

## **7. Types of Meets**

### **7.1 Sanctioned Meets**

#### **7.1.1 Definition**

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.

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

1. Sanctions may only be issued to USA Swimming group members or LSCs and their subdivisions.
2. A sanction cannot be issued to any organization or person whose interest in amateur athletic competition is purely commercial, or where the event is promoted purely for profit or advertising value.
3. Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another organization. MA may deny further sanctions to any organization violating this provision.
4. No further sanction shall be given to any organization which has failed to satisfy expense obligations to the athletes or to award prizes as stated on its entry blank until the obligations are satisfied or the prizes awarded.
5. Application for sanction must be accompanied by a copy of the complete meet information, including a statement of the nature of prizes to be awarded.
6. Middle Atlantic requires that the following information regarding finances be submitted by every organization receiving a sanction:
  - A. within 45 days after the Meet, 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 who 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.
7. No swimmer, who is not a member as provided in Article 302 of USA Swimming Rules, will be allowed to compete or participate.
8. All meet directors, referees, starters, marshals, and stroke and turn judges, serving in an official capacity in a sanctioned event, must be members of USA/Middle Atlantic Swimming, and all persons acting in any coaching capacity in a sanctioned event must be coach members of USA Swimming.

9. Meet information, entry blanks and meet programs must contain the statement “Held under the sanction of USA Swimming / Middle Atlantic Swimming.”
10. 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.

## **7.2 Approved Meets**

### **7.2.1 Definition**

An Approved Meet (see USA Rulebook, Article 202.4) is a competition conducted in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules, but where all athletes are not members of USA Swimming. Requirements for an Approved Meet are set by USAS, but approval of such meets is granted the LSC; times achieved by member athletes may be used for entry into any USAS competition. Host organizations do not have to be members of USA/Middle Atlantic Swimming.

### **7.2.2 Requirements**

1. Approvals may be issued to either USA Swimming member clubs or non-member clubs or organizations for meets conducted in accordance with USA Swimming technical rules.
2. Both USAS athlete members and non-USAS athlete participants may compete in an Approved Meet.
3. A written application for recognition of an Approved Meet shall be submitted to MA no later than ten (10) days prior to the competition. Application for approval shall be accompanied by complete meet or event information and a statement of the nature and value of prizes to be awarded.
4. There must be a sufficient number of USA Swimming officials, certified by MA at a minimum of Stroke and Turn level, present to observe and certify that the conduct of competition and all times achieved in such competition were in conformance with all applicable USA Swimming technical rules including, but not limited to, the following:
  - A. Article 101 (all)            Individual stroke and relay rules
  - B. 102.2.2 & 3                Entry limit per day
  - C. 102.14.5                    False start rule
  - D. 102.16.4 A (1) & (2)    Requirements for official time/performance
  - E. 102.16.4 B & C            Timing resolution (including table)
  - F. 103.2.1, 103.2.3, 103.3    Minimum standards for facilities  
103.11.1 & 2 and 103.13
5. The organization requesting approval must permit USA Swimming officials to be on the deck at both ends of the course where they can properly view strokes and turns.

6. No approval for domestic competition will be issued to any organization or person whose interest in amateur athletic competition is purely commercial, or where the event is to be promoted solely for the profit or the advertising value to be derived therefrom. Any income derived from approved events must be used for the further promotion of swimming, for an approved charity, or for the general welfare of the promoting organization as a whole.
7. Approvals issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another. MA may deny further approval to any organization violating this provision.
8. No approval will be given to any organization which has failed to satisfy expense obligations to athletes or to award prizes as stated on its entry blank or event information until the obligations are satisfied or the prizes awarded.
9. Complete meet results shall be submitted to MA within two weeks of the completion of the Meet.

### **7.2.3 Times**

The times achieved by Member Athletes at an Approved Meet may be used for National Times Verification purposes and consideration for National Top 16, Middle Atlantic Top10, Middle Atlantic records, and Middle Atlantic Zone Team.

## **7.3 Observed Meets**

### **7.3.1 Definition**

An Observed Meet (see USA Rulebook, Article 202.5) is a meet held under rules other than those of USA Swimming, but from which certain times can be used for entry into any USAS Meet. USAS certified officials observe individual swims and provide verification that the swimmer has complied with current USA Swimming Rules.

### **7.3.2 Requirements**

1. The Meet must be a season-culminating Championship, e.g., League, Conference, District, Sectional, State, Regional; or be specifically approved by the USA Swimming Program Operations Vice President through application to the National Times Coordinator. A time trial held in conjunction with the meet that is officiated in accordance with the same standard as the championship meet may also be observed.
2. An application to have a Meet recognized as an Observed Meet must be submitted to the MA Office at least ten (10) days prior to the Meet. (See form in section \_\_\_\_).
3. USA Swimming observers approved or assigned by the MA Admin or Officials Chair must be present at the Meet. Observers must be currently certified at Stroke & Turn level or higher. At least two (2) observers are required at each session; observers may not work as regular officials at the meet. Names of the officials must be included on the application.

4. A sufficient number of observers must be present on the deck to adequately verify compliance with USA Swimming Rules.
5. The Meet Director shall provide an opportunity for each swimmer or coach to designate which swims are to be observed before the start of each session. Prior to the start of the competition, the observers shall be notified, of the individual swims that are to be observed. Alternatively, with the approval of MA, the observers may be asked to 'observe' the entire meet.
6. In order for an 'observed' swim to be recognized by USAS, the observed swimmer must be a current member of USA Swimming at the time of the swim.
7. A time achieved as an observed swim in compliance with USA Swimming rules as stated in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, (204.4.4) will be considered an official time for the swimmer and will be acceptable for National Time Verification (NVT) purposes.

### **7.3.3 Times**

The times achieved as an Observed swims may be used for National Times Verification purposes and consideration for National Top 16, Middle Atlantic Top10, Middle Atlantic records, and Middle Atlantic Zone Team.

## **7.4 Accepted Meet**

### **7.4.1 Definition**

An 'Accepted' Meet is a meet which is approved by Middle Atlantic (MA) solely for the purpose of allowing times to be used for entry into certain Middle Atlantic Meets. The 'Accepted' Meet status is not recognized by USA Swimming (USAS).

### **7.4.2 Requirements**

1. An Accepted Meet must be one of the following –
  - A Dual Meet League Championship
  - YMCA or YWCA Championship (League or District, etc.)
  - A High School dual meet.
  - A Dual Meet in an organized League.
  - Other specific meets approved by MA Admin Chairperson.
2. An Application Form with appropriate fee (see Policy Manual, Section 7.5) must be submitted to the MA office fifteen (15) days prior to the start date of the Meet
3. The Meet must not conflict with scheduled and/or sanctioned MA Meets, unless such conflict is waived by the MA Admin Chairperson.
4. The Meet must be run with fully electronic timing and touchpads; in certain cases, timing with three buttons or three watches per lane may be accepted.

5. The Officials must be ‘certified’ by Middle Atlantic, YMCA, High School or CSOA (NCAA).
6. The Meet must be conducted under USA Swimming, NCAA or High School Federation rules.

### 7.4.3 Times

1. Times from an Accepted Meet may be used for entry into any sanctioned Age Group, Mini or Senior Meet that is hosted by MA or a MA Club, including MA Junior Olympics and MIDS (except a Sectional Meet).
2. Times may NOT be used for NTVs, Top-16 consideration, LSC records, MA Top 10 or MA Zone Team consideration.
3. Times may NOT be used for entry into Sanctioned Meets outside of Middle Atlantic (or a Sectional Meet regardless of where held).

Note: If a swimmer enters a MA Meet which has qualifying times with an ‘accepted’ time and does not swim the qualifying time at the Meet, that swimmer may be asked to prove their entry time. Swimmers not able to prove their time could be subject to a fine as stated in Section 6.1.3.2 . It will be the responsibility of the swimmer to provide appropriate ‘proof’; a copy of the Accepted Meet Results signed by the Referee would be acceptable.

*(Approved 11-13-00)*

### 7.5 Fees

<b>FEES FOR SANCTIONED &amp; ACCEPTED MEETS</b>		
<b>Type of meet</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Fee</b>
1 day meet	Sanction	\$25.00
2 or more day meet	Sanction	\$50.00
Intrasquad	Sanction	\$15.00
Dual meet	Sanction	\$15.00
Closed invitational	Sanction	\$25.00
1650	Sanction	\$15.00
Open water	Sanction	\$15.00
Camp, exhibition, swim-a-thon	Sanction	\$15.00
Time trials (associated with sanctioned meet only)	Sanction	\$15.00
1 day meet	Accepted	\$10.00
2 or more day meet	Accepted	\$15.00

<b>ENTRY FEES</b>			
<b>Type of meet</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Relay</b>
Mini	Sanctioned	\$2.50	\$6.00
Club-hosted	Sanctioned	\$3.00	\$6.00
Senior LSC meets	Sanctioned	\$4.00	\$8.00
All long course meets	Sanctioned	\$4.00	\$6.00
Time trials (with meet)	Sanctioned	\$6.00	\$12.00
Deck entries	Sanctioned	Not to exceed twice the individual entry fee	Not to exceed twice the relay fee

<b>REBATE FEES</b>			
<b>Type of meet</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Relay</b>
Mini	Sanctioned	\$0.25	\$1.00
Club-hosted short course	Sanctioned	\$0.60	\$1.00
Club-hosted long course	Sanctioned	\$0.80	\$1.00
Senior????	Sanctioned	\$0.80	\$1.00
Time trials (with meet)	Sanctioned	\$3.00	\$6.00
Deck entries	Sanctioned	20% of fee	20% of fee
Dual*	Sanctioned	20% of fee	20% of fee
Closed invitational*	Sanctioned or Accepted	20% of fee	20% of fee

\* For dual and closed invitational meets in which there is no fee associated with participation, no charge will be assessed. Information relating to entry or participation fees must be included with the application for Sanction or Accepted status; the amount of the Rebate will be established by MA as a condition of approval of the request.