

WESTERN REGIONAL SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS
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2008

These Regulations shall govern to conduct of the Western Zone Western Regional Speedo Championship Series Meet as provided in the By-Laws of the Western Regional Section. Changes to these regulations may be made at a biannual meeting and requires a simple majority (more than 50%) of those eligible to vote.

Article I
Championship Meets

- A. There shall be two championship meets each year
 - 1. Spring Senior Western Regional Section Championships
 - 2. Summer Senior Western Regional Section Championships

- B. Course
 - 1. The Spring Senior Championships shall be conducted short course except during Olympic years, where it will be conducted long course.
 - 2. The Summer Senior Championships shall be conducted long course.

- C. Dates
 - 1. The Senior Spring Championships shall be held in the first half of March.
 - 2. The Senior Summer Championships shall be held to conclude two weeks prior to the National Championships.
 - 3. Exceptions to the schedule may be made during an Olympic year or when there is a conflict with Senior Championships.
 - 4. Meet entries must be submitted by midnight one week prior to the start of the meet

- D. Sanctions
 - 1. The LSC in which a Western Regional Championship meet is held shall sanction the Championship meet.
 - 2. The sanction fee shall be waived by the LSC in whose territory the championship meet is held.

- E. Championship Meet Site Selection
 - 1. An active member organization wishing to host a Western Regional Section Championship meet must submit a written request submitted to the Administrative Vice Chairman of the Western Region Section, indicating what meet it desires, prior to the opening of the biannual meeting at which the site selection is made. This request must be submitted two years in advance of the meet.
 - 2. The Summer Senior Championships shall be selected at the Summer Senior Championship bi-annual meeting held two years prior to the meet.
 - 3. The Spring Senior Championships shall be selected at the Spring Senior Championship bi-annual meeting held two years prior to the meet.

4. A representative of the organization submitting the request for a championship meet shall be present at the biannual meeting in which its request is being considered. If there is no representative present, the request shall not be considered.
5. A majority of the active membership present and entitled to vote at the biannual meeting must agree on proposed site.

F. Meet Format

1. Both the Spring and Summer meets will use the National 4½ day format as modified at the tri-annual meetings. The 200 Free Relay is to be swum as the last event of the first day of competition (Wednesday of a Wednesday – Sunday competition). The 200 Medley Relay will be swum as the last event of the second day of competition (Thursday of a Wednesday – Sunday competition). All heats of the 400 Medley Relay will be swum during preliminaries.
2. The 200 Medley Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay and the 800 Freestyle Relay will be swum in following manner. The two fastest heats will be in finals. All other heats will be in prelims. Prelim heats to be swum in the following order. Third and fourth fastest heat of the women, third and fourth fastest heat of the men, fifth fastest heat of women, fifth fastest heat of men, sixth fastest heat of women, sixth fastest heat of men, etc.
3. Time standards will be reviewed and set at the bi-annual meetings. A methodology can be established if needed or required.
4. If the estimated timeline, including relays, shows the running time of the preliminary sessions to be in excess of 4 ½ hours the meet referee is authorized to use preliminary shortening procedures beginning with starts at both ends and then to A/B flights.

G. Proof of times

1. Swimmers must have a provable Western Regional Sectional qualifying time to enter the meet. Entry times for qualified swimmers are allowed anywhere between the swimmer's qualifying time and the entry standard as long as the swimmer's qualifying time has been achieved within the qualifying period.
2. Proof of time will be required along with the meet entry. Each entry time used must be from a "Sanctioned", "Approved, or "Observed swim in accordance with USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Entry times which are not in the SWIMS database, must be verified by the meet director or designated representative prior to the scratch deadline for the event.
3. Failure to provide proof of time will result in a swimmer not being permitted to swim.

H. Meet Entry Fees

1. The meet entry fees will set by the Section in conjunction with the host and will cover the following:
 - a. Surcharge: \$15.00 per entered athlete
 - b. Individual events: \$8.00 per event
 - c. Relays: \$20.00 per relay
 - d. Time trials: \$10.00 and \$20.00 per time trial

I. Heat Sheets

1. Heat and Final Sheets must contain the following information:

- a. Time Standards for the Section, Junior Nationals, Senior Nationals, US Open and Olympic Trials
- b. American and World Record
- c. Blue Section Record

J. Publicity

1. The host club should do everything possible to work with the local, print, electronic and internet media to generate publicity for the competition.

Article II

Awards

- A. Team scoring will be done for women, men and combined.
- B. Awards will be given at the Championship meets as follows:
 1. Individual awards: Medals for 1st through 8th
 2. Relay awards: Medals for 1st through 3rd
 3. Team awards: Trophies for 1st through 10th.
 4. Women's and men's individual high point trophies
- C. The cost of awards will be the responsibility of the host club.
- D. The design of the awards must be approved by the Western Regional Section Administrative Vice Chairman.

Article III

Allocation of Western Region Section Funds

- A. Establishment of travel funds
 1. One third of the individual, time trial, and relay entry fees (Splash Funds) will be remitted by the host club to the Western Region Section within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the meet. These funds will be used to establish a Travel Fund to be disbursed as described in this Article.
 2. Travel funds are to be used only as expense reimbursement.
 3. For the purpose of establishing the splash fees for travel funds, only Individual events, relay events, and time trials entry fees may be used.
- B. USA Swimming Championships
 1. Each active member organization shall be reimbursed for each eligible qualifier who attends the USA Swimming National Championships (Summer or Spring). Participation in the preceding Western Regional Section Championship meet is required.
- C. Application for Reimbursement
 1. Application for reimbursement funds shall be made to the Western Regional Section Treasurer, in writing, within fifteen days following the USA Swimming Championship meet. The application must contain swimmer's

name, organization name, and addresses and the Championship Meet name and events in which each swimmer competed.

D. Eligibility

1. To be eligible to apply for National travel reimbursement, each individual qualifier must compete in the Championship meet. The swimmer must have competed in an individual or relay event in the preceding Senior Western Regional Section Championship meet. Sectional swimmers who place first through third in the Spring Sectional Championships in the 1650 and who compete in the National Open Water Championships are eligible to receive a full share of travel money, not to exceed the amount given to a Senior National Swimmer. The request to receive reimbursement funds should be made to the Section Treasurer on the same form used to request reimbursement for the National championships of the same year.
2. The reimbursement shall be determined using the following formula:
 - a. Splash funds available from the meet divided by the number of requests for funding.
3. The criteria are as follows:
 - a. The number of individual qualifiers attending the National meet in each 6 month period.
 - b. Maintenance of a minimum \$500 balance of Western Regional Section funds.
 - c. Establishment of entry fees at a level that will allow the splash funds to create an adequate fund from which to pay athletes and coaches.
4. The reimbursement schedule shall be approved by a majority vote of the eligible members at the biannual meeting held in conjunction with the Western Regional Section Summer Championships.
5. National “relay only” swimmers will receive (in total) reimbursement equal to one individual share for that meet.
6. Coaches receive shares for each USA Swimming Championship they attend with one or more athletes from their team/club. However, no more than one coach per team will receive reimbursement for a given meet.
7. The Treasurer will present an estimated reimbursement schedule to the membership at the biannual meeting.