

USMS Zone Reports and Agendas

Colonies Zone

Douglas Sayles, Zone Chair

Voting Members: All annual meeting delegates registered in the Adirondack, Connecticut, Delaware Valley, Maryland, Metropolitan, New England, New Jersey, Niagara, Potomac Valley, or Virginia LMSC.

Introduction

The Colonies Zone consists of 10 high-performing LMSCs covering the mid-Atlantic and northeast states. These LMSCs were hard hit by Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, and lack of access to pools continues to create challenges for many of our clubs and workout groups. Nonetheless, as Masters Swimming programs and events gradually rebound, some of our zone's LMSCs have seen an influx of new, young members in the pool and rapidly growing interest in open-water swimming opportunities among swimmers of all ages.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. Zone Communications
 - a. The zone chair forwarded the LMSC Development Committee's monthly compilation of online resources and events to LMSC chairs and vice chairs.
 - b. Attempts to communicate with LMSC officers via their USMS vanity email addresses and Google Groups resulted in deliverability issues. Subsequent messages were sent to the primary email addresses in their member records.
2. Colonies Zone Championships
 - a. 2021-2022 Season
 - i. SCM: December 10-12, 2021, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (MA). **216 swimmers, 40 teams.** WPI was the only bid we received.
 - ii. SCY: April 1-3, 2022, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (MA). **298 swimmers, 38 teams.** WPI was the only bid we received.
 - iii. LCM: No bids received.
 - iv. Longtime Colonies Zone SCY Championship Meet Director Cheryl Ward (PV LMSC) reported that George Mason University's Fairfax pool is not available for 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 zone championships due to facility renovations and her retirement as the zone SCY meet director.
 - b. 2022-2023 Season
 - i. SCM: WPI Meet Director Alford Green (NE LMSC) plans to submit a bid for December 9-11, 2022. WPI has hosted the joint Colonies Zone & NELMSC SCM championship since 2016.
 - ii. SCY: Rutgers University Head Coach Jon MacColl plans to submit a bid for April 14-16, 2023.

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iii. LCM: Hampton VA Aquaplex plans to submit a bid for July 15-16, 2023.

3. LMSC Standards

- a. The LMSC Development Committee did not perform an LMSC standards survey in 2020 due to the pandemic or in 2021 so it could focus on developing new educational programs to support LMSCs and clubs. It is still incumbent on LMSC chairs to identify and correct areas of LMSC governance that do not meet LMSC mandatory and target standards. The zone chair can provide support and help leverage other USMS resources.

4. Colonies Zone Website

- a. Our website at <https://colonieszone.org> went offline in 2019 when USMS's server died. Colonies Zone Webmaster Ray Novitske (PV LMSC) has worked with the national office to transfer the DNS to a new host and has built and is populating a new WordPress site, which should be ready shortly.

5. Zone Records

- a. The zone chair and CT LMSC volunteer Ben Wyckoff have communicated with various LMSC officers and volunteers and the USMS national office about customizing and using Ben's SwimSight mobile and desktop app to maintain and automatically update zone records daily rather than the zone's current practice of manually updating records once per year per course.

Action Items

1. Vote on endorsement of BOD at-large director candidate
2. Vote on 2022-2023 zone championships

Agenda

1. Call to Order / Introductions
2. Reports (Chair, LMSCs, Webmaster)
3. BOD At-Large Director Candidate Endorsement
4. Zone Championships
5. Colonies Zone Dorothy Donnelly Service Award
6. New Business
 - a. Zone Records
 - b. Communications Between Annual Meetings
 - c. Annual Meeting "Hot Topics" (time allowing)
 - d. Event Announcements (time allowing)
7. Budget / Expenses (if needed)
8. Adjourn

Colonies Zone Meeting

[Thursday September 1, 2022 7:00pm - 8:00pm EDT | Zoom Registration Link](#)