



To Develop, Improve, and Support Competitive Swimming in the Inland Empire

Section 02 - Membership

II. Membership

Inland Empire Swimming (IES) is composed of clubs, athletes, and non-athletes as defined in Article 2 of the Inland Empire Swimming By-laws. Any of the above may become members of Inland Empire Swimming by completing the requirements outlined in the Registration Section 2.1 of this Policy & Procedures Manual. All memberships in Inland Empire Swimming require membership in USA Swimming.

A. Registration

1. Group Member

- a) Every group member under the auspices of IES must be a member in good standing. Good standing is defined as complying with all USA Swimming and IES rules, procedures, code of conduct, and prompt payment of fees and fines. Existing Group Members must be in good standing to renew their Group Member registration.
- b) Applications for group membership (Club Registration Form) may be obtained from the Registration Chair and/or the USA Swimming Website portal. Membership is good for a calendar year, although applications received after September 1 will be valid until December 31 of the following year (up to 16 months). The affiliations of at least one Athlete member and one properly credentialed Coach member are required for Club membership. A club is entitled to compete in its own name and to field relays at sanctioned meets.
- c) The annual fee for Club membership is listed in Appendix A-Fees.

2. Individual Member

a) Individual

- (1) The following persons must be members of USA Swimming, per USA Swimming Rules and Regulations and IES By-Laws:
 - (a) Meet directors, officials, coaches, and any others required by USA Swimming regulation 202.5
 - (b) Club owners by USA Swimming regulation 305.5.
 - (c) Voting Members of the IES House of Delegates as required by IES ByLaw 4.1.1
 - (d) All members of the IES Board of Directors as required by IES By-Law 6.3
 - (e) IES Committee Chairs and members per relevant section of IES By-Laws Article 7
 - (f) IES also requires that officially recognized functionaries of IES Sponsored teams (e.g., Zone or All-Star Teams) be members of USA

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Swimming:

- (i) IES Sponsored Team Chaperones
- (ii) Other IES Chaperones receiving travel funding
- (iii) Any other officially recognized IES sponsored team functionary, e.g. Team Trainers, Managers or Coordinators
- (g) All IES Club Directors/Officers or other official representatives/agents as required in USA Swimming Corporate Bylaws 2.6.6.

b) Premium Athlete

- (1) A swimmer must be a current member of USA Swimming to participate in any sanctioned USA Swimming meet, including Inland Empire meets. Swimmers may compete representing their Club or as an Unattached swimmer.
- (2) Athlete memberships are valid from January 1 through December 31. Registrations received after September 1 are valid through December 31 of the following year (up to 16 months). Current annual dues can be found in Appendix A-Fees.
- (3) Membership applications are completed through the USA Swimming online portal. Members registering through a club will receive their member registration link from the club's registration chair. Unattached swimmers will need to contact the IES Registration Chair to obtain a membership registration link.
- (4) Any premium athlete, age 18 or older must complete the Athlete Protection Training course offered through USA Swimming. This training must be renewed annually.

c) Outreach Athlete

- (1) Outreach Athlete membership is available to qualified athletes per USA Swimming guidelines. The purpose is to make year-round membership available to athletes who might otherwise not be able to afford the standard athlete membership fee. Outreach membership will be determined at the discretion of the club registrar for each individual club, keeping the following in mind when determining need:
 - (a) Need can be determined by whether or not a family qualifies for Free and Reduced lunches and/or the SNAP (Food Stamps) program. However, in some cities entire schools and school districts are disadvantaged and they provide free lunch for all students, but don't require an application for free and reduced lunches
 - (b) Clubs may know of family situations, or have scholarship programs that allow registrars to offer Outreach Memberships.
 - (c) There are temporary circumstances that can also be considered, (illness, job loss, etc.)
- (2) Any outreach athlete, age 18 or older must complete the Athlete Protection Training course offered through USA Swimming. This training must be renewed annually.

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- (3) A change in membership status to Outreach can be made at any time.
Seasonal Athlete
- (4) Inland Swimming offers a seasonal (summer only) membership. This membership is good for up to but not more than 150 days of registration. Seasonal athletes are afforded the same insurance coverage as Premium Athletes.
- (5) Seasonal athletes cannot compete “above” the IES Championship level. Meets not open to seasonal athletes include Western Zones, Sectionals, Junior Championships, US Open, Nationals, and Olympic Trials.
- (6) Seasonal athletes cannot transfer their membership to another club or to another LSC.
- (7) Any seasonal athlete, age 18 or older must complete the Athlete Protection Training course offered through USA Swimming. This training must be renewed annually.
- d) Flex Athlete (12 & Under Only)
 - (1) Inland Empire Swimming offers a Flex membership for the same period of time as the year-round athlete. The Flex Membership is optional for each club. There are several limitations and stipulations:
 - (a) Athletes must be 12 years of age or younger to apply for the Flex membership. The Flex membership option is not available to athletes over the age of 12.
 - (b) Athletes may compete in only two sanctioned competitions per registration year.
 - (c) Athletes may transition to Annual membership within the same calendar year, paying the difference between the cost of the Flex membership and the Annual membership.
 - (d) Flex membership is not valid for competition at or above the LSC championship level.
- e) Non-Athlete
 - (1) Non-athlete registrations are valid from January 1 through December 31. Applications received after September 1 are valid through December 31 of the following year (up to 16 months).
 - (2) Coaches
 - (a) To be a Coach member of USA Swimming, an individual must be a Non-Athlete member and must:
 - (i) Maintain non-athlete registration through USA Swimming. Non-athlete registration can be completed online via the USA Swimming online portal. This includes payment of annual or lifetime membership fees.
 - (ii) Complete and maintain all educational requirements as outlined on the USA Swimming website Coach Membership Requirements page: <https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/membership/coach-membership-requirements.pdf>

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(3) Officials

(a) To be an Official of USA Swimming, an individual must be a Non-Athlete member and must:

- (i) Maintain non-athlete registration through USA Swimming. Non-athlete registration can be completed online via the USA Swimming online portal. This includes payment of annual or lifetime membership fees
- (ii) Must be currently certified under the provisions of the IES officials' certification program, or that of another LSC
- (iii) Must complete or have a current USA Swimming mandated Background Screen. Access to the screening process must be from the USA Swimming website. No other background screens are acceptable. The USA Swimming background screen is good for two (2) years and has a separate fee.
- (iv) Must complete current Athlete Protection Training course online on the USA Swimming website.
- (v) Must have completed required Concussion Protocol Training. NOTE: If officiating as a meet referee in the state of Oregon, referee must provide proof of yearly certification of concussion protocol training.

(4) Other (Meet Directors, Board Members, Chaperones, Dryland Coaches, Registrars, Webmasters, etc)

(a) Any person interested in the purposes and programs of Inland Empire Swimming (IES) is eligible to be a Non-Athlete member and must:

- (i) Maintain non-athlete registration through USA Swimming. Non-athlete registration can be completed online via the USA Swimming online portal. This includes payment of annual or
- (ii) Complete or have a current USA Swimming mandated Background Screen. Access to the screening process must be from the USA Swimming website. No other background screens are acceptable. The USA Swimming background screen is good for two (2) years and has a separate fee.
- (iii) Complete current Athlete Protection Training course online on the USA Swimming website.

f) Transfer Athletes

(1) An athlete transferring from one Club to another, from representing a specific Club to Unattached status, or from one LSC to another, must initiate their transfer through their membership account in the USA Swimming portal.

(2) USA Swimming Rule 203.3 requires that 60 days must pass from the date of the last competition representing the prior Club before a swimmer may represent a new Club in competition.

(3) The previous club of the swimmer will be notified of the transfer request.

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- g) Lifetime Membership Award
 - (1) Eligibility Rules, Regulations, and Selection Process
 - (a) A maximum of one such award may be presented annually
 - (b) To be eligible the recipient must be a long-time member of Inland Empire Swimming (minimum of 10 years)
 - (c) During recipient's tenure s/he must have held or currently hold a position in at least one of the following areas of leadership within Inland Empire Swimming:
 - (i) Board of Director member;
 - (ii) Committee Chair/Coordinator or member;
 - (iii) Board of Review member.
 - (d) Award nominations may be solicited each spring to identify potential candidates.
 - (e) The Board of Directors will decide on the award recipient by virtue of a 2/3 vote.

B. Membership Meetings

- 1. Board of Directors
 - a) See IES Policy Manual Section 03 - Governance
- 2. House of Delegates
 - a) See IES Policy Manual Section 03 - Governance