

2026 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Virtual

Committee Name:	Championship	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Erin Sizelove	Vice Chair:	Mark Rubacky
Minutes recorded by:	Megan O'Connell	Date/time of meeting:	8/24/2026 8:00pm EDT

Actions Requiring Approval by the House of Delegates:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present: 12	Absent: 4	Number of other delegates present:
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Erin Sizelove, Mark Rubacky, David Brancamp, Jim Clemmons, Robert Heath, Megan O'Connell, Britta O'Leary, Jeffrey Roddin, Edward Saltzman, Teri White, Carrie Stolar (Executive Committee), Jay Eckert (ex officio) Committee Members Absent: Cheryl Kupan, Dan Underbrink, Colton Martin (ex officio), Onshalee Promchitmart (ex officio)		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm EDT.

1. The Championship Committee reviewed the 2026 USMS Spring Nationals in Greensboro, NC – A presentation was provided by David Hoover and Andrew Nemus with the host facility. Over 200 swimmers, \$446,168.29 Revenue, \$331,406.64 Expenses, \$114,761.56 Profit; Athlete social will be scaled back based on attendance and cost. They seek additional feedback on volunteer recruitment and pre-event planning improvements.
2. The Championship Committee reviewed the 2026 USMS Summer Nationals in Sacramento, CA – They are still working on the summary of the meet; 1400+ swimmers (largest Summer Nationals ever). It was noted they were able to manage the extreme heat conditions (reaching 105 degrees in the afternoon).
3. 2027 Spring Nationals will be in Irvine, CA from April 29, 2027 – May 2, 2027 and 2027 Summer Nationals will be in Richmond, VA from August 4, 2027 – August 8, 2027.
 - a. There is a challenge of finding a suitable facility to host a meet, though the National Office is seeking new facilities.
4. Several concerns were identified with limiting the 200+ distance events.
 - a. The Championship Committee will look at adjusting the National Qualifying Times (NQTs) to balance meet timelines.
 - b. The Championship Committee will continue to look at restricting more events to the NQT; however, it is noted that previous attempts to implement additional NQT restrictions (e.g., option to limit both the 1650/1500 and 1000/800 to the NQT) have been unsuccessful at the House of Delegates.
 - c. The Championship Committee expects event caps for the future competitions due to managing the timelines if no rule changes.
 - d. The Championship Committee noted that once the cap went into effect for a 200+ event for either men or women, it was closed for both the men and women. It was suggested to look at the ratio of men v women in the event.
 - e. Thomas Murphy suggested Mixed age group category for the longer events instead of separating men and women.
5. 2027 Summer National concerns:
 - a. The portable pool will not be available for warm-up/cool-down at Richmond. A participant on the call noted that the smaller pool was very hot and overly crowded, that it was not very beneficial to the swimmers. The Committee will reach out to SwimRVA about cooling the warm-up/cool-down pool to closer to the competition pool.

- b. A participant on the call noted that summer storms cause the pool to lose power for an extended period of time and shut down the vendor tents outside. The Committee will review the emergency plans for the pool and compare with the emergency plans used for Sarasota.
6. Video review was used for relay takeoffs at Sacramento. Video review was not used for stroke infractions and was not used to make any relay takeoff disqualifications (DQs). Relay exchanges were originally called on deck. If an Athlete/coach/team disagreed with the on deck call of a DQ for a relay takeoff, then they could request the video review. Of the on deck relay takeoff DQs, three (3) DQs were successfully overturned based on challenges and subsequent video review.
 - a. The camera may have missed some of the relay takeoffs when flipping between shots. It was recommended to have a dedicated camera for all of the blocks for the relays.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. A subcommittee was tasked with developing a single overarching policy document referencing existing smaller policies for the Championship Committee. Subcommittee members are Jim Clemmons, Ed Saltzman, Mark Rubacky, and Dave Brancamp.
2. Discussion of the limitations of the 200+ events. Looking at adjustments and the meet timelines. Don't want any day to go excessively long.
3. Review of National Qualifying Times (NQTs) to manage meet timelines and potential rule changes.
4. Jim and Dave to serve as liaisons for Spring Nationals and to start working on event order.
5. The Championship Committee will reach out to SwimRVA to discuss cooling down of the warm-up pool and emergency plans for the pool.
6. Omar from the Officials Committee will work with Chris Lundy to discuss the use of video review for relays and the locations of the cameras at future Championship meets.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm EDT.
