

## WV Swimming Southern Zone Policies and Selection

### **SOUTHERN ZONE TEAM**

- a) The Southern Zone (SZ) is a geographical area consisting of the southeastern United States with West Virginia and Kentucky on the north and extending southward to Florida and west Texas. The SZ Age Group Championship is a "no time standard - all-star format" meet for the 11-12 and 13-14 age groups. ALL West Virginia Swimming (WV) swimmers are eligible to participate if they have not made a US Open or higher time standard.
- b) The team size is restricted by SZ rules to twelve (12) boy and girl swimmers in each age group. (2022 SZ meeting at USAS Convention)
- c) WV is committed to supporting team participation at the SZ Championships.
  - i) A team will not participate if fewer than five swimmers commit;
  - ii) If 5-15 swimmers commit, WVS will send a coach, cover entry fees, and provide apparel (determined annually).
    - (1) Participants are responsible for their own transportation, housing and meals. WV will try to arrange housing at a single site.
  - iii) If 16 or more swimmers commit to participate, WV will provide the following:
    - (1) Two or three coaches; cover entry fees, and provide apparel (determined annually).
    - (2) Arrange team transportation, housing and meals.
    - (3) WV will provide meet information to all selected swimmers.
    - (4) For travel to/from meets, athletes will be responsible for \$700.00.
    - (5) The Age Group Vice-Chair may request Team Manager Result files from teams to obtain the most recent times for entries. A PDF of entries will be distributed one week prior to the event for review to the SZ coaches, parents, and athletes.
  - iv) WV will provide meet information to all selected swimmers.
  - v) The Age Group Vice-Chair and the SZ Committee will be responsible for:
    - (1) Arranging transportation and housing including in-transit if applicable;
    - (2) Local transportation if applicable;
    - (3) Meet entries;
    - (4) Defining and ordering apparel;
    - (5) Selecting and certifying chaperones;
    - (6) Defining the requirements of chaperones;

- (7) Arranging for in-transit training if applicable;
- (8) Collect and account for all income and expenses and report those to the WV treasurer.

d) Selection Criteria

- i) The Age Group Vice-Chair, Admin Vice-Chair and one other designated person will make the selection list from the meet results.
- ii) Swimmers will be selected from the WV Short Course Championships based on Hy-Tek Age Group Points accumulated at the meet. (Spring 2011)
- iii) A minimum score of 1000 points in a swimmer's top six events will be used. A preliminary swim and a final swim DO NOT count as two events. Only the highest point swim will be used.
- iv) Swimmers that age up between the WV Championship Meet and the Zone Championship Meet will be integrated into the high point ranking at the Short Course Championships. (Fall 2010)
- v) Non-applicable events will not be considered, i.e., aging up 11-12's cannot use 50 stroke events or the 100 IM to be considered in the 13-14 age group and aging up 9-10 and 11-12's cannot use 200 stroke events and freestyle events longer than 500 yards.
- vi) A report of ALL swimmers, by gender and age group, achieving the minimum 1000 score will be created, teams notified and posted on the WV website by the Age Group Vice-Chair.
- vii) Swimmers winning the 100 freestyle, 100 backstroke, 100 breaststroke and 100 butterfly will be automatic picks for the team regardless of overall score.
- viii) Swimmers will have two (2) weeks to respond to the Age Group Vice-Chair and the SZ Committee Chair as to their intention to participate or not; if they do not respond, they are dropped from consideration.
- ix) The top twelve (12) high point swimmers in each SZ gender and age group responding will be selected and notified.
- x) Selected swimmers must participate in a SZ Camp to be held in April or May. Exceptions will be made for extreme reasons with approval from the Age Group Chair prior to the camp.
- xi) The meet packet consists of a short course best times form, a code of conduct form (see Appendix or WV website), a release form (see Appendix or WV

website), the WV Travel Policy (see Appendix or WV website), and a uniform size form. These must be handed in at the SZ Camp.

- e) If, after the selection process occurs, a swimmer achieves a higher event time standard, they will be excused from the SZ Team without penalty.
- f) The process for determining individual point totals is as follows:
  - i) Install the SC Championship MeetManager® backup file into MeetManager®;
  - ii) Click Set-Up/Meet Set-Up and change the Age Up Date to the first day of the Southern Zone Age Group Championships.
  - iii) Click Reports/Points System
  - iv) Select: Gender – All; Event Age Range – leave blank; Rounds – All Rounds; Indiv Only; Sessions List – All; Sort By – Athlete Name; Format – By Name; Point System – Hy-Tek Age Group Points
  - v) Click Select All and then Create Report
  - vi) The ensuing report will list all swimmers (alphabetically) and all of their swims along with their points (descending).
  - vii) Print the report and using a spreadsheet, such as EXCEL, enter each swimmer and their best six events. Tabulators will quickly know who to consider and who not to consider.
  - viii) Sum swimmers points and sort by age group, if not already done, and by point total highest to lowest.
  - ix) Reconcile list.
- g) Participant Requirements and Responsibilities
  - i) SZ Team swimmers will be responsible for travel to the SZ Age Group Championship location unless provided by WV.
  - ii) SZ Team swimmers will stay as a team at a hotel determined by the Age Group Chair and SZ Team coach(es).
  - iii) SZ Team swimmers will be notified as to room assignments and their share of the cost for housing. This charge must be paid to the Age Group Chair at least two (2) weeks prior to the meet.

- iv) SZ Team swimmers are expected to attend all preliminary and finals sessions unless specifically released by the SZ Team coach(es).
- v) Any selected swimmer dropping from the team after the team uniform has been placed will be responsible for the entire cost of the uniform.

h) For 2019

- i) 50 percent of the swimmer fee must be paid by May 1 and is non-refundable if the swimmer opts out after that date;
- ii) The remaining 50% is due by June 1.

**Roster Deadlines:**

Our Short Course State meet is in mid-March. After that is complete, we typically take 1-2 weeks to compile the eligibility list and post. We then give swimmers approximately 2 weeks to accept or decline. We typically have our roster complete by early April.

We attempt to have a team practice sometime in June so all swimmers can meet and get to know one another. This is difficult with other summer commitments.

**Costs:**

All families are responsible for \$700. The LSC pays all other charges.

**Merchandise:**

All coaches, swimmers, and chaperones receive 5 shirts, a pair of shorts, 2-3 caps, and first-time attendees receive a swim bag. We also cover all travel to the meet, all food, snacks, etc. Families are responsible for dropping off at airport or bus pick up locations.

**Budget:**

We do not have a set budget for zones, but cost to the LSC typically is 20-30K depending on location of the meet.

**Other items:**

Beginning in 2026 we will require all swimmers and their parents to complete their respective Safe Sport training as a requirement to attend.

All chaperones must have non-athlete membership with USA swimming and complete all background checks and trainings required.