

## **7.0 Types of Meets**

There are three categories of meets recognized by USA Swimming – Sanctioned, Approved and Observed. The requirements and conditions associated with each meet type are stated in Article 202 of the USA Swimming Rulebook.

### **7.1 Sanctioned Meets**

#### **7.1.1 Definition**

Sanctioned meets require that all competing swimmers be Athlete members of USA Swimming. In addition, key meet personnel such as Meet and Safety Directors, Coaches and Officials must also be members of USA Swimming. As the local administrative arm of USA Swimming, Middle Atlantic Swimming (MA) is authorized to issue the sanction for all swimming competition and benefits, exhibitions, clinics and entertainment involving competitive swimming within its geographical boundaries. Sanctioned meets must be conducted under current USA Swimming rules and regulations.

#### **7.1.2 Requirements and Conditions**

1. The requirements and conditions for Sanctioned meets are in Article 202.2 and 202.3 of the USA Swimming Rulebook. All provisions of these sections must be followed by the hosting organization.
2. An application for a meet sanction must be submitted to MA according to procedures established by MA, and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as defined in Table 7.4 .
3. The Meet Announcement for all sanctioned meets must be submitted and approved by MA before such information may be published; MA will post the Meet Announcement for all Sanctioned meets on the MA website.
4. Middle Atlantic requires that the following information regarding finances be submitted by every organization receiving a sanction:
  - a. within 45 days after the Meet (or Event), a financial statement setting forth all receipts and disbursements in connection with the sanctioned event.
  - b. MA may require the organization to furnish, within 15 days after written request, all receipts and vouchers relating to the sanctioned event.
  - c. No sanction to hold any athletic event of any kind shall thereafter be issued to an organization that has failed or refused to file with Middle Atlantic any statement or affidavit required under any subdivision of this section, until the statement or affidavit is filed, or until such time as the LSC may determine.
5. The Meet Announcement, entry forms and meet programs must contain the statement “Held under the sanction of USA Swimming / Middle Atlantic Swimming.”
6. Conduct of the sanctioned event shall conform in every respect to all technical and administrative rules of USA Swimming.

#### **7.1.3 Times**

Times achieved at a Sanctioned Meet are considered Official times for all purposes, and will be entered into the SWIMS database by the MA Times coordinator.

## **7.2 Approved Meets**

### **7.2.1 Definition**

An Approved Meet is a competition conducted in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules, but where all athletes are not members of USA Swimming – e.g., a YMCA District or Championship meet or an Invitational meet. Host organizations do not have to be members of USA/Middle Atlantic Swimming.

Subject to review and approval by the MA Admin V-Chair, Middle Atlantic Swimming (MA) will recognize certain types of meets as follows:

- (a) Championship meets – a league or season-ending culminating meet (e.g., a Y League Championship or District meet);
- (b) Invitational meets – a multi-session meet having five (5) or more teams and at least 200 swimmers;
- (c) Multi-team meets – a competition with four (4) or more participating teams and at least 150 swimmers.

### **7.2.2 Requirements**

1. The requirements for an Approved competition are stated in Article 202.4 of the USA Swimming Rulebook. All provisions of this section must be followed by the hosting organization.
2. A written application for recognition of an Approved Meet must be submitted along with the Application Fee to the MA office no later than sixty (60) days prior to the first day of competition; applications received less than 60 days prior to the meet will be considered only after payment of the additional fee according to section 7.2.2.4 below. Applications will not be accepted less than thirty (30) days prior to the meet. The Application must be accompanied by complete meet or event information and a statement of the nature and value of prizes to be awarded.
3. The application must include the names of the USA Swimming certified officials that will be present at the meet; at least two (2) certified officials must be present at each meet session.
4. A non-refundable Application Fee of \$75 for a 1-day meet or \$100 for a 2-day or longer meet must accompany the application. An additional \$50 fee is required for applications received less than sixty (60) days and more than thirty (30) days prior to the meet.
5. In addition, the host organization must pay a ‘splash fee’ to Middle Atlantic Swimming of \$ 0.50 per swim; this ‘splash fee’ is based on the total meet entries (except for relays), including non-USA Swimming members; the ‘splash fee’ is due seven (7) days after completion of the meet; failure to pay the ‘splash fee’ may result in times from the meet being deleted from SWIMS.
6. The complete meet results shall be submitted to MA within seven (7) days of the completion of the Meet.

### **7.2.3 Times**

1. Times achieved by USA Swimming registered athletes will be entered into the SWIMS database following procedures established by the MA Times coordinator. Procedures for identifying the athletes and times to be submitted will be provided by the Times coordinator. It will be the responsibility of the meet host to provide correct USA Swimming registration IDs for each Member Athlete.

2. The times achieved by Member Athletes at an Approved Meet may be used for entry to any USA Swimming competition, or for any other purpose which requires an Official time including consideration for National Top 16, Middle Atlantic Top 10, Middle Atlantic records, and Middle Atlantic Zone Team (subject to MA Zone Team regulations.)
3. Un-registered swimmers whose times from an Approved meet qualify for entry into a Middle Atlantic (Senior or JO) or Eastern Zone (Age-Group or Sectional) Championship meet may request, on a one-time basis per athlete, that those times be entered into the SWIMS database upon completion of their Athlete registration; such request shall be made by the athlete or their coach to the MA Times Coordinator.

## **7.3 Observed Meets**

### **7.3.1 Definition**

An Observed Meet is a meet held under rules other than those of USA Swimming, but from which certain times can be used for entry into any USA Swimming Meet. USA Swimming certified officials observe individual swims and provide verification that the swimmer has complied with current USA Swimming Rules. Meets other than a season-culminating Championship Meet must be specifically approved by USA Swimming.

### **7.3.2 Requirements**

1. The requirements for an Observed competition are stated in Article 202.5 of the USA Swimming Rulebook. All provisions of this section must be followed by the hosting organization.
2. An application to have a Meet recognized as an Observed Meet must be submitted to the MA Office at least thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the Meet. (See form in Appendix ). There is no application fee for an Observed meet.
3. Each application must include the name of the individual who will be responsible for identifying those swimmers (or swims) that are to be uploaded into the SWIMS database and for providing correct USA Swimming registration IDs for those swimmers in the Meet Back-up at the completion of the meet.
4. All swimmers wanting their time to be recorded in SWIMS must be a current member of USA Swimming at the time of the meet.
5. The application for an Observed meet must include the names of at least two (2) USA Swimming certified officials that will be present at all meet sessions to observe the swimmers and verify that the swims were conducted according to the USA Swimming technical rules. It is strongly recommended that the officials use the 'blanket' observation procedure when observing the meet.

### **7.3.3 Times**

1. Times achieved by USA Swimming registered athlete in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules will be entered into the SWIMS database following procedures established by the MA Times coordinator.
2. Times achieved at an Observed swims may be used for entry into any USA Swimming competition, or for any other purpose which requires an Official time including consideration for National Top 16, Middle Atlantic Top 10, Middle Atlantic records, and Middle Atlantic Zone Team (subject to MA Zone Team regulations.)

#### 7.4 Application Fees for Sanctioned, Observed & Approved meets

<u>Type of Meet</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Sanctioned	
1-day	\$ 25.00
2- or more days	50.00
Intra-squad	15.00
Dual meet	15.00
Closed Invitational	25.00
Distance (e.g., 1650)	15.00
Open water	15.00
Time Trials (with a Sanctioned meet)	15.00
Camp, exhibition, swim-a-thon	15.00
Observed	none
Approved	
1-day	\$ 75.00
2- or more days	100.00
Late application (recd 30-60 days before)	50.00 additional

(note – Splash fees due to MAS are shown in Section 6.1.1 of the Policy Manual.)

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