



SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL LOCAL MASTERS SWIM COMMITTEE (SI LMSC)
a division of UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING, INC. (USMS)

2009 Newsletter

San Diego-Imperial Local Masters Swimming Committee (SI LMSC) Board of Directors

On-Line Membership (Registration) Application or Renewal Process

United States Masters Swimming (USMS) has implemented a new registration system which is simplifying the registration process for about 80% of our SI LMSC swimmers who are able to utilize the on-line registration system. The remaining 20% of our swimmers have renewed or applied for new membership using the standard mail-in method.

Individuals can quickly apply for or renew USMS membership via the new on-line USMS Registration/ Membership site. Each swimmer can print and re-print his or her USMS card whenever needed as proof of membership for an entry form or to participate in a workout.

The **on-line USMS Registration/Membership** site for San Diego-Imperial LMSC is located at:
<https://www.clubassistant.com/club/USMS.cfm?i=44>

Membership application via mail

You can still apply for or renew your USMS Membership by mailing a signed application form with your membership fee to the mail box address listed on the form. The membership application form can be found at "<http://www.simasterswim.org/SI-USMS-RegMember-Form.pdf>" or on the SI LMSC web site under the Membership/ Registration link.

Print or Re-print Your Membership Card

The new registration system also allows swimmers to print or re-print their own membership cards by using an on-line link. The process is fairly simple. In order to **reprint your USMS card**, you must go to **<https://www.clubassistant.com/club/USMS.cfm?i=44>** (the same web address as above).

Below the on-line Member Registration box, is the question "[Are you already registered for this year and need your current USMS Registration Number for entering a meet?](#)" Click on this link to go to the "Display Current USMS Registration Number" page where you have 2 options:

1. To [display your USMS registration number](#) only, fill out the form below and your registration number will be presented to you on the next page.
2. If you want [a printable copy of your USMS membership card](#), you will need to fill out the [Registration Card form](#) [Click on the "[Registration Card form](#)" link and follow the instructions to print your card.]

USMS Permanent Identification Numbers

Unique IDs, the last 5 alpha-numeric characters of your USMS membership number, are issued to all USMS members and remain the same each year. Your membership number contains a variable section which represents your LMSC code (44 for San Diego-Imperial), the year, and a variable character plus your permanent ID. If you register in another LMSC or re-register after a gap between registration years and if you cannot recall your permanent ID, then please indicate that you were once a member of USMS so that your permanent ID can be located and a valid member number can be issued.

Some of the membership numbers might be difficult to read. The letters "O/o" and "Q/q" are NEVER used, however the number ZERO (0) IS USED. If it looks like a zero, then it probably is a zero. Unfortunately, the letter "D" sometimes looks like a zero. The letters "I/i" and "L/l" are NEVER used; but the number ONE (1) IS USED. It may be difficult to distinguish between the letter "B" and the number eight (8), the letter "Z" and the number two "2," and the letter "S" and the number five "5." For those characters, you will need to look closely at your membership card.

Major USMS Rules Changes or Interpretations for 2009

Article 103.13.2 (**Official Time from an Initial Distance of the IM**): An official time for butterfly can be achieved from the first one-fourth of the individual medley (butterfly).

There were several changes regarding the **conduct of National Championships**. See the 2009 Rule Book, Articles 104.3.1D (Bids for National Championships), Article 104.5.6 (Scoring for National Championship Meets), Article 104.5.10 (Personnel Required to Run National Championship Meets).

Article 103.8.8A (**Deliberate Delay of the Start or Misconduct**): Only the referee may disqualify a swimmer for delaying the start, for willfully disobeying an order or for any other misconduct taking place at the start.

Articles 13.10.2 & 103.10.3 (**Recording Disqualifications**): The swimmer's name is no longer required on a disqualification slip. [The event name and number and the heat and lane assignment of the person disqualified are listed.]

March 26, 2009, NOTICE TO ALL U. S. MASTERS SWIMMING MEMBERS

Due to continued buoyancy and permeability (porosity) questions regarding the new post Sept. 30, 2007, LZR-type suits, FINA is revisiting their acceptance of that type of suit. In light of the new swimsuit testing and approval process being conducted by FINA according to its recent "Dubai Charter", the following is U.S. Masters Swimming's official interpretation of Swimwear rule 102.14:

#1. NEW U.S.M.S. SWIMWEAR INTERPRETATION

FINA approval or rejection of new swimwear introduced after September 30, 2007, will be accepted by U.S. Masters Swimming for U.S.M.S. sanctioned and recognized competition.

Due to the wearing of two of the new, post Sept 30, 2007, LZR-type suits at a Championship meet in Europe and the subsequent disqualification of that swimmer who had broken a world record, the following interpretation by USMS was made regarding the use of two suits during competition and is effective immediately. This interpretation conforms to the recent interpretations issued by FINA (03/15/09) and USA Swimming (03/18/09).

#2. NEW U.S.M.S. SWIMWEAR INTERPRETATION

For purposes of Article 102.14 of U.S. Masters Swimming Rules of Competition, Swimwear, the use of more than one suit at a time during any U.S.M.S. sanctioned or recognized competition is prohibited.

Note that two-part suits are permitted as is the wearing of a "modesty suit" underneath a swim suit, or a jog bra and/or bottoms, or suit for medical reasons. However, the wearing of two post Sept. 30, 2007, LZR-type suits are not permitted. The use of two "technical" suits at one time during a race is not allowable under any circumstances.

Diving/Pool Entry SAFETY NOTICE & "NO DIVING" reminder to Masters swimmers & coaches

The USMS insurance carrier has reminded us that the "no diving" rule needs to be enforced during masters swim meets as well as during supervised masters workouts and that Masters insurance may not cover circumstances where this rule has not been followed.

The *USMS Rule Book* states that "Swimmers must enter the pool in a cautious and controlled manner. Diving shall be permitted only in designated lanes" (Article 102.4.2).

Swimmers should carefully enter the pool feet first to avoid hitting and injuring other swimmers. Coaches need to inform workout swimmers of the rule and enforce compliance in warmup/warm down lanes at meets and at all workouts. Practice of racing starts, including the forward start from the block, deck, or wall as well as the backstroke start, should be closely supervised in a "one way, dive only" lane or when there is only one swimmer per lane. This rule is also strictly enforced at all meets.

Representation and Club Affiliation

There is continued confusion about the process for changing club affiliation (club representation) and the rules. When registering with USMS through the SI LMSC, a swimmer must declare affiliation either as "unattached" (no club) or with a club that is a current member of SI LMSC and USMS. A club must renew its membership before swimmers can represent the club. If a club has not renewed, then the club will not appear on the on-line registration form. Swimmers registering by paper form who list a club which has not renewed will be listed as Unattached.

There are four rules regarding changing representation or club affiliation.

- 1) **CHANGING AFFILIATION from UNATTACHED to a club** requires **NO** waiting period. If the change is done at the ANNUAL re-registration time, then you only need to re-register for the new year and list the club with which you want to be affiliated on the membership/registration form.
- 2) **CHANGING AFFILIATION from UNATTACHED to a club** requires **NO** waiting period. If the change is done other than at the annual re-registration time, then you must submit a change of affiliation/transfer form and pay the transfer fee. For example, if you registered as Unattached (UNAT) when you renewed and decide to switch to a club later in the year, you would need to submit a transfer form and pay the transfer processing fee.
- 3) **CHANGING AFFILIATION from one club to another club at the ANNUAL re-registration time** requires **NO** waiting period and no transfer form or fee. The annual re-registration time begins on November 1 and goes until you actually re-register for the following year.
- 4) **CHANGING AFFILIATION from one club to another club other than at the annual re-registration time** requires a **60 day "waiting" period**. For this type of affiliation change, the following options are available:
 - a) A swimmer can **NOT compete** in sanctioned events **for 60 days** and submit a transfer/change of affiliation form (with fee) after the 60 day waiting period to change from one club to another.
or
 - b) A swimmer can **change to UNATTACHED affiliation** by submitting a transfer form (with fee) and **swim "unattached"** in sanctioned events **during the 60 day waiting period**. Sixty days after having last represented a former club in a sanctioned event, a swimmer can officially change affiliation to the new club by submitting another "change-of-affiliation/transfer" form with the transfer fee. Note that during the 60 day waiting period, the swimmer can compete unattached in sanctioned events if the swimmer has officially transferred or changed to Unattached club status.