florida Gold is behind in membership compared to 2024. Less meets are being held. More meets are needed to be able to entice more members to join or rejoin. They are hosting a SCM meet at Ft Lauderdale in November. As many LMSCs, they are having trouble getting volunteers.

Georgia (Britta O'Leary): Georgia is at 102% for membership compared to last year. The LMSC is actively recruiting "Grown Up Swimming" swimmers to register for USMS. Georgia also has more clubs registered than last year- some GUS clubs have now signed up as Masters clubs. Britta complemented our newsletter editor, Elaine Krugman, and Coaches Chair Barb Ingold for their great work on the LMSC monthly newsletters. She also complemented webmaster Ed Saltzman on his work on keeping the Georgia Masters website up to date. There are 4 meets left on the Georgia calendar for 2025. A swim clinic is being held September 13 and a Coaches Certification clinic is scheduled for March 1. Emory University will no longer hold Masters swim practices, so interested swimmers should be directed toward other venues. The Georgia LMSC Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 6. The Georgia Bylaws will be looked at for possible revisions Georgia also is struggling to find volunteers to serve on our LMSC Board of Directors. Britta congratulated Vesna Shelnut on her 2 gold medals at the recent World Championships.

North Carolina (Sara Dunn): North Carolina saw a membership drop of just 32 swimmers from 2024. Club registrations have increased from 16 to 20 clubs. Finances are in good shape. The LMSC provides grants to meet hosts, reimbursing them for their expenses on awards. It is a challenge to find people willing to host meets. North Carolina will be hosting Nationals in 2026. The LMSC has beefed up its social media presence and fine-tuned their bylaws. Ed suggested working with USA teams to help recruit volunteers for meets. Kids need service hours.

South Carolina (Nicole Smith): The LMSC is steady with its membership numbers. Membership saw a big increase for the recent Columbia meet. A new meet will be held at USC. Palmetto is hoping to host a SCM meet in December. South Carolina reimburses meet hosts for all awards expenses. They want to increase their social media presence. Giving out rubber duckies for heat winners has been very popular with the swimmers. South Carolina will be represented at the upcoming USMS Relay in October.

Southeastern (Robert von Jouanne): Four board positions have opened up this year. Fortunately, multiple volunteers are available to fill these vacated positions. The LMSC gives a tuition reimbursement for Coaches Certification clinics. They have a healthy budget and are able to cover most club registration fees. Marquee Open Water events are coming up, such as the Bridge to Bluffs and Swim the Suc (10 mile swim). Helen Naylor commented that last year's Swim the Suc had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Helene. Conner Bailey said that the Southeastern LMSC gives a \$500 stipend to meet hosts. The Auburn meet has submitted a bid to serve as the SCY Zone Championship for next year.

Southern (Aaron Schneider): Four meets were held this year, 2 in Shreveport and 2 in New Orleans. The LMSC has 286 current members, down 42 members from 2024. The LMSC funds Coaches training sessions, and gives a \$500 per day stipend to meet hosts. They hope to host a SCM meet December 5-7 in Shreveport.

5. **2025-2026 MEET SCHEDULE.** Ed told the LMSCs to be sure to notify Dick Brewer once there are definite dates for meets.
6. **2026 SOUTHEAST ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS**
Auburn is bidding for SCY Zone Championships-dates are Feb 14-15. Lenoir City is bidding to host the Zone Open Water Championships on May 30. There are currently no bids for SCM or LCM.
7. **NEW POOLS.** Ed encouraged the LMSCs to visit any new pools in the area to discuss the possibility of hosting Masters meets and/or swim practices.
8. **OLD BUSINESS.** Ed noted that there has been a recent change to the registration procedure. All swimmers must now register individually.
9. **NEW BUSINESS.** Erika Braun is running for USMS Secretary and encouraged support from our Southeast Zone. She looks forward to supporting our swim community and fully understands governance procedures Erica currently serves as North Carolina LMSC Secretary.
Ed asked the LMSC members if it would be beneficial to have more frequent communication. Conner suggested having a midyear Zoom meeting, which the Zone members fully supported. Ed also suggested that the LMSCs send their newsletters to all Southeast Zone LMSC representatives.
10. **ADJOURNMENT**
Lisa Watson moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Cheryl Kupan. The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM, EST.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

- 1.

The meeting was adjourned at.
