



1st Quarter 2019

Dixie Zone Leadership,

I hope those who attended the LMSC Leadership Summit this past weekend in Phoenix had a great time; learned a lot and managed to get to know other LMSC representatives from our zone.

Hopefully, you picked up some useful tips or best practices that you can bring back to your LMSC and implement; if needed.

I'm hoping to hear about the summit at our Georgia annual meeting this coming weekend.

Reminder: LMSC Standards Survey

The LMSC Standards survey has been sent out to the Chairs, Vice Chairs and Treasurers of each LMSC.

The deadline for completing the online survey is **March 15th**.

For those new to LMSC leadership who may not be familiar with this annual rite of passage; here is a brief overview:

WHAT IS IT:

The LMSC Standards Survey is an annual exercise to monitor LMSC compliance with [LMSC Standards](#) as approved by the USMS Board of Directors. It is comprised of four pieces: LMSC Chairs survey, LMSC Treasurers survey, National Office questionnaire, and National Swims Administrator questionnaire.

PURPOSE OF STANDARDS:

There are four main drivers behind the creation of LMSC Standards:

- Insure LMSCs are compliant with 501(c)(3) regulations governing non-profit entities
- Insure LMSCs, and the events held within the LMSC, comply with USMS Liability Insurance rules
- Protect LMSC financial assets and volunteers through sound financial policies
- Provide a consistent baseline standard of service and performance across all LMSCs

LMSC Standards are divided into two groups: Mandatory and Target.

- **Mandatory Standards** are the most critical. LMSCs should always be compliant with Mandatory Standards and are subject to a remediation procedure if not compliant.

- **Target standards** are also required and each LMSC should strive to be compliant with all of them. However, it is realized that even a highly functioning LMSC may occasionally miss one or more of these standards. It is anticipated that such shortfalls will be quickly resolved.

PROCESS: LMSC Chairs and Treasurers are responsible for completing an online survey. Results from

those two surveys will be combined with information from the National Office and National Swims Administrator to create a total score for the LMSC.

Once all information is in, individual LMSC data will be published to that LMSC's Chair, VC, Secretary, Treasurer, and related Zone Chair. All LMSC Standards data will be published to the Vice President of Local Operations (VPLO), Chris Colburn.

In addition, overall LMSC Scores will be published to the USMS website. LMSC Scores will be divided in to three categories:

- Premiere Plus-LMSC met all Mandatory and Target Standards
- Premiere – LMSC met all Mandatory Standards, missed at least one Target Standard
- Striving – LMSC didn't meet all Mandatory Standards

If an LMSC is not compliant with any Mandatory Standards, the Zone Chair, under the supervision of the VPLO, will consult with the LMSC and develop a remediation plan which includes deadlines.

If anyone needs any assistance or has any questions about completing their Standards Survey, please feel free to reach out to me.

Reminder: Annual LMSC Reports

On January 30th, USMS sent out an email to all LMSC's Chairs, Vice Chairs, Treasurers, and Secretary announcing the availability of a new standard format for the submission of the required LMSC Annual Financial Report. In past years, each of the 52 LMSC's would submit their financial information in their own format. Apparently, the National Office had some difficulty compiling all the information into a single format that would meet their needs.

A new online, google document / spreadsheet has been created so that the financial information will be in a similar format for all LMSCs. The new format will help the National Office better understand the services provided through the LMSCs and develop strategies and programs to enhance membership value at the LMSC level.

On February 19th, the USMS LMSC Development Committee held an LMSC Treasurers' workshop conference call, to review the Reporting Template and discuss how to convert to the Chart of Accounts (COA). Hopefully all of our Dixie Zone LMSC Treasurers were able to attend and get any questions they had answered. If you are still having difficulties preparing your financial report, please contact **Teddy Decker** - mombodecker@comcast.net.

Important Due Dates:

- **Annual Meeting and Financial Reports, April 30th** - The USMS Rule Book requires that each LMSC submit the minutes of the annual meeting and annual financial reports to the National Office by April 30th (USMS Rule 502.8).
 - **LMSC Tax Filings, May 15th** - Your LMSC is required to file a tax return, IRS Form 990. The 990N consists of eight questions and is very easy to file. It requires no financial data, so you can file it any time. They are due on May 15 but please file the 990N as soon as possible but no later than April 30, as it takes at least a week to be able to retrieve it off the IRS website. General information for [online filing of the 990N](#) can be found in our Guide to Operations: Treasurer section.
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Welcome:

Board changes for the **South Carolina LMSC:**

Igor Iovanovich is replacing Cathy Kenner as Vice Chair

Margaret Hoynes is replacing Karen Fuss as Secretary

If you have any changes in your LMSC leadership; please let me know so I can keep the zone mailing list up to date.

Thanks

Dixie Zone SCY Championship:

The 2019 Dixie Zone SCY Championships were held on February 16-17 at Auburn, AL.

Once again, thank you to Conner Bailey and all his volunteers for hosting a great meet.

Below is a recap of the meet.

Auburn Masters Host 2019 Dixie Zone SCY Championships

The 21st annual running of the Auburn Masters SCY Invitational (February 16-17, 2019) was designated the 2019 Dixie Zone SCY Championships. A total of 191 swimmers were registered representing 30 clubs from 8 different LMSCs. The Georgia super team (GAJA) won high point for the large team category with 33 swimmers and 1401 points. Gulf Coast Pirate Swimmers with 16 swimmers won the middle-sized team category with 985 points. The small team category was won by Nashville Aquatic Masters with 2 very active swimmers earning 120 points.

The highlight of the meet was Marjorie Stone (95-99) of Gulf Coast Pirate Swimmers who shattered two national records. In the 50 breast, Marjorie took down a record that had stood for ten years with a time of 1:12.56; the old record was 1:55.41. In the 100 breast, Marjorie set a new national standard of 2:51.51, taking almost a minute-and-a-half off the old record of 4:19.67. The margin of difference between old and new records would be impressive for a 1650 swim or perhaps a marathon, but for 50 and 100 yard swims, these performances and the gap between the old and new records are simply stunning.

Showing there is life after collegiate varsity swimming, Kristen Murslack of Auburn Masters posted a personal best time in the 100 free (:52.95) and was faster in the 100 breast (1:03.20) than she was last year at the SEC championships when representing Auburn University. Kristen was one of two women under a minute in 100 IM and was 6th overall out of 12 swimmers under a minute in that race. Twelve swimmers under a minute in the 100 IM is one fast Masters meet. The fastest time in that event was 53.20 set by William McKinney, a coach with Auburn Master Swimmers and another recent varsity swimmer.

Results from the meet are posted on the Dixie Zone web page.

Zone Championships:

Speaking of our zone championships – next up:

May 12 – **Dixie Zone Open Water Championships** – Tropical Splash (2.5K and 5K) Sarasota, FL

June 15-16 – **Dixie Zone LCM Championships** – South Carolina LCM Championships – Greenville, SC

October 11-13 – **Dixie Zone SCM Championships** – Rowdy Gaines Classic – Orlando, FL

See the Dixie Zone web page for additional details.

Remind your members – The **USMS Spring Nationals** are coming up – April 25th – 28th, Mesa, AZ.

Entry deadline is March 25th.

We still have several great Dixie Zone meets this month for swimmers looking to make their NQT's for Nationals:

Mar. 8-10 / SCY: Snag Holmes Masters Invitational. Jupiter FL.

Entry deadline: online entry closes and paper entries received by Tuesday, March 5

Mar. 9 / SCY: Sewanee Invitational. Sewanee TN.

Entry deadline: online entry closes Wednesday, March 6

Mar. 16-17 / SCY: St. Patrick's Day Meet. Atlanta GA.

Entry deadline: online entry closes Thursday, March 14

Mar. 23 / SCY: Coastal Masters Invitational. Boliva NC.

Entry deadline: online entry closes Tuesday, March 19

Mar. 23-24 / SCY: St. Pete/Bob Beach SCY Championships. St. Petersburg FL.

Entry deadline: online entry closes Sunday, March 17

Last Reminder:

Please remind your meet directors to submit their meet results to the Dixie Zone so they can be published on the Dixie Zone web page and be processed for Dixie Zone Top Ten and Records consideration.

Please ask them to submit them either in a pdf format or send me a Hy-Tek Meet Manager **Backup** file of the meet.

The best way to help us out is to produce their meet results in **PUBLICATION ORDER**, which makes it much easier and faster for us to process them for Top Ten and Records.

Thank you for everything you do for swimming and for serving your LMSC's.

See you on deck.

Ed Saltzman

Dixie Zone Chair