

## TRI-STATE SWIM CONFERENCE

1. NAME: The name of the corporation shall be the Tri-State Swim Conference, a nonprofit corporation formed May 24, 2012, under the Missouri Nonprofit Corporation Act.
2. MISSION: The mission of the Conference is to provide a competitive age group swimming experience and fair competition and to promote fitness, good sportsmanship, self-discipline, dedication, and teamwork.

PURPOSE: The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

INUREMENT OF INCOME: No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof.

LEGISLATIVE OR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES: No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene (including the publishing or distribution of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS: Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

DISSOLUTION CLAUSE: Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors (Conference Officers) shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, distribute assets for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, (or corresponding section of future United States Internal Revenue Law). Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

3. **MEMBERSHIP.** Membership in the Conference will consist of those community teams admitted through the process specified in these by-laws. There shall be two types of membership, full membership and associate membership.

- a. **Full Membership.** Teams with full membership shall have full rights to vote on all matters brought before the conference, host invitational meets and the conference championships and to have their swimmers participate in invitational swim meets and conference championships. There shall be twelve full memberships in the Conference. As of the date of this amendment and restatement, the following teams are full members of the conference: (1) Chanute Sharks, (2) Fair Acres Family YMCA/Kraken (Carthage), (3) Ft. Scott Hurricanes, (4) Green Country Wahoos, (5) Joplin Stingrays Swim Team, (6) Lamar Tiger Sharks, (7) Monett Water Thrashers, (8) OPY Swim Club (Nevada), (9) Parsons Dolphins, (10) Pittsburg YMCA Barracudas, (11) Siloam Springs Flyers, (12) Webb City Vikings. In the event that a team is removed from full membership pursuant to the provisions of these by-laws, the remaining full members may elect another team (which may or may not be an associate member team) to full membership.
- b. **Associate Membership.** Associate members may be admitted to the conference pursuant to the procedure outlined in Paragraph 4 of these by-laws. Associate member teams shall have all of the rights of full member teams, except that associate member teams (I) shall not have a right to vote on matters brought before the conference, and (II) shall follow full member teams in the rotation for selection of invitational swim meets, regardless of whether the associate member team (or the full member team) has hosted an invitational the previous year.

4. **ADMITTANCE.** Any team desiring admittance to the conference must petition for admittance at the fall conference meeting. The petition must be presented in person by a representative(s) of the team seeking admittance. The representative shall supply (1) a copy of the team by-laws, (2) a letter requesting admission membership in the conference signed by the team President and/or coach, and (3) a completed application on a form supplied by the conference secretary. A vote of the application will be made at the spring conference meeting. A majority of the then current conference members must vote in favor of the application in order to admit the petitioning team. Upon being admitted into the conference, a full-member team shall have full voting and other privileges and be entitled to participate in the conference championships. An associate member team shall have the privileges of an associate number team and shall be entitled to participate in the conference championships.

5. **DUES.** Annual dues shall be determined at each fall conference meeting: The conference may determine that the dues for associate memberships shall be lower than those for full members. Payment of annual dues shall be made to the conference Treasurer by July 1st of each year. A late fee of \$250 shall be assessed to any member

failing to pay dues by the July 1 payment date. Notice that the annual dues have not been paid and the imposition of the late payment assessment shall be sent no later than July 7 by registered (return receipt) to any member which has failed to pay the annual dues by July 1. The membership of any member that has failed to pay all dues and assessments by August 1 shall be suspended.

6. CONFERENCE OFFICERS. There shall be four officers of the conference. President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All officers shall serve a term of two years. The President and Treasurer shall be elected at the fall conference meeting in off-numbered years. The Vice President and secretary shall be elected at the fall conference meeting in even-numbered years. The officers shall have the following duties:

- President - The President shall be the chief officer of the conference and shall preside over all conference meetings. The President shall prepare an agenda for each regular conference meeting as required by Paragraph 9. The President shall have the authority to appoint committees as needed.
- Vice President - The Vice President shall preside over any conference meeting not attended by the President. The Vice President shall be the official record-keeper for the conference, shall determine the division between A and B times for competition, shall maintain the competitor birthday list, and shall make the final determination of validity of any time submitted for qualification for the conference championship. The Vice President shall be entitled to compensation as determined at the regular spring meeting.
- Treasurer - The Treasurer shall maintain a checking account for the conference, and shall be responsible for the collection of all conference dues and other revenues, and the payment of all conference bills and expenditures. The Treasurer shall present a report of the revenues, expenses, and balances on hand at each regular spring and fall conference meeting.
- Secretary - The Secretary shall take minutes of all conference meetings, and shall submit a copy of same to each conference member within three weeks after the date of the meeting. The Secretary shall also maintain copies of all conference meeting minutes, correspondence, and other communications.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The conference officers shall be permitted to act as an Executive Committee to interpret the rules of the Conference or to resolve disputes. Any decision made by the Executive Committee shall be subject to review by the members of the conference at the next succeeding regular conference meeting or a special conference meeting called for the purpose of review.

8. RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL. A conference officer may resign at any time or may be removed by a majority vote of the conference members. Upon resignation or removal, a regular or special conference meeting shall be held to elect a successor to complete the term of the former officer.

9. CONFERENCE MEETINGS. There shall be two regularly scheduled conference meetings each year: the spring meeting shall be held the first Saturday in April unless the first Saturday is part of the Easter weekend in which case the Conference spring meeting will be on the second Saturday in April; the fall meeting shall be held the last Saturday in August unless it is part of the Labor Day weekend, in which case it will be the next to last Saturday in August. The time and site of each meeting shall be determined at the immediately preceding regular meeting. The President shall prepare and mail to each conference member designated representative an agenda for the spring and fall meeting at least 3 weeks prior to the date of the meeting. The agenda shall include as an item "other business as may be presented by a conference member." Special meetings of the conference may be called by the President, or absent a call of the President, by the written request of two-thirds of the conference full members, provided that written notice of the time, location, and purpose of the special meeting shall be given to each member's designated representative at least seven days prior to the date of said special meeting. No business other than that specified in the notice may be conducted at a special meeting.

10. VOTING. Each conference full member shall have one vote, which shall be exercised by the designated representative of the member. Conference associate members shall have no voting rights. Each member shall provide the name of a contact person for the purpose of receipt of all conference communications. In the event, that a full member fails to designate a contact person, the designated representative of the full member at the most recent regular meeting shall be the contact person. Any member not having a designated representative present at a regular spring or fall meeting shall be ineligible to vote, suspended from conference membership, and given notice (by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested) of suspension by the conference President. A suspended member may apply for reinstatement by submitting a written request together with an assessment equal to \$250. Upon receipt of a request for reinstatement and payment of the assessment, the suspended member shall be automatically reinstated to its conference membership (of the type previously held by the member). Any suspended member which has not submitted a written request for reinstatement and made payment in full of the assessment by the completion of the roll call of teams at the next regular conference meeting succeeding the notice of suspension shall be removed from conference membership.

11. RULE CHANGES. Motions to change the conference by-laws and rules, including the rules of competition, shall be permitted to be presented and voted upon only at the fall conference meeting every third year (with the next such date being the year 2025 fall meeting); provided that upon the written request of two-thirds of the full members, a rule

change or changes may be presented for a vote at any regular fall meeting. Any change or changes considered at a meeting other than one described in the first clause of this Paragraph must be approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the full members.

## 12. CONFERENCE AND INVITATIONAL MEET SELECTION

- a. Conference Championships. At each fall conference meeting, the host team for the conference championship and the dates for all invitational meets for the next year shall be determined. The host team for the conference championships shall be a full member of the conference unless no full member desires to host the meet. The host team for the conference championship shall be determined by a majority vote. Championship-holding teams can hold an invitational if through the roll call there are additional weekends available.
- b. Invitational Meets. At each fall meeting, the tentative dates and sites for hosting invitational meets shall be determined by rotation. Separate rotation lists shall be maintained for full members and associate members of the conference. Full members will be entitled to select invitational meet dates for the following season in the order of the rotation list. Associate members will be entitled to select an invitational meet date if a date is available after all full members have either selected a date or passed on their right to host an invitational meet the following season.
- c. Rotation Lists. If a member hosts an invitational swim meet, it moved to the bottom of its rotation list in the order in which it was entitled to select an invitational meet date. The member not hosting an invitational swim meet moves to the top of the rotation list in the order in which it was entitled to select an invitational meet date. The members that host the B and A conference championship meets will then follow those member(s) not hosting an invitational swim meet the previous year in the order of B conference championship host followed by A conference championship host. See Exhibit A to these by-laws for an example of how the rotation schedule, the selection of teams to host meets, and the schedule for the ensuing year. The rotation lists by which the selection of dates shall be made for invitational meets for the next succeeding season shall be included with the minutes of the fall meeting. If the host team for a season's conference championship or an invitational meet is changed after the fall conference meeting, the rotation list(s) shall be changed accordingly.
- d. Tentative Meet Schedule and Confirmation of Schedule. The minutes of each fall conference meeting shall state the tentative dates and sites for the next year's conference championships and the invitational meets, all of which shall be subject to final approval at the next succeeding spring meeting.

13. **SUSPENDED MEMBER - LOSS OF INVITATIONAL.** No suspended member shall be permitted to bid to host the conference championship nor an invitational meet. In the event a member is suspended under Paragraph 10 and that member is scheduled to hold an invitational meet in the upcoming season, that member shall lose the right to hold the scheduled invitational meet unless within three business days from the date of notice of suspension and the loss of the invitational meet by the President (1) all assessments imposed by Paragraph 10 are paid in full, and (2) the suspended member advises the President in person or by telephone of its intent to hold the invitational meet as scheduled. If the member does not meet these two requirements and loses the right to hold the invitational meet, the open date shall be made available to other conference members to hold an invitational meet. Should a member elect to host an invitational on that date, the open date created by that member's election shall be made available to other members. Any open dates resulting from the application of this paragraph shall be offered to members in the order of the selection rotation of the previous fall meeting.

14. **PARTICIPATION.** All conference teams shall be permitted to participate in all invitational meets. Non-conference teams shall be permitted to participate in invitational meets if invited by the host team. Participation in dual, triangular, or other non-invitational meets shall be determined by the host team. Results from all invitational meets shall be acceptable for purposes of qualifying for the conference championship. Results from any non-invitational meet (including an intra-squad meet, a dual meet, or one with more than two teams competing) shall be acceptable for purposes of qualifying for the conference championship provided that (1) a certified stroke and turn judge supervises the competition, (2) four qualified stroke and turn judges officiate the competition, (3) a qualified start officiates the competition and (4) proof of times are provided to the Vice President within seven days after the competition. The supervising stroke and turn judge and the starter may also act as stroke and turn judges. Non-conference teams shall not be permitted to participate in the conference championship meets. Unattached swimmers shall not be permitted to participate in the conference championship meets.

15. **CONFERENCE OFFICIALS.** The conference encourages the participation of parents as officials: starters, stroke and turn judges, place judges, and timers. The conference shall appoint a head official who should be USA Swimming certified. The head official shall have the authority to interpret and enforce the rules of competition. Each season, the head official shall conduct at least one official's clinic which shall be open to all members and may conduct additional officials clinics as determined by conference members and the head official. The head official shall be entitled to compensation from the conference for service to the conference as determined at the spring meeting including mileage reimbursement paid at the federal rate determined as of June 1st of the competition year. Any compensation from the host of invitational meets and the conference championships will be determined by agreement with the host member, and the reimbursement of expenses. To act as a stroke or turn judge during competition, a person must have attended one clinic conducted or approved by the head

official in either the current or immediately preceding season, or be a USA Swimming or YMCA certified official.

16. COMPETITION ENTRIES, TIME STANDARDS, AND MEET RECORDS.

- a. Any team hosting an invitational must use a version of Hy-Tek Meet Manager computer software acceptable to the Vice President to schedule events and record the results of competition. After the conclusion of each meet, each participating team and the Vice President shall be presented with a file of the full results of the competition. The Vice President shall also be provided a hard copy of the full results.
- b. Time standards dividing the competition into an A division and a B division prepared by the Vice President shall be presented, reviewed, and approved at the spring meeting for competition for the next succeeding season.
- c. Each member shall provide to the Vice President by July 1 of each season a listing by competitor of the birth dates of all competitors of the member. By July 10, the Vice President shall notify any member whose birthday list has not been received in an acceptable form. The member shall have five days to submit a list in acceptable form. Any member which has not submitted a list in an acceptable form by July 15 (or any competitor not included on a member's list by July 15) shall not participate in the conference championship meets for that season.
- d. A swimmer shall represent one and only one team during the duration of the Tri-State swim season.

17. RULES OF COMPETITION. All meets hosted by a conference team and the conference championship meets shall be conducted in accordance with the current rules and procedures of USA Swimming, except as modified by these by-laws or a specific written conference rule.

- a. Order of Events: The order of events of competition shall be as specified in the appendix to these by-laws. All invitational meets shall be conducted as time final events.
- b. Age Requirement: A competitor shall swim in his or her proper age group determined as of the competitor's attained age as of June 1 of each season.
- c. Number of Events: A competitor shall not be entered in more than four individual and two relay events during a one-day meet; and shall not be entered in more than four individual and one relay events per day in a two-day meet.
- d. Relay Events: The relays will be 8 and under, 10 and under, 12 and under, 14 and under, and 18 and under.

18. SPECIAL RULES FOR CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS. The following rules shall apply to the conference championship meets.

- a. There shall be an A division conference championship meet and a B division conference championship meet. Swimmers shall be entitled to compete in an event at the A division meet championship event if they have swum an A time in the event at a qualifying meet that year. Swimmers who have a qualifying time in an event but have not swum an A time in the event at a qualifying meet that year, shall be entitled to compete in the B division conference championship in that event.
- b. The A division conference championship shall be held on the first Saturday in August and on the Sunday immediately following. The B division conference championship shall be held on the last Saturday in July and on the Sunday immediately following. Both the A division conference championship meet and the B division conference championship meet must be held in an indoor facility.
- c. The B division conference championship team trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded to teams with 10 or greater participants, or 20% of the team's total registered swimmers as of July 1, based upon highest percent improvement for both preliminary and final individual event races (combined scores) as calculated by the HyTek Meet Manager software. A 1st place team trophy will be awarded to the team earning the highest points as calculated by the HyTek Meet Manager software (SEE LAST PAGE AFTER SIGNATURES)
- d. During the season for which the championship is being determined, a competitor must have competed in (i.e. actually swum in) an individual event(s) in at least three invitational meets, and have posted during the season a qualifying A or B time in an event in order to compete in that event at the appropriate division conference championship meet.
- e. Each swimmer on a conference championship relay team must be qualified to swim at that division's championship; provided, however, that each team shall be permitted to enter one relay team in each event at the A division conference championship (combined) even if one or more of the swimmers does not have a qualifying time
- f. Competitors swimming in an event at the B conference championship and who attain an A time at the B conference championship will have points, if any, credited toward the B division team total. In addition, the swimmer will be entitled to compete in such event at the A conference championships for that year.



- 1.) Competitors shall be allowed to enter no more than three individual events and one relay event per day.
- 2.) No deck or late entries shall be permitted.
- 3.) Both conference championship meets will be conducted as seeded preliminaries. The host team may determine and state on their invite how many swimmers will move on to finals with a cap of 1 heat, minimum of 6 swimmers and maximum of 8 swimmers. All relay events will be conducted as timed finals. Awards for timed final events will be presented at the finals. Awards for relays may be presented after completion of the preliminaries.
- 4.) A relay entry in the A division championship must achieve an A relay qualifying time in order to score points toward the championship.
- 5.) Non-conforming times shall be converted using the Hy-Tek Team Manager algorithm by the team entering such time. Non-conforming times, as so converted, shall be entered as though they were conforming times, without penalty.

THESE AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS AND RULES APPROVED APRIL 1, 2023.

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Darren Wallace, President

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Shay Wright-Goff, Secretary

**Example of Operation of the Rotation Lists**

This example addresses full members only, the separate rotation list for associate members would work similarly.

Suppose the rotation list for the 2009 summer season was as follows: Pittsburg, MSA, Carthage, Green Country, Joplin, Nevada, Branson, Monett, Parsons, Lamar, Siloam Springs, and Webb City. Suppose further that at the fall 2008 conference meeting, team representatives made their selections in order as follows:

Pittsburg - host the B division championships on July 25 & 26  
MSA - host the A division championships on August 1 & 2  
Carthage - host a meet on July 18 & 19  
Green Country - host a meet on June 27  
Joplin - host a meet on July 11 & 12  
Nevada - host a meet on June 20 & 21  
Branson - host a meet on June 13  
Monett - host a meet on July 25 & 26  
Parsons - host a meet on June 6 & 7  
Lamar - bye  
Siloam Springs - bye  
Webb City - host a meet on July 4

Finally, suppose that the spring 2010 conference meeting, Monett announced that it would not hold a meet and an associate member elected to hold a meet that weekend. In that case, the rotation order for full members for the selection of invitational meets for the 2011 summer season would be:

Lamar  
Siloam Springs  
Pittsburg  
MSA  
Carthage  
Green Country  
Joplin  
Nevada  
Branson  
Monett  
Parsons  
Webb City

**TRI-STATE SWIM CONFERENCE  
ORDER OF EVENTS**

Boys' Event Numbers	Event Description	Girls' Event Numbers
1	15-18 200 yard Freestyle	2
3	8 & under 100 yard Medley Relay	4
5	10 & under 100 yard Medley Relay	6
7	12 & under 200 yard Medley Relay	8
9	14 & under 200 yard Medley Relay	10
11	18 & under 200 yard Medley Relay	12
13	8 & under 25 yard Freestyle	14
13A*	6 & under 25 yard Freestyle	14A*
15	9 - 10 50 yard Freestyle	16
17	11 - 12 50 yard Freestyle	18
19	13 - 14 50 yard Freestyle	20
21	15 - 18 50 yard Freestyle	22
23	8 & under 25 yard Backstroke	24
23A*	6 & under 25 yard Backstroke	24A*
25	9 - 10 50 yard Backstroke	26
27	11 - 12 50 yard Backstroke	28
29	13 - 14 50 yard Backstroke	30
31	15 - 18 50 yard Backstroke	32
33	8 & under 100 yard IM	34
35	9 - 10 100 yard IM	36
37	11 - 12 100 yard IM	38
39	13 - 14 200 yard IM	40
41	15 - 18 200 yard IM	42

43	8 & under 25 yard Butterfly	44
43A*	6 & under 25 yard Butterfly	44A*
45	9 - 10 50 yard Butterfly	46
47	11 - 12 50 yard Butterfly	48
49	13 - 14 50 yard Butterfly	50
51	15 - 18 50 yard Butterfly	52
53	8 & under 50 yard Freestyle	54
55	9 - 10 100 yard Freestyle	56
57	11 - 12 100 yard Freestyle	58
59	13 - 14 100 yard Freestyle	60
61	15 - 18 100 yard Freestyle	62
63	8 & under 25 yard Breastroke	64
63A*	6 & under 25 yard Breastroke	64A*
65	9 - 10 50yard Breastroke	66
67	11 - 12 50yard Breastroke	68
69	13 - 14 50yard Breastroke	70
71	15 - 18 50yard Breastroke	72
73	8 & under 100 yard Freestyle Relay	74
75	10 & under 100yard Freestyle Relay	76
77	12 & under 200yard Freestyle Relay	78
79	14 & under 200yard Freestyle Relay	80
81	18 & under 200yard Freestyle Relay	82

\* 6 & under events (13A, 14A, 23A, 24A, 43A, 44A, 63A, and 64Aq1``) Invitationals, duals, & B Championship meets only (approved 2019)

Two-Day Meets: Events #1-42 are Saturday events; Events #43-82 are Sunday events

## **TRI-STATE SWIM CONFERENCE**

### **WARM-UP GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

#### **1. Pre Meet Warm-Up Period**

- a. Control and supervise - key to safe warm-up
- b. Marshals should be actively supervising the warm-up to ensure that proper procedures are followed.

#### **2. General Warm-Up Period**

- a. Allocate the first 20 minutes to general warm-up in all lanes.
- b. There should be no diving off the blocks or side of the pool during this time.
- c. Coaches will be in charge of their lanes at all times.
- d. Circle swimming only - NO DIVING
- e. Last ten minutes of warm-up period to be allocated to starts with one-way swimming only.
- f. Only one swimmer on the block at a time and no one will be allowed on the block while backstrokes are starting.
- g. If the entire lane is ready for one-way swimming, the coach will be allowed to take control of their lane for starts by informing the coaches of adjoining lanes that they will begin starts.
- h. All starts will begin at the starting end of the pool and the swimmer will swim only one length. At this time only the dive starts will be used.
- i. Remember to give younger and slower swimmers sufficient lead time before starting older and faster swimmers.

#### **3. Additional Considerations**

- a. Coaches should maintain as much contact with their swimmers as is possible. Verbal and visual contact should be maintained throughout the warm-up period.
- b. The coach's responsibility to supervise swimmers is the same as when on deck during practice.
- c. The marshal shall have the authority through the meet director during the warm-up period. A swimmer and/or coach may be removed from the deck or the meet for interfering with this authority.

**These guidelines are for everyone's safety. The coaches should be aware of the proper warm-up procedures. It is the responsibility of all meet directors and meet personnel to keep safety awareness first and foremost during the meet.**