

# Florida LMSC Sanctions & Top 10 Report

Anna Lea Matysek, August 26, 2020

## ***Questions on Hosting Meets During the Pandemic***

Because of the spread of the COVID-19 virus throughout the country, the USMS board of directors has been reviewing the situation during their monthly meetings and then issuing a recommendation for whether sanctioned meets should be held for the following month. For example, at the board meeting in July, the board voted to recommend that sanctioned meets NOT be held during the month of August.

I received questions from a meet director and a swimmer asking whether meets could be held anyway (even though the board did not recommend holding them). I sent some questions to the USMS national office and the answers are included below. Note that the questions pertained to a hypothetical meet that would be held during the month of August, but the answers would apply for any month during which the board of directors has issued a recommendation not to host sanctioned meets.

The response was that, **yes, an LMSC may issue a sanction and allow a meet to be held** even though the USMS board of directors has issued a recommendation against hosting meets during that month.

**1) Question from FL-LMSC sanctions chair:** Can an LMSC issue a sanction for an event in August, and can the meet director hold the meet even though USMS has issued a recommendation against holding meets in August?

**Response from USMS National Office on July 22, 2020:** As stated previously the [Board of Directors has recommended](#) that LMSCs not sanction events through Aug. 31. **If an LMSC issues a sanction or retracts a previously issued sanction it is at the LMSCs discretion.**

- a. If an event moves forward, please be clear that USMS liability insurance has never and will not be able to provide coverage for the transmission of COVID-19 or any other viral or bacterial infection. The [updated USMS liability release](#) should be used for upcoming events to ensure that the participants understand this as well.
- b. It would also be beneficial to request information regarding COVID-19 related plans to ensure venue/local/state/federal health and safety guidelines are followed (especially for restrooms, start/finish area, post-race refreshments, etc.).

**2) Question from FL-LMSC sanctions chair:** If that meet were held, would it be covered by USMS insurance?

**Response from USMS National Office on July 22, 2020:** Yes, for participant accident and general liability. No coverage for bacterial/viral transmissions.

**3) Question from FL-LMSC sanctions chair:** If that meet were held, would the results be accepted by USMS into the meet results database, and would those results be eligible for FINA records?

**Response from USMS National Office on July 22, 2020:** There is nothing preventing results from being submitted at this time, however please note there is ongoing discussions regarding Top 10, AA, etc. as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Status of Meets in the Florida LMSC**

Most of the scheduled meets and open water races in the LMSC were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Sarasota Sharks have tentatively scheduled the SCM Shark Tank Meet for the weekend of November 7-8, dependent on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and the county restrictions for gatherings that may be in place at that time.

### **Here are the meets that have been held so far in 2020:**

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Event Title</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Sanction Type</b>
01-25-2020	01-25-2020	Circus Town Classic Mini-Meet (Sarasota)	SCY	Sanction
02-01-2020	02-01-2020	Gulf Coast Games for Life (Senior Games)	SCY	Recognition
02-08-2020	02-09-2020	28th Annual Masters SCY Valentine's Meet (Clearwater)	SCY	Sanction
02-29-2020	02-29-2020	Good Life Games (Clearwater)	LCM	Recognition
03-11-2020	03-11-2020	2020 Capital City Senior Games (Tallahassee)	SCY	Recognition

### **These meets and races were canceled due to the pandemic:**

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Event Title</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Sanction Type</b>
03-21-2020	03-22-2020	CANCELED: 50th Annual SCY/Bob Beach Championship Meet 2020 (St Pete)	SCY	Sanction
04-04-2020	04-04-2020	CANCELED: Marlins Spring Invitational (Ocala)	SCY	Sanction
04-22-2020	04-23-2020	CANCELED: The Villages Senior Games 2020	SCY	Recognition
04-25-2020	04-25-2020	CANCELED: 6th Annual Swim Around Lido Key (Sarasota)	OW	Sanction
05-02-2020	05-02-2020	CANCELED: 17th Annual Daiquiri Deck Tropical Splash Open Water Swim (Sarasota)	OW	Sanction
05-02-2020	05-02-2020	CANCELED: Hurricane Man 2.4 Mile & Pass-A-Grille Challenge 1000 Meter Swim (St Pete)	OW	Sanction
05-07-2020	05-10-2020	CANCELED: 2020 YMCA Masters Nationals (Orlando)	SCY	Recognition
08-2020?	08-2020?	CANCELED: 2020 Bumpy Jones Classic Long Course Meet (Sarasota)	LCM	Sanction
07-11-2020	07-12-2020	CANCELED: 2020 St. Pete Masters Long Course Swimming Championship	LCM	Sanction
09-13-2020	09-13-2020	POSTPONED UNTIL LATER THIS FALL: 20th Annual Gainesville Senior Games Swimming	SCY	Recognition
10-09-2020	10-11-2020	CANCELED: Rowdy Gaines Masters Classic XII (Orlando)	SCM	Sanction

## **Sanction fees waived for remainder of year**

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, USMS is waiving sanction fees for meets (\$50) and open water events (\$100) (including the open water insurance surcharge, up to \$900 depending on number of entrants) for the remainder of 2020. Recognition fees (\$100) will still be charged.