**Covid-19 Safety Plan – USMS 2021 South Central Zone SCY Champs – Gulf Region**

**Registration:** Registration is online only. The only check-in required will be for the distance events – 400 IM and the 500, 1000, 1650 Free. All events 200 yards long and shorter will be pre-seeded. Positive check-in for the distance events will be offered both through SwimPhone online and hard copies at a check-table at the pool.

**Check-in, Screening and Face Coverings:** A table will be set up at the entrance where swimmers must turn in their [**Attendee Screening Form**](https://www.usms.org/-/media/usms/pdfs/events/covid-19/usms%20covid19%20attendee%20screening%20form%20%2012621.pdf). The form will be emailed in advance of the meet to all entered swimmers for them to print out and fill prior to arriving. A temperature check will be taken. Masks will be handed out to any person (participant, volunteer or staff) who does not have one along with Ziploc bags for them to keep their masks in when they are in the water. . THERE WILL BE NO SPECTATORS ALLOWED. **If a person who is not registered in the meet wants to attend, they must sign up for a volunteer slot by contacting Doug at dhmartin@stephens.com**

Face coverings will be required to be worn at all times by swimmers, volunteers and staff except when a swimmers is in the water. Swimmers may bring a permanent marker to write their name on the Ziploc bag.

A chair will be behind each block during competition for swimmers to place their mask, in the Ziploc bag, and towel on during their race.

**Social Distancing:** Swimmers will be asked to practice social distancing with anyone who did not arrive with them in the same car or within their family group. Swimmers will be allowed to bring deck chairs to help with spacing out. There are permanent bleachers and additional portable bleachers will be set up by the diving well for swimmers use. There is also a large grassy lawn that swimmers can set up on if the weather is good.

**Warm Ups:** All available lanes will be made available for normal warm up giving a total of 8 lanes in the competition pool and 6 lanes in the diving well. Swimmers will not be allowed to congregate on the walls or on the deck. A minimum of two safety marshals will be on deck to ensure swimmers keep moving and exit the pool immediately upon completion of their warm up. When the competition pool is open during warm-ups for dives, one-way swimming, swimmers will keep space between in line and wait until the swimmer in the pool is half way down the pool before initiating their start.

**Race Procedures:** Swimmers in the next heat will wait off in the set up ready area until the current heat in the water finishes their race and exits the pool. Upon completion of their race, swimmers will wait to exit the pool until the timers have taken their time and sat down back in their chair positioned back from the starting blocks. Swimmers exiting the pool will exit towards the side of the pool away from the ready area. They will then go to cool down in the diving well where they will spread out.

Once the swimmers in the previous heat have exited the starting block area, the next heat will walk out to go directly to their blocks. They will take off their masks behind the blocks and put them in the Ziploc bag and put them, along with any other belongings, on the chair behind their block.

**Facility:** The venue has no concessions. Swimmers may bring the food and drink they need with them. Bathrooms will be available as well as locker rooms but swimmers will be asked to limit numbers in the bathrooms and locker rooms at all times and to minimize their time inside.

**Additional information:** No awards. No hand outs. Heat and lane assignments for pre-seeded races will be emailed out prior to the meet along with psych sheets for distance events and any other information. Swimmer will be asked to print everything they need at home and bring it with them. Heat and Lane assignments will be posted at several places around the pool. Results will be posted online in Meet Mobile and SwimPhone and hard copies posted in multiple clearly marked locations around the pool to limit crowding.

**Post meet notification protocol:** All swimmers, volunteers, officials and staff are asked to notify the Meet Director, Doug Martin, at [**dhmartin@stephens.com**](mailto:dhmartin@stephens.com)immediately if they test positive for Covid-19 within seven days after the meet. Nicole will then notify all participants as well as the facility staff.