



14 February 2018

To: LMSC Chairs LMSC OW/LD Chairs
National Championship Event Directors USMS Long Distance Committee
USMS Open Water Committee USMS Board of Directors

Subject: USMS Open Water and Long Distance National Championship Bids for 2020

Greetings! The 2020 U.S. Masters Swimming (USMS) Long Distance National Championship bid forms for ePostal and Open Water events may be accessed and completed by using the following links.

[2020 USMS Open Water National Championship Bid Form](#)
[2020 USMS ePostal National Championship Bid Form](#)

We encourage all interested organizations to submit bids.

The bid form is an easy to use document that has been updated for your convenience. Please fill out the appropriate bid form and submit by **July 1, 2018**, for both the ePostal and Open Water bids. Attachments to the bid form, such as maps for OW swims, logos, and pertinent event details, are not required but will be considered. They should be emailed to me at the address at the bottom of the page. A safety plan for the OW events is required to be submitted with the bid.

You will receive an immediate email response acknowledging confirmation that your bid form was received. Please follow up via phone (number below) if you do not receive an email confirmation within 24 hours.

Site/host selection for the 2020 events will occur *prior* to the 2018 USMS Annual Convention. Committee collaboration, review and discussion of all bids will take place via conference calls before the Convention; we will schedule phone interviews with bidders and select bid winners in July/August.

The Committee wants to stress that we are looking for a West venue (it will be considered in-area) for a 2 or 3-day open water festival during which two or more national championships are conducted. Possible events for the festival are: U.S. Masters Swimming Sprint-Distance Open Water National Championship (1-Mile) & U.S. Masters Swimming Long-Distance Open Water National Championship (> 3 / < 6 Mile) since both of these are in-area for the West in 2020. The Committee would like to award one or more OW National Championship events to each of the other two areas, the Central and the East, and will also consider festival bids. Please refer to the [2018 USMS Rulebook section 307.3](#) for additional information regarding site selection for long distance national championships.

Selection will be based on the overall suitability of the bid received. Additionally, in the case of open water, the area in which the event is to be held, safety, the online entry method and the annual event schedule are also considerations. USMS determines the online entry system for ePostal national championships and will establish the agreement/contract for ePostal National Championships. Club Assistant is the preferred online entry system for open water national championships. Bids received after the deadlines listed above may not be considered if a qualified, timely bid has already been received for the same event. We encourage bidding for multiple events to strengthen your options.

The current USMS calendar includes both open water and pool long distance events. This calendar is available at <http://www.usms.org/longdist/ldchamps.php> and <http://www.usms.org/comp/ldcalendar.php>. Both pool and open water long distance national championship information, manuals and other important resources are available at <http://www.usms.org/longdist/manuals.php>.

Please feel free to copy this email to any interested party and contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely, *Ali Hall* / Chair, Long Distance Committee / 415.238.2251 longdistance@usms.org