
Long Distance

Committee Members

Catherine Rust, Chair; Dave Brancamp, Vice Chair

Christie Ciraulo, James Davison, John Fox, Bob Kolonkowski, Nicki Phillips, Phyllis Quinn, Stephen Rouch, Vesna Shelnut, David Spitzler, Amy Wagner, Marnie Whitley

Ex-Officio: Carrie Stolar, Jay Eckert, Colton Martin, David Miner, Onshalee Promchitmart

Introduction

The Long Distance Committee is responsible for the oversight of the rules and administration of the open water and long distance swimming for U.S. Masters Swimming. Initiates, receives, reviews and recommends proposed rule amendments for consideration. Ensures that Part 3 of the U.S. Masters Swimming rules promote fair and equitable competition. Solicits, reviews and selects sites for the Open Water National Championships. The committee works in an advisory capacity with open water event hosts. Ensures the USMS Open Water Championships and Long Distance pool events are conducted per Part 3 of the U.S. Masters Swimming Rule Book. Coordinates with the USMS National Office on the Virtual National Championships. Maintains records and selects the Long Distance All-American and Long Distance All-Star teams.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. Updated Long Distance Committee Operating Guidelines
2. Updated Long Distance Administration page on U.S. Masters Swimming website.
3. Prepared Part 3 rules proposals for the HOD
4. Presentation on Open Water Clinics at Relay 2025
5. Reviewed nominees and selected recipients for the 2026 Open Water Service Award and the 2026 Long Distance National Championship Award
6. Three OWNC held in 2026. One event cancelled due to water level
7. Selected and approved 6 OWNC for 2027
8. Clarified procedures for checking Virtual National Championships entries
9. Established Long Distance Administration page on USMS website

Action Items

1. LD-1 302.2.2A Clarifies requirements for water temperature and thermal plans
2. LD-2 303.12.1 Removes protest procedures from rule book provides a reference
3. LD-3 303.12.2 WITHDRAWN
4. LD-4 305.7A Removes protest procedures from the rule book provides reference
5. LD-5 305.7B WITHDRAWN
6. LD-6 307.3 Removes language for bidder requirement
7. LD-7 307.6.8ABC Removes protest procedures from rule book provides reference
8. LD-8 307.6.8 B C WITHDRAWN
9. LD-3, LD-5 and LD-8 Withdrawn by LDC vote

Agenda for LDC Forum

1. Introduction of committee members
2. Introduction of the 8 rule proposals, ask for discussion

Long Distance Committee Open Forum and Meeting

[Monday, August 10, 2026 8:00pm-9:00pm EST| Zoom Registration Link](#)