

# Operating Guidelines for SKY

## ***Affiliations***

A group of athletes has the choice of becoming a club, as defined by article 201.2 of the USMS rules and article II-1 of the Kentucky LMSC bylaws, or a team that is a subset of the LMSC-sponsored club, Swim Kentucky Masters (SKY), as defined in article II-2 of the KY-LMSC bylaws. A team is a workout group with an identifiable name that registers with the KY-LMSC and pays a fee to the KY-LMSC. Current teams are Ashland YMCA (SKY-AYMS), Baptist East Swim Team (SKY-BEST), Bellarmine University Masters Swimming (SKY-BUMS), Colonel Aquatic Masters (SKY-COLA), Crescent Hill (SKY-CHMS), Eagle Masters Swimming (SKY-EMS), Highbridge Aquatics Masters (SKY-HAM), Lakeside (SKY-LAKE), Madisonville YMCA Masters (SKY-MYM), Owensboro Marlins (SKY-OMM), Paducah Area Masters Swimming (PAMS), Western Kentucky Green Gators (SKY-WKGG), and Wildcat Masters (SKY-WILD). Individual swimmers can register in four possible ways: UNATTACHED: "... A registered swimmer who represents no club" (USMS article 201.2.4). That swimmer's affiliation would be abbreviated UNAT. INDEPENDENT: A competitor in the KY-LMSC who registers as a member of Swim Kentucky Masters (SKY), but is not a member of a registered Kentucky team. That swimmer's affiliation would be abbreviated SKY-INDE. CLUB/TEAM: A swimmer who registers with SKY and is also a member of a registered Kentucky team. For example, the affiliation of a SKY swimmer who is a member of the Lakeside Masters team would be abbreviated SKY-LAKE. CLUB: A swimmer who registers as a member of a club other than SKY. That club must first be registered with USMS, through the KY-LMSC.

## ***Governance of SKY***

The KY-LMSC is the governing body. The KY-LMSC will elect one member of SKY to the KY-LMSC to represent the club. The election will be held at the fall meeting of the KY-LMSC. Interested SKY members will be nominated by a team representative to the KY-LMSC.

## ***Competition within the LMSC***

There are two types of competition sponsored by SKY or one of the component teams:

1. A competition with more than 10 events
2. A competition with fewer than 10 events. At a competition sanctioned by the KY-LMSC with more than 10 events on the program, athletes who are members of a SKY component team will represent their team. At a competition sanctioned by the KY-LMSC with fewer than 10 events, athletes who are members of a SKY component team will represent the SKY club. Athletes who are independent members of SKY represent SKY in all competitions.

## ***USMS National Championships and International Competitions***

All athletes registered with SKY, whether they are independent or a member of a component team, represent SKY in all competitions held outside of the Kentucky LMSC, including Nationals. For USMS National Championships or international competitions, the Kentucky LMSC will designate one swimmer who is attending the meet to be the SKY coordinator. The coordinator will be responsible for all administrative work at that competition. The coordinator will be compensated by the KY-LMSC. Compensation will be determined on a case-by-case basis. If no SKY swimmers are attending a competition, appointing a coordinator will be unnecessary. The appointed coordinator will form relays. Once the coordinator has the official list of SKY swimmers who have entered the competition, the coordinator will contact the swimmers and ask them which relays they are willing to swim on, which strokes they are willing to swim on medley relays, and for seed times for their potential legs of a relay. The coordinator will then form the relays and attempt to notify all competitors of the composition of the relays before the first day of the competition. The coordinator will be responsible for turning in all relay entries at the competition. The KYLMSC will generally pay all relay entry fees, and then the swimmers, or the

swimmers' teams, will reimburse the LMSC for their share of the entry fees. For example, if a relay at a National championship is composed of two Wildcat swimmers, one Lakeside swimmer, and one Crescent Hill swimmer, and the entry fee for the relay is \$12, then Wildcat owes \$6, Lakeside \$3, and Crescent Hill \$3. The Wildcat, Lakeside, and Crescent Hill teams may pay these amounts on behalf of their swimmers, or the swimmers may pay the fees themselves if their team does not have a policy of paying for relays at Nationals, or if they are SKY-INDE and not a member of a team.

### ***Distribution of Information***

All swimmers with Internet access are encouraged to use the KY-LMSC website, where they can find meet information, an LMSC roster, and registration information. When the registrar mails USMS cards to UNAT and SKY-INDE swimmers, she will also include a meet schedule, along with the URL for the KY-LMSC website. If a SKY-INDE swimmer requests a roster of all SKY-INDE swimmers, for purposes of putting together relays at KY-LMSC meets, the registrar will either direct the swimmer to the KY-LMSC website, or mail a copy of the roster.

### ***Practice Guidelines***

Team practices are generally open to members of that team, and are governed by that team's policies. SKYIND swimmers or swimmers who are members of SKY teams should not expect automatic admission to another team's practice simply because they are members of SKY. Most SKY teams will welcome visiting swimmers from other SKY teams, but the visitors should first ask for permission to practice with another team, and should be willing to pay any fees for guests required by the host team or the host team's facility.