



Policy & Procedures Manual Wisconsin Swimming, Inc.

Policy 3: Determining Age Groups, Events, and Meet Length

Effective Date: *May 1, 1997*

Effective Date: *September 1, 2025*

Last Revision Date: *October 22, 2024*

Scope: *This policy provides direction to LSC Members relating to structuring and administering Meets.*

3.1 Wisconsin LSC Meet Schedule

- 3.1.1 Fall/Winter Meet Schedule: Shall be finalized at the annual LSC House of Delegates meeting.
- 3.1.2 Spring/Summer Meet Schedule: Shall be finalized at the LSC meeting held in the fall.
- 3.1.3 Any club wishing to host a Meet shall submit a completed "Meet Bid" form to the LSC Sanction Manager at least fourteen (14) days prior to the appropriate LSC meeting. A late Meet Bid shall be added to the season's schedule only by agreement of all other Meet Hosts having submitted bids for that date on a timely basis. Meet Bids must include all information requested on the Meet Bid form. Failure to use the Meet Bid form will result in the Sanction Manager rejecting the bid, and the Meet will not be included in the Meet Schedule.

3.2 Age Group

- 3.2.1 USA Swimming age groups will be used except as specifically noted herein.
- 3.2.2 Authorization may be given to Meet Hosts who wish to conduct events for 8 and Under swimmers. The following restrictions apply:
 - A. USA Swimming Technical Rules shall be enforced in the same manner as for other groups.
 - B. Individual events shall be no longer than one (1) length of the course for fifty-meter (50m.) pools and two (2) lengths of the course for twenty-five yard/meter (25yd./m.) pools, except for the one hundred yard (100yd.) individual medley event.
 - C. Eight and Under swimmers shall be permitted to swim in events for the 8 and Under age group or in combination with the events for the 10 and Under age group.

3.3 Meet Events

- 3.3.1 All swimming events that are listed by USA Swimming for national recognition are appropriate for use in Meets sanctioned by the LSC. Any other events must be approved by the General Chairman or designee.
- 3.3.2 The Age Group Chairman shall have the authority to recommend any events (which receives national and LSC recognition to ensure all events will be offered during a season) that should be included in a particular sanctioned Meet.

- 3.3.3 The Wisconsin Swimming Championship Meets, short course and long course, shall include all senior Championship events for both men and women.
- 3.3.4 All individual events, except 1000 yard or 800 meter and 1650 yard or 1500 meter, shall have Preliminaries and Finals in Senior Championship Meets. For the four (4) events cited, only the fastest, single heat shall be swum in the Finals. When Consolation Finals are held, they must precede the Championship Finals.
- 3.3.5 If a Meet has both male and female events, any stroke event offered must be available to both male and female competitors.

3.4 Meet Length

- 3.4.1 A Meet Host shall plan its Meet to terminate within a maximum of eight (8) hours of competitive events in any one day. With the exception of LSC Championship Meets, the Meet Host shall arrange the program to allow for all individual and relay events to be completed. Swimmers twelve (12) years and younger should be completed, not including warm ups, in four (4) hours or less per day for a Timed Finals Meet or in a total of eight (8) hours or less per day for a Preliminaries and Finals Meet.
- 3.4.2 Each Meet host shall complete the WSI Meet Report and send the Report within seven (7) days after the completion of the Meet to the Sanction Manager and the Treasurer.
The Meet Report shall include:
 - A. The number of entries actually accepted per session;
 - B. Time that the AM session began and ended; and
 - C. Time that the PM session began and ended.
- 3.4.3 Fines for Session Length Violation
 - A. \$250 fine, which increases by \$250 for each subsequent Meet violation occurring within three (3) years.
 - B. Mandatory submission of Meet session reports to the Sanction Manager for review prior to all Meets for the next three (3) years.
- 3.4.4 Options to reduce session lengths, either voluntary by the Meet Host or imposed by the Sanction Manager:
 - A. Reduce the number of swims allowed per participating club;
 - B. Reduce or eliminate relay events;
 - C. Cap the number of heats per event, especially for distance events equal to or longer than 400's; and/or
 - D. Eliminate events.
- 3.4.5 If the Meet Host makes any of the event adjustments noted in 3.4.4 above, the Meet Host must notify the Sanction Manager and each participating club of the changes at least 48 hours prior to the start of the Meet.
- 3.4.6 The Meet Host may specify time standards adopted by the LSC. These time standards must be included in the Meet Sanction request. No time standards for 8 and Under swimmers shall be established.

3.5 Meet Entry Limits

- 3.5.1 The Sanction Manager shall impose individual entry limitations on Meet Hosts, such that individual entries shall not exceed the specified below.

3.5.2 Distance Meet

- A. Short Course Yard Pool: 150 entries per competitive lane used per full day
- B. Long Course Meter Pool: 125 entries per competitive lane used per full day
- C. Short Course Meter pool: 125 entries per competitive lane used per full day

3.5.3 Non-Distance Meet

- A. Short Course yard Pool: 200 entries per competitive lane used per full day
- B. Long Course Meter Pool: 175 entries per competitive lane used per full day
- C. Short Course Meter Pool: 175 entries per competitive lane used per full day

3.5.4 Expectations to Entry Limit Standards- The Sanction Manager may:

- A. Sanction a long course Meet with a limit of 200 entries per lane used per competitive day, but relays but be swum first.
- B. Approve requested, minor variations from these entry limit standards, but a Meet Host should anticipate a need for LSC House of Delegates or Executive Committee action on any request for a major variance.

Date of Revision	Policy Section(s)	Changes Made
January 27, 2004	3.4.1	Clarify four-hour rule
April 27, 2004	3.5	Create section by consolidating entry limit information from 2.8.3 and 3.4.5
April 23, 2013	3.4.1 3.4.3 3.4.4. 3.4.5 3.4.6	Housekeeping Amended to reflect fines for exceeding session length and requirements for session reports Provided suggestion to reduce session length Notice requirements when Meet Hosts adjusts meets Updated to reflect time standard options
June 25, 2013	3.1.1	Updated to reflect change in annual LSC HOD meeting
October 24, 2017	3.1, 3.4, and 3.5	Change all references of LSC Sanctioning Officer, Sanction Chair, Administrative Chairman, or Administrative Chair to be referred to either LSC Sanction Coordinator or simply Sanction Coordinator.
April 25, 2020	Various	Replace "Sanction Coordinator" with "Sanction Manager" throughout the Policy.
October 24, 2023	3.1.3 3.4.2	Replace "Sanctioning Chairman" with "Sanction Manager" Revise "twenty-one (21) days" to "seven (7) days"
October 22, 2024	3.1.2	Revise from January HOD to "held in the fall", effective 2025