



When is an Athlete Considered Registered?

The simple answer is that an athlete is considered registered when their application is completed, and payment is submitted to the LSC Registration Chair or his/her named deputy registrar.

NOTE: If you are 18 years of age or older, you are required to abide by the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP). In addition, in order to be a member in good standing, you must complete the Athlete Protection Training (APT). The training can be accessed at www.usaswimming.org/apt

In Minnesota, we have legislation that we continue to give authority to the club's deputy registrar to accept and collect the swimmer's registration at the club level with the following provisions:

1. All Athlete registrations/e-files/fees MUST be received in the Minnesota Swimming Office **within two weeks from the date of acceptance by the club.** (That would mean when an athlete has registered with a club and the proper fee has been received).
 - Note that since we have this 2-week policy, registrations should be sent to the office within 2 weeks of the time families have registered and paid for the membership(s). We have multiple modes of registrations and this keeps it uniform.
 - Software registration dates and cancelled checks would be used for verification, if necessary.
 - Athletes do not have to be "in the water" within 2 weeks of registration, but this will ensure that they will be registered, per this policy, when they begin to practice.
2. Registration forms/e-files/fees must arrive in the swim office prior to an athlete's participation in an MNSI Sanctioned or Approved meet. Faxed registrations will NOT be accepted.

To determine membership **for competition**, ONLY **"verified" registered USA Swimming athletes will be allowed to compete** in sanctioned competition. For a registration to be "verified", the **application (with fee) must be dated and on file in the MNSI office at least two (2) business days prior to the 1st day of a meet.**

- If not disallowed by a statement in the meet information, athletes not properly registered per the above policy, and who wish to compete in a meet in which they are entered, must present a current on-deck membership application and on-deck fee to the meet director and verified by the Admin Official/Referee, prior to entering the water for warm-ups or competition.
- Athletes competing in Sectional Championships, Central Zone Championships, or any USA Swimming Championship level competition shall be Premium year athlete members (i.e., NOT Seasonal or Flex members). The highest level in which a seasonal athlete may compete is the Minnesota Swimming State Championships. If registered as a seasonal athlete, the individual will need to become a year-round member in order to compete in any meet of these meets. Seasonal memberships are NOT upgradable.
- Flex members may not compete at or above the level of MNSI Championship meets. They may only compete in 2 sanctioned meets during the year. They may upgrade their membership to premium.

Enforcement – The person submitting a club's meet entry must verify that all athletes being entered are properly registered as current athlete members of USA Swimming. Also, a swim meet "registration reconciliation" will be done by Minnesota Swimming, identifying unregistered athletes. Host teams will be notified and, in turn, will notify the entering team that the athlete(s) will not be allowed to compete if not registered before participating in the meet.

Penalties -

- Minnesota Swimming has policy that may fine the club or individual \$25.00 per event that an athlete swims unregistered in a meet. (This includes having failed to complete the APT training for athletes 18 years and older)
- In accordance with USA Swimming Article 302.4 False Registration, "If a swimmer who is not properly registered with USA Swimming competes in a sanctioned competition, the host LSC may impose a fine of up to \$100 per event against the individual, member coach, or member club submitting the entry."
- Any times swum at meet(s) while registration is not in good standing will NOT be loaded into SWIMS.

Athlete Protection Links:

- MNSI Website: <https://www.teamunify.com/team/czmnisc/page/safe-sport/safe-sport-for-athletes>
- LEARN: <https://www.usaswimming.org/safe-sport/learn>
- Instructions: https://www.teamunify.com/czmnisc/UserFiles/File/Documents/2019%20Documents/apt-finish-r1_060569.pdf