



LMSC VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION OPEN WATER CHAIR

ROLE OVERVIEW

The Open Water Chair position is responsible for supporting event hosts and ensuring that sanctioned open water events are operated under USMS and LMSC guidelines in a safe manner. The position may also be charged with promoting USMS Postal events within the LMSC.

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Encourage the development of Open Water (OW) swim events and clinics in the LMSC geographical area.
- Work with local open water event hosts to promote USMS' common event guidelines, such as entries, results submissions, safety, overall event management.
- Enhance and maintain local policies based on USMS policies and guidelines for open water.
- Oversee the LMSC open water sanction process (some LMSCs use the Open Water chair to sanction Open Water events).
- Work with event hosts to submit Open Water events to the USMS calendar.
- Develop an annual calendar of LMSC Open Water events for member reference.
- Conduct post-event reviews to communicate and apply lessons learned, when possible.
- Write or solicit articles on local Open Water accomplishments and submit them to USMS and LMSC news outlets.
- Act as the liaison with the USMS Long Distance Committee and the event host when national championship events are being held in the LMSC.
- Help build and recruit Open Water events for national championship consideration.
- Work with LMSC Safety Chair, as needed.

RECOMMENDED EXPERIENCE & SKILLS

- Knowledge of Open Water and Long Distance policies including those for safety and organization.
- Ability to be organized and oversee several events at the same time.
- Review LMSC Open Water policies and propose changes when necessary.
- Experience in participating in OW events, hosting OW events, working with OW event organizers, attending OW safety conferences, working with or as a life safety personnel.
- Experience working as an OW event director or safety officer.
- Experience recruiting and training volunteers to help conduct successful open water events.

RESOURCES

- USMS Rule Book: <https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/us-masters-swimming-rule-book>
- USMS Open Water Manual: <https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/guide-to-local-operations>
- Participate in OW safety conferences and clinics



- USMS Long Distance Committee

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