

SECTION 1

ZONES

A. Zones

1. Pacific Swimming is responsible for promoting the sport of swimming over a large geographical region stretching north to the Oregon border, east through part of the state of Nevada near Reno, south through Monterey County, and west to the Pacific Ocean. This region is comprised of many different and diverse communities, with a wide spectrum of demographics. In order to better serve the local communities, Pacific is divided into 5 zones within this region. The definitions of the 5 Zones are described below. The swimming needs of these distinctly different local communities are best served by allowing these 5 Zones the ability to develop procedures and processes that can best address their unique and specific demographics. The roles and responsibilities of the Zones are listed below.

B. Geographic Definition

1. Zone 1 North – County of San Mateo and County of Santa Clara north of Highway 9 and west of Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road/De Anza Boulevard/Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road
2. Zone 1 South - County of Santa Clara south of Highway 9 and east of Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road/De Anza Boulevard/Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road, and counties of San Benito, Santa Cruz and Monterey
3. Zone 2 - Counties of Contra Costa and Alameda and all of the area of Pacific Swimming in the State of California lying east of the counties of Contra Costa, Alameda and Santa Clara, except the counties of Alpine and El Dorado and communities of Bishop and Mammoth Lakes
4. Zone 3 - Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, San Francisco, and the portions of Solano County south of Highway 12, including the communities of Vallejo and Benicia and excluding the communities of Fairfield, Suisun City, and Rio Vista
5. Zone 4 - All the area of Pacific Swimming lying in the State of Nevada, the counties of Alpine and El Dorado and the communities of Bishop and Mammoth Lakes, California

C. Governing Body/Zone Structure

1. Each Zone will establish a Board of Directors and conduct meetings. The minutes of these meetings will be reported to the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors and posted to the Pacific Swimming website. The Zone Chairs and Zone Athlete Representatives are members of the Pacific Swimming Board of Directors.

D. Governing Documents

1. Each Zone shall establish its own Rules, Regulations, Policies and/or Procedures in addition to the LSC Bylaws to better describe or address specific Zone needs. The Zone Rules, Regulations, Policies and/or Procedures shall not be in conflict with the governing documents of Pacific Swimming or USA Swimming. (2/18/26)

E. Elections

1. Each Zone shall establish rules for the elections of the Zone Officers and the terms for the Zone Officers.

F. Budget

1. Each Zone shall establish an annual budget to guide the operation of the Zone. Financial practices by the Zone shall follow generally-accepted accounting principles.

G. Policies and Procedures

1. The Zone shall establish Policies and Procedures to govern Zone operations. Each Zone shall develop and establish its own governing process provided that such process is not in conflict with Pacific or USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.

H. Meets and Sanctions

1. Each Zone shall define its Zone meet formats and establish a Zone meet schedule with a defined host assignment process. The Zone shall be responsible for team assignment to meets, team priority for meets, and the meet Sanction requirements that are specific to the Zone.

I. Scheduling

1. Zones shall facilitate the scheduling and awarding of meets within their geographical boundaries except:
 - a. On days that are reserved by the LSC for the purpose of holding essential functions.
 - b. Zone meets scheduled on the same weekend as LSC Far Western and JO meets must have a lower time standard i.e. FW(-) and AGC(-) time.

J. Zone Meet Autonomy

1. Eligibility of athletes and conduct of meets shall conform to Pacific Swimming Rules and Regulations except as follows:
 - a. Zones may restrict entry to residents of the zones in certain meets.
 - b. Meet time standards may be set by the Zone.
 - c. Meet format may be set by the Zone.
 - d. Zone meets shall be reviewed and approved by the meet referee and Zone Sanction Chair prior to submission to Pacific Swimming Sanction Chair for final approval.
 - e. Zones may make their own policies regarding restrictions to be applied to their athletes.
 - f. Each Zone may set its own policies for minimum number of officials required per club for Zone meets, except that this requirement must meet or exceed the requirement set by USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Each Zone may determine and enforce a penalty for noncompliance with this policy.

K. Zone Representatives

1. Each Zone is responsible for appointing and/or electing Zone representatives to LSC committees such as the Officials Committee, Scheduling Committee, Athlete Committees and other standing or ad hoc LSC committees when Zone representation is required or desired. Zone athlete representatives also shall be nominated and approved by the Zone. Zone Officials Chairs or Co-Chairs shall be appointed by the respective Zone Chairs with the approval of the Zone Board and the concurrence of the General Chair and the LSC Officials Chair.

L. Duties of the Zone Officials Chair

1. The Zone Officials Chair shall:
 - a. Schedule and conduct training clinics in the Zone.
 - b. Maintain a list of trained officials, including qualifications of these people based on experience, performance, and interest.
 - c. Assign qualified officials to Zone scheduled and sanctioned meets as needed.
 - d. Assist the LSC Officials Chair and meet directors in obtaining qualified officials suitable to the needs of scheduled LSC meets.

M. Meet and Office Equipment

1. Each Zone may purchase and maintain office equipment to support Zone functions plus Meet Equipment to support Zone Teams in hosting swim meets.

N. Fines or Penalties

1. Each Zone may determine and levy penalties or fines on Zone Teams and/or members who violate Zone Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and/or agreed upon processes and procedures. Such fines or penalties shall be clearly established and agreed to by a majority vote of the Zone Board.