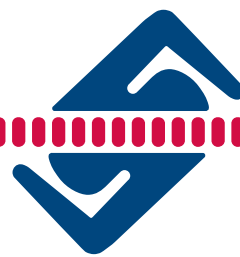


National Office Streamlines

Swimming for Life! • www.usms.org

Summer 2007



United States
Masters
Swimming

Greetings From the National Office

Everyone who attended last year's convention, LMSC Chairman and/or USMS committee member, should have received a convention registration packet (CRP) and most up-to-date schedule (e-mailed out in April). If you are planning on attending and did not receive this, please let me know and I will get it right out to you.



The names of all delegates representing LMSCs must be sent to USMS Secretary Meg Smath (secretary at usms dot org) ASAP.

All people (voting and non-voting) must register for the Convention. Registration forms (included in the above mentioned CRP) are to be sent to Bob and Helen Brown, USAS, Inc, 16700 Indigo Rd, Lakeville, MN 55044-5613. Fee for registration postmarked by August 28th is \$130, on or after August 29th is \$150. So... if you haven't sent yours in yet, you best do so soon!

The cut off date for the Hyatt is September 3rd or when they reach capacity for room reservations at the convention rate. Again, if you have not made your reservation, get going!!! Hotel reservation form is in the CRP.

If you are in need of a roommate, I will be providing my matchmaker services again this year. Send me an e-mail or call me with specifics and I will do my best to be sure everyone looking for a roommate is matched up!

Convention packets will be sent to all who attend. This is a huge booklet which contains Announcements, Schedule, Reports from the members of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Special Assignments and Liaisons, Committee Reports and Agendas, Proposed Budget, Legislation Proposals and Emergency Rules and Long Distance Proposals.

The mailing of the packets is scheduled for mid to late August. Once you receive this, it is your responsibility read this completely BEFORE you arrive at convention so you are prepared.

Looks like over 900 will be in attendance at our Long Course National Championships, hosted by Woodlands Masters Swim Team. I can't wait! Good luck to all of you going!!!

—Tracy Grilli

Calendar/Things to do

August 2007

- 1 Deadline for USAS for early convention registration and inclusion in USAS Directory
 - Bids for fitness events due to Fitness Committee Chair (Marcia Anziano – Fitness at usms dot org)
 - Equipment requirements from committee chairs and workshop planners due to Convention Coordinator (Victor Buehler – Convention at usms dot org)
 - All proposed rule/code changes from Rules, Long Distance and Legislation due to National Office
 - Final SCY Top 10 list sent to printer
 - Second quarter financial reports prepared
 - Election Committee submits election information to National Office for inclusion in the HOD packet
- 8 Zone Reps submit list of events for USMS Swimmer calendar for the November/December issue to VP Local Operations (Julie Heather – VPLocalOperations at usms dot org)
 - Deadline to submit copy to DMC for a newsletter to be inserted in USMS Swimmer for the September/October issue
- 10 Editorial copy/information due to USMS Editor for November/December issue of USMS Swimmer (Bill Volckening – Editor at usms dot org)
 - On Deck department calendar entries due to USMS Calendar of Events Editor for November/December issue of USMS Swimmer (Lynn Hazlewood – Editorial at usms dot org)
 - Bids for 2009 Long Course, Short Course and Long Distance National Championships due to committee chairs
- 10–13 USMS LC National Championships, The Woodlands Aquatic Center, The Woodlands, Tex.
- 15 LMSC registrars send registration reports to National Office (electronic files sent to Esther at Registration at usms dot org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)
 - Finance Committee Chair (Jeff Moxie – Finance at usms dot org) distributes preliminary budget for the coming year, forecast for current year and copies of budget forms to Finance Committee members and National Office



USMS National Office
PO Box 185 • Londonderry, NH 03053-0185
800-550-SWIM • www.usms.org



31 Approximate mailing date for September/October issue of USMS Swimmer

Other deadlines this month

- USAS sends convention registration list to National Office (Tracy Grilli – USMS at usms dot org). Secretary (Meg Smath – secretary at usms dot org) notifies LMSCs who have not sent delegate certifications.
- Convention packets mailed to all certified delegates
- New delegate information emailed to all new delegates

September 2007

1 Rule book cover submissions and bids to print the rule book due to Rule Book Coordinator (Susan Ehringer – RuleBook at usms dot org)

- Period for 2007 reduced swimmer registration fee begins
- All LMSCs that have not hosted a Mentor Coach and Swimmer or Open Water Clinic in the past two years will have until September 1st to submit an application. LMSCs that have hosted within the past two years will not have their applications reviewed until after September 1st. This will give priority to those who have not hosted a clinic recently a chance to host.
- LMSC registrars contact Registration Chair (George Simon – RegChair at usms dot org) with card requirement numbers

15 LMSC registrars send registration reports to National Office (electronic files sent to Esther at Registration at usms dot org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)

- Deadline for swimmers to be registered in order to receive November/December issue of USMS Swimmer

26–30 USMS Convention, Anaheim, Calif.

28 Deadline to submit copy to DMC for a newsletter to be inserted in USMS Swimmer for the November/December issue

30 End of LCM season

Other deadlines this month

- Registration Committee finalizes design of membership card, printer notified
- Changes, additions, deletions for 2008 Working Calendar due to Secretary from committee chairs, etc. (Meg Smath – Secretary at usms dot org)
- Group Exemption 501(c)(3) status report due to IRS

October 2007

8 Zone Reps submit list of events for USMS Swimmer calendar for the January/February issue to VP Local Operations (Julie Heather – VPLocalOperations at usms dot org)

- Deadline for Coaches Committee to submit announcements to USMS Swimmer for Mentor Coach and Swimmer Clinics, NIKE Clinics and Coach of the Year Award

15 LMSC registrars send registration reports to National Office (electronic files sent to Esther at Registration at usms dot

org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)

- Editorial information/copy due to USMS Editor for January/February issue of USMS Swimmer (Bill Volckening – Editor at usms dot org)

15th Approximate mailing date for November/December issue of USMS Swimmer

20 LMSC LCM Top 10 reports due to Records and Tabulation Chair (Mary Beth Windrath – TopTen at usms dot org)

25 Deadline for submission of information to be included in the fall issue of Streamlines... from the National Office

30 Fall issue of Streamlines... sent via email or snail mail

31 End of the 2007 registration year. All registrations after November 1st are for 2008.

Other deadlines this month

- President appoints committee chairs and committee members

November 2007

1 2008 registration year begins

- Minutes of House of Delegates, 2008 Budget and FOG mailed to all who attended 2007 convention

2 Final copies of Rules/Long Distance/Legislation changes to Rule Book Coordinator (Susan Ehringer – RuleBook at usms dot org) from appropriate committee chair (Kathy Casey – Rules at usms dot org, Marcia Cleveland – Long-Distance at usms dot org and Sean Fitzgerald – Legislation at usms dot org)

9 Records and Tabulation Chair (Mary Beth Windrath – TopTen at usms dot org) sends national and world records to Rule Book Coordinator (Susan Ehringer – RuleBook at usms dot org)

15 LMSC registrars send registration reports to National Office (electronic files sent to Esther at Registration at usms dot org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)

- 2008 LMSC Handbook section updates due to National Office Administrator (Tracy Grilli – usms at usms dot org)
- National Office Administrator (Tracy Grilli – USMS at usms dot org) sends rule book Appendix E committees and chairs to Rule Book Coordinator (Susan Ehringer – Rule-Book at usms dot org)

16 Final proofreading of rule book due to Rule Book Coordinator (Susan Ehringer – RuleBook at usms dot org)

23 All camera-ready copy and artwork due to rule book printer

30 Deadline for 2008 LMSC registrations to be submitted to the National Office

To LMSC Treasurers and Chairs

New IRS Filing Requirements

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations have a new annual filing requirement. This will affect those LMSCs whose annual gross receipts are normally less than \$25,000 and who do not already file a tax return. You will need to electronically submit a new Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Submission of the e-Postcard will be electronic and there will be no paper form. The e-Postcard will require you to provide basic information such as the LMSC name and address, any other names you use, a Web address if you have one, the name and address of a principal officer, and a statement that your annual gross receipts are still normally \$25,000 or less. If you fail to file the e-Postcard for three consecutive years you will lose your tax exempt status and must reapply to get reinstated.

The IRS is developing an electronic filing system for the e-Postcard. Filing procedures will be publicized on the IRS website at www.irs.gov/eo when the system is complete and ready for use. Currently at this site, you can find up-to-date information about the e-Postcard filing requirements. Also, you can subscribe to EO Update, Exempt Organization's free email newsletter, to receive the latest information.

Starting in July, the IRS has begun sending educational letters explaining the new filing requirement so you may have already received an informational letter.

If you have any questions about your LMSC tax or e-Postcard filing requirements, contact Jeanne Ensign jeanne@raincity.com or Jeff Moxie finance@usms.org

USMS Coaches at ASCA World Clinic

The American Swim Coaches Association is hosting its 2007 World Clinic in San Diego from September 5-9, 2007. The clinic is being held at the Town and Country Resort Hotel and Convention Center. Along with many other outstanding tracks, the Masters track is being held on Saturday, September 8. Additionally, an open forum titled "If you have questions we have answers" on Masters coaching is slated for that evening. The speakers, open forum, and the clinic is a tremendous opportunity for current coaches to enhance their knowledge of Masters coaching and attend other lectures by the world's best coaches and researchers.

Masters track presenters include Ron "Sickie" Marcikic, Kris Houchens, and Ron Powers. Grant recipients are expected to attend all Masters presentations on Saturday, September 8.

Program Schools (For a complete list of tracks, major talks, speaker bios and program schools, along with hotel information (make reservations soon!), visit the ASCA web site at www.swimmingcoach.org.

USMS Rule Book Cover Contest, Printing Bids and Memorial Page

It's time to send your submission for the 2008 USMS Rule Book Cover Contest. Camera-ready designs should be 5 1/2 inches wide by 8 1/2 inches high. Electronic artwork should be larger, to scale, with 300 DPI resolution, and CMYK color separation. Submissions must use the phrases "United States Masters Swimming" and "2008 Rule Book" in the design as well as the USMS logo (including trademark sign). Send finished designs to USMS Rule Book Coordinator Susan Ehringer at susanehr@usms.org. All submissions become the property of USMS; we will ask each contestant to sign a release. Submittals are due by September 1st, 2007.

USMS is also soliciting bids to print the 2008 Rule Book. For additional specifications, interested bidders should contact Susan Ehringer using the above contact information.

Memorial pages may also be mailed to Susan. Please include a photo, the individual's year of birth and death, and a biographical sketch.

Convention

LMSC Chairmen – if you have not done so already, please send the names and contact information of your delegates to Meg Smath immediately! If your LMSC will not be sending a delegate, also let Meg know.

If you need any information concerning the USMS Convention being held at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, Garden Grove, CA, September 24-30th (26-30th for USMS delegates) it can be found on the USMS website at www.usaquaticsprots.org

On the site, you will find directions to the Hyatt Regency Orange County from both LAX and John Wayne Airports. The web address for the Super Shuttle Coupon is: www.supershuttle.com/Coupons/LAX/USAquatic.pdf. Those of you planning to rent a car, we also have a car discount rate with Hertz. Our meeting number for them is: CV#02RH0004

This year's theme is USMS – Made For You and Me! USMS starts off on Wednesday the 26th with the USMS Board of Directors meeting from 2:30-4:30. This will be followed by a Committee Chairs Orientation meeting from 4:45-5:15, LMSC Workshops from 5:30-7:00 pm (a 2nd set of workshops is scheduled for Thursday from 7-8:30 pm) and the Insurance reception beginning at 7pm. The New Delegate Orientation will be held on Thursday the 27th from 8-8:45.

More details on swim workouts, the LMSC Workshops, Coaches Presentation (Friday 12:45-1:45), Sports Medicine Presentation (Friday 12:45-1:45) will be included in the Convention Information Packet, which will be sent out mid to late August. All information will also be posted on the USMS website when available.

Committee News

Long Distance

2009 Long Distance/Open Water National Championship Bids

Timely bids will be accepted through Friday August 3, 2007. Contact Marcia Cleveland, USMS Long Distance Chair at longdistance at usms dot org for the bid form and regional rotation of events for 2009. Please submit bids for any events you are considering hosting and submit them to Marcia electronically.

2008 Fitness Event Bids

The Fitness Committee is accepting bids for the 2008 Check Off Challenge and the 30 Minute Swim. Bids are due by August 27, 2007. Contact Marcia Anziano, marfer at att dot net with any questions.

Go the Distance –

A new fitness event offered by the USMS Fitness Committee started in January of 2007. The name of the challenge is “Go the Distance” (GTD)!

The objective of this event is for participants to track the distance they swim during the year 2007. There is no cost to enter this event. Participants mail or e-mail the event coordinator the total distance they swim each month. A list of miles per month and cumulative mileage is tabulated for each swimmer. Each month the results are updated on the USMS website on the Fitness page at <http://www.usms.org/fitness/content/gothedistance07>

When participants achieve specific distance milestones of 50, 100, 250, 500, 750 and 1000 miles – they will be recognized on the USMS website and awards will be available for purchase (for a minimal fee).

Records and Tabulations

Current Top Times and Individual Results on-line

Current Top Times and Individual Results on the USMS web site, located under the Competition tab, access a database of individual results that is a consolidation of all meet results files submitted via e-mail to meetresults at usms dot org. These times are not tied in any way to the USMS Top Ten. The results are best explained as a guideline or yardstick that swimmers can use to gauge progress compared to other competitors of the same age group. The feedback from swimmers who watch their progress on these results is very positive.

Top Ten Recorders are requested to e-mail meet results to meetresults at usms dot org just as soon as meet results become available. The database has a time value for swimmers and is most useful if it is continually updated as the season progresses.

The files submitted for Current Top Times upload must be zipped, should contain splits of individual events (if available in the meet results) and must be one of the following formats:

1. SDIF (created via most meet management software)
2. Hy-Tek Exported meet results, format .CL2 (zipped by Hy-Tek during Export)
3. Hy-Tek Backup (zipped by Hy-Tek during Backup)

Please e-mail the results to meet results at usms dot org just as soon as a meet is finished. Thanks are in order for all the LMSC's that do voluntarily submit their meet results in a timely fashion.

Steve Schofield, 1932-2007

It is with sadness that I inform you that Steve Schofield has passed away after a long battle with cancer. He was a fixture at all our local meets, and will be greatly missed. Steve was active as Vice-Chair of Southern Pacific Masters Swimming, and he served on many national committees.

“I was quite surprised to hear of Steve passing. I did not realize that he had cancer. Steve was a major force in Masters and was a devoted a worker for the program as



ever existed. His enthusiasm never lagged and I will miss him as will the whole SW Zone,” Dan Gruender

“Steve always seemed younger than he was. I guess that is one of the benefits of Masters Swimming. I loved his smile and his laugh and he was a great dancer! He will be missed by all of us. I

hope he had a chance to compete in a 25 before he got too sick,” Carolyn Boak

“Steve was a valued member of USMS and will be missed by those who knew and

worked with him. I learned from Steve, enjoyed the fruits of his labors at meets and conventions, appreciated his sense of humor, and appreciated his dedication to our organization,” Nancy Ridout.

One of Steve's favorite organizations was the Foundation for Pierce College. To make a donation in Steve's honor, send your check made out to: Foundation for Pierce College 7914 Sadring Ave West Hills, CA 91304

and write on check: Friends of Pierce Pool
—Julie Heather and SPMA

Committee News

Rules Corner

By Kathy Casey, USMS Rules Chair

Quiz: Try to answer this question without looking at the rule book: If a recall rope is used, it shall be placed...(where?)...in short course facilities. (The answer is at the end of this article.)



Questions and Clarifications:

Question 1: During the backstroke, can I turn over past vertical and do an open backstroke turn? **Answer:** Yes, as long as it meets the following criteria: “The swimmer who turns past vertical and, in a continuous motion, grabs the wall before pushing off with the feet while on the back is considered to have executed a ‘continuous turning action.’” (101.4.3, Note, page 3)

Question 2: Why do I have to request an initial backstroke split in writing to the referee before I swim the race? **Answer:** The officials have to watch to make sure that you do a legal finish rather than a turn at the initial distance requested (103.13.1B[2]&[3], page 24; 105.2.2C&D, page 38; and 105.3.7C&D, page 38).

Question 3: Can I get an official time for a 50 meter relay leadoff split with three watches? **Answer:** Only for world records. Split times will be considered for USMS official times if recorded by fully automatic timing equipment (103.13.3, page 25 and 105.2.2A and 105.3.7A, page 38).

Question 4: If the two watch or button times for a swim are 1:20.09 and 1:20.10, what is the official time? **Answer:** 1:20.09; “the time shall be the average of those two button or watch times. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.” (103.12.4B[3], page 22)

Question 5: Which is the better timing quality, 3 watches or 2 semi-automatic buttons? **Answer:** Three watches, according to 103.13.3, page 25. Three watches or three semi-automatic buttons will count for World records, USMS national records, and USMS Top 10 times. Two watches or two semi-automatic buttons will only count for USMS Top 10 times.

Question 6: What do I do if there is an unresolved rules question/issue at a meet? **Answer:** Email the Rules Chair at rules at usms dot org immediately or as soon as practical with the rules question. If it’s the first day of a two-day meet, you could have an answer for the second day of the meet.

Clarification 1: Averaging two times: Check the electronic timing system at your pool for rounding up or truncating (dropping the thousandths digit) when averaging two button times. There are still a few systems that have not been changed over to truncating.

Both USA Swimming and USMS drop the thousandths digit when averaging two times (see question #4 above).

Clarification 2. Choosing primary and secondary timing systems for a meet: “A secondary system of precedence equal to or lower than the primary system shall be used.” (103.12.2B, page 21) Don’t back up the primary system with a system of higher precedence because, “The primary system shall determine the official time of each swimmer unless a comparison of the primary with secondary and/or tertiary system times indicates a malfunction of the primary system.” (103.12.2A, page 21) For example, three watches would not be the secondary system to a two-button semi-automatic primary system because three watches are considered a superior timing method. If at all possible and particularly if world or national records could be set at a meet, choose a primary timing system that will give the official timing level required for world and national records (3 buttons, 3 watches, or automatic timing; see 103.13.3 on page 25).

Clarification 3. “Choice” events: If swimmers will only be allowed to enter one 400 event due to time constraints at a meet and they will be allowed to choose the event (free or IM), announce such in the meet information including how the combining of events and the seeding of stroke choices will be done (so it’s easier for officials to judge). Events 200 yards or longer may be combined (102.10.1B, page 8). Do not call the event 400 freestyle. If it’s called freestyle, any event chosen would count only as freestyle, not as the event chosen by the swimmer (103.13.2, page 24). For example the entry form could list “Event #14 400 meters (choose one) free or IM” and the swimmer would choose one.

Clarification 4. Event limit per day: If two sanctioned events are offered in one day as part of a meet, the event limit is still 5 individual events per day (102.6, “Event Limit”, page 7). For example, if time trials are offered in conjunction with a meet, and the meet and the time trials have separate sanctions, a swimmer can not exceed 5 individual events per day regardless of the separate sanctions. Hosting two sanctioned events in one day does not change the individual event limit because the rule states that the limit is 5 individual events per day not 5 per sanctioned event. Another rule book reference for trials/finals is 102.10.1, page 8.

Answer to quiz question: It goes at the backstroke flags at the turn end of the pool. “If a recall rope is used, it shall be placed ... at the turn end backstroke flags in short course facilities” (107.15, p. 44). To quote one official upon hearing the correct answer to this quiz question (to date, no one has answered it correctly), “Well, it goes to show you, you should never work without a net.” In this case that “net” is the rule book. Even the Rules Chair was surprised by the correct placement for a recall rope, if one is used, in short course pools (yards and meters). So, by all means, read that rule book and keep it handy at all meets!

For any questions about rules contact Kathy Casey, USMS Rules Chair, rules at usms dot org.

International Events

Second ASUA Pan American Masters Swimming Championships 2007

Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas will be holding the second A.S.U.A./U.A.N.A. Pan American Masters Swimming Championship August 30-September 3, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

I encourage you consider taking advantage of this opportunity to experience the flavor of international competition; as Masters Swimmers for all around the America's come together, in this world class facility, to meet and compete with other adult athletes and share in Masters Swimming".

The Natatorium of San Juan is located in the "Parque Central" and is the most modern aquatic facility in the Caribbean. The facilities construction was based on the Atlanta Olympic Pool and has ample parking available.

Travel note to u.s. citizens: USA passports are not required for travel between USA and Puerto Rico. U.S. citizens returning directly from a U.S. territory are not considered to have left the United States and do not need to present a passport.

For more information and on-line entries, please go to the 2nd ASUA Pan American Masters Swimming Championships web site: <http://www.asua-aquatics.org/html/English/2panmaster1.htm>

XII World Masters Championships

As many of you know, the XII World Masters Swimming Championships take place in April 17-25, 2008 in Perth, Australia.

The organizers are turning the Stadium into a giant entertainment complex for the event with free entertainment every night and a great range of food and drinking outlets. The stadium will be a festival for water sports for every day of the event

The new accommodation packages have been launched and are available on the internet. We have agreements with a number of Star Alliance airlines and with local accommodation supplier Discover West for great special fares and accommodation packages for competitors and visitors to the event. You can get access to these through the website <http://www.2008finamasters.org>.

FINA have modified the times for swimmers for this event (please see them by going to <http://www.2008finamasters.org/>) which will mean a great many more swimmers will qualify to enter.

For competitors and spectators, sun, adventure, an awesome natural environment and friendly people is what you'll find in Perth. Western Australia is famous for its long days of sunshine, cloudless blue skies and hundreds of kilometers of brilliant beaches. Perth gets more sunny days than any other capital city in Australia.

Perth City offers an easy-going lifestyle. The population of 1.3 million means the city also offers a huge range of shopping, dining and nightlife options and a vast array of accommodation, tour choices, golf courses, wineries and many other activities.

XII FINA World Masters Championships 25008 - Registration System Coming Soon

The Organizing Committee has approved a registration system for the XII FINA World Masters Championships 2008. Over the next month we'll be preparing the system to allow competitors, volunteers and coaches to register for all of their events using one simple on-line form.

The registration forms will also be available to download for those who want to register by mail. The registration system will provide the listing of all events in the tournament.

We will send a newsletter as soon as the system is available. Please note, there will be more than six months for you to register once the system is available.

For more information go to <http://www.2008finamasters.org>

Officer Contact Updates

Marcia Anziano, Colorado LMSC and newly appointed Fitness Chair – fitness@usms.org

James Enyart, North Carolina Editor – 1408 Emerald Dunes Dr, Sun City Center, FL 33573, theenyarts@verizon.net

Mel Goldstein, Indiana LMSC and newly appointed YMCA Liaison – YMCALiaison@usms.org

Amy Johnson, Niagara Secretary and Sanctions Chair – acjohnson4@verizon.net

Danielle Ogier, New Jersey LMSC and USMS LD Committee – 8277 Kingsbrook # 153, Houston, TX 77024

Dave Oplinger, Indiana LMSC and USMS Marketing Committee – dwo1128@embarqmail.com

Todd Smith, Indiana LMSC and USMS Executive Director – 317-846-8409, executivedirector@usms.org

Mary Sweat, Oregon LMSC and USMS Records and Tabulations Committee – mhsweat@yahoo.com

New LMSC Officers

Colorado: Webmaster, Brian Tsuchiya, brian@briantsuchiya.com

Connecticut: Sanctions, Nicole Pendleton, nballarini@interbridge.net

Indiana: Registrar, Maegen Himes, m.himes@earthlink.net

Michigan: Registrar, Janet Jasker, mastersreg@ameritech.net

Pacific Northwest: Chairman, Steve Peterson, speterson@bandwagon.net; Treasurer, Toby Coenen, tcoenen@wilsonengineering.com; Vice Chair, Lisa Dahl, lisaisswimming@hotmail.com

Oklahoma: Registrar – Loida Delgado, caribena57@hotmail.com

Ozark: Secretary, Teresa McDowell, resa3950@aol.com; Top Ten: Mary Pholmann, marypholmann1@verizon.net; Vice Chair, Ardeth Mueller

Southeastern: Chair, Nan DeStafney, nanolsenrn@msn.com

2007 Database Administration Report

In the eighth year of the national office owning the registration function, membership capture and recording continue in a fairly comfortable groove, enlivened by the occasional mismatch with an existing ID, or a birth date or name that was wrong either today or in the past – or some unexpected behavior by our “customers”, like a member registering in two different LMSCs at the same time or not telling us they changed their name. Transfers continue to be a huge challenge.

The registrars and treasurers have been wonderful in hewing to their monthly deadline, often within a fractured and busy schedule of their own and some while trying to learn ‘the ropes’. It is a pleasure and privilege to work with such a dedicated group of people.

They have processed 39,468 memberships in 2007 or 90.6% of the 2006 total of 43,552. After deducting for between-association transfers counted by multiple LMSCs, we have 39,421 net members to date registered with 516 or more clubs within the 53 LMSCs. Another 1,100 or so are pending in the to-do bucket, bringing the registration level to 93.1% of last year’s total by mid-July – about even.

By decade of birth, the breakdown looks as follows:

Birth Year	Women	Men	Total	Percent		
				of Total	Women	Men
1900-1919	33	49	82	0.2%	40.2%	59.8%
1920-1929	220	327	547	1.4%	40.2%	59.8%
1930-1939	521	936	1457	3.7%	35.8%	64.2%
1940-1949	1469	2715	4184	10.6%	35.1%	64.9%
1950-1959	4226	5834	10060	25.5%	42.0%	58.0%
1960-1969	5505	6330	11835	30.0%	46.5%	53.5%
1970-1979	4095	3665	7760	19.7%	52.8%	47.2%
1980-1988	2152	1344	3496	8.9%	61.6%	38.4%
2007 YTD	18221	21200	39421	100%	46.2%	53.8%

For comparison:

End 2006	20212	23213	43425	46.5%	53.5%
End 2005	19835	22862	42697	46.5%	53.5%
End 2004	19397	22646	42043	46.1%	53.9%
End 2003	19495	22912	42407	46.0%	54.0%

Note, as with all the numbers, the percentages for the current year will keep shifting until year-end.

Using birth year/decade rather than short-course competitive age groups gives an apples-to-apples comparison over the years, since the same swimmer, if registered, will always fall in the same group.

Here’s how the current year is shaping up, by Age Group: (based on projected age at end of 2007.)

2007 Membership to Mid-July

	85+	80+	75+	70+	65+	60+	55+	50+	45+	40+	35+	30+	25+	18+
Women	73	113	174	263	457	731	1362	2173	2959	2748	2294	1974	1818	1082
Men	111	170	329	468	779	1428	2097	3110	3491	3179	2455	1686	1256	641

out why not. We can easily ascertain the percentages of those who renewed in the current year from the year immediately before, but it would be more difficult to flush out the exact reason since a large number of the “goners” would no longer be at the current address and/or email.

Note that we can only establish that a given % did not return the next following year. They may return in later years and a very healthy percentage do... even up to 30 years later.

Reg year	Total	RN next year	Not renewed	Pct not renewed
Y2005	42696	27959	14737	34.5%
Y2004	42042	27195	14847	35.3%
Y2003	42407	27183	15224	35.9%

This may be the year when the ability to register online will become a reality, making our “customers” happy since the majority of them own or have access to computers at home, work, or school. It would make the national office and the downstream users like Top Ten and History & Archives happy as well with more timely data and better linkages. Getting the match-ups right will still be a huge challenge, as will transfers – which we may wish to ignore in round one, but cannot. We will have thousands of “inputters” out there whose keyboard skills (or finger dexterity) will hopefully be better than some of their handwriting (or recollection or estimation of their birth date) and who will not expect miracles with a small investment of their time and patience. We will, after all, need to verify their entry and payment – and be able to reverse it in case of problems.

One big bonus for the national office and the registrars would be to get address changes entered into the system by the membership (or importing them from the USPS) and avoid handling them multiple times. Almost 10% of the members change address during the year – often up to three or four times.

—Esther