

# Florida LMSC Sanctions & Top 10 Report

Anna Lea Matysek, November 17, 2024

## New Meet Hosts

We had four new, first-time Masters meet hosts in the LMSC in 2024.

- In early April, the FAST Masters team in Ocala held a dual-sanctioned meet in conjunction with their USA Swimming team. This was a closed meet only for the FAST club. They then requested sanctions for four more closed meets, again held in conjunction with closed USA Swimming meets for their club. Another sanction was requested for an October meet but it was denied because the request was not submitted far enough in advance to meet USMS rules and requirements.
- On April 27, the Bolles School Sharks Masters team held its first Masters meet in Jacksonville.
- On July 27, the Area Tallahassee Aquatic Club (ATAC) held its first Masters meet in Tallahassee.
- On September 21, the Lake Gators swim club, with co-host SwimOut of Orlando, held its first Masters meet in Clermont.

## Postponed Meet

The Rowdy Gaines Masters Classic 16, scheduled for October 11-13, 2024, was postponed due to Hurricane Milton. It is being rescheduled for January 31 - February 2, 2025. All swimmers entered in the original meet will be carried over to the new meet dates, and those who cannot attend will be issued refunds by the meet director.

## Meets in the Florida LMSC for 2024

The Southeast Zone website (<http://southeastzone.org>) contains a list of all meets scheduled in our zone for 2024. Below is a list of all of the USMS-sanctioned or USMS-recognized meets hosted in the LMSC during the 2024 calendar year.

Date	Event Title	Course	Sanction Type
February 3, 2024	Gulf Coast Senior Games, Sarasota <b>59 participants</b> (46 USMS member, 13 nonmember)	SCY	Recognition
February 10-11, 2024	31 <sup>st</sup> Annual Valentine's Meet, Clearwater <b>179 participants</b> (178 USMS member, 1 foreigner)	SCY	Sanction
March 9, 2024	Good Life Senior Games, Clearwater <b>43 participants</b> (40 USMS member, 3 nonmember)	LCM	Recognition
March 13, 2024	Capital City Senior Games, Tallahassee <b>39 participants</b> (15 USMS member, 21 nonmember)	SCY	Recognition
March 16-17, 2024	Bob Beach Championship Meet, St. Pete <b>140 participants</b> (139 USMS member, 1 foreigner)	SCY	Sanction
April 6, 2024	Saturday Morning at the Races, Ocala <b>3 participants</b> (3 USMS member; dual-sanction with USA-S)	SCY	Sanction
April 21, 2024	4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Show Your SWAG Meet, Gainesville <b>80 participants</b> (80 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction

April 24-25, 2024	The Villages Senior Games, The Villages <b>107 participants</b> (59 USMS member, 48 nonmember)	SCY	Recognition
April 27, 2024	Bolles Masters Spring Into Summer, Jacksonville <b>71 participants</b> (71 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
June 6, 2024	Thursday Night at the Races #1, Ocala <b>3 participants</b> (3 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
June 8-9, 2024	Bumpy Jones Classic, Sarasota <b>127 participants</b> (127 USMS member)	LCM	Sanction
June 13, 2024	Thursday Night at the Races #2, Ocala <b>2 participants</b> (2 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
June 20, 2024	Thursday Night at the Races #3, Ocala <b>4 participants</b> (4 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
July 6-7, 2024	St. Pete Masters LCM Championships, St. Pete <b>116 participants</b> (116 USMS member)	LCM	Sanction
July 27, 2024	ATAC Summer 2024 Masters Meet, Tallahassee <b>21 participants</b> (21 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
August 18, 2024	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer SWAGfest, Gainesville <b>74 participants</b> (74 USMS member)	LCM	Sanction
September 7, 2024	Dog Days LCM Meet, Clearwater <b>83 participants</b> (83 USMS member)	LCM	Sanction
September 21, 2024	2024 Rob Curry Pancake Pentathlon, Clermont <b>82 participants</b> (82 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
September 22, 2024	Gainesville Senior Games, Gainesville <b>65 participants</b> (43 USMS member, 22 nonmember)	SCY	Recognition
September 22, 2024	FAST Pentathlon 2024, Ocala <b>2 participants</b> (2 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
October 11-13, 2024	Rowdy Gaines Masters Classic 15, Orlando <b>POSTPONED UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2025</b>	SCM	Sanction
October 26, 2024	Bolles Masters Spooky Splashdown, Jacksonville <b>44 participants</b> (44 USMS member)	SCY	Sanction
November 2-3, 2024	Shark Tank Meet, Sarasota <b>98 participants</b> (97 USMS member, 1 foreigner)	SCM	Sanction
December 7-8, 2024	Florida State Senior Games, Tampa	SCY	Recognition

### ***Proposal for Funds to Meet Hosts to Compensate Officials and Assist with Meet Expenses***

The USMS rules for officials will become stricter in 2025. The meet referee, starter, and stroke and turn judges will now be required to be certified to that level, and exceptions may only be granted by the LMSC Officials Chair. (The previous rule allowed officials working in those roles to not be certified to those levels, as long as they “received training in the specific duties of their positions” and “were under the direct supervision of a certified official.”)

It is difficult to find certified meet officials who are willing to work at Masters meets. The Florida LMSC began a program a few years ago where the LMSC would purchase \$25 Publix gift cards to give to officials at each sanctioned meet, as a thank-you for their service. The process of purchasing and distributing the gift cards is cumbersome for the LMSC.

I suggest that the LMSC adopt a different method of providing gifts for officials. I spoke with officers in other LMSCs to find out whether they compensate officials and this proposal is based on what is done in some of the other LMSCs.

The Florida LMSC currently provides a reimbursement to a meet host, after a meet, of \$5.00 per entrant if the host uses online meet entry software that automatically verifies the entrant's current USMS membership. My proposal is that in addition to that \$5.00 per entrant reimbursement, the LMSC would ALSO provide the meet host with an additional \$400.00 for a one-day meet, \$800.00 for a two-day meet, and \$1,000.00 for a three-day meet, with the stipulation that the meet host is required to compensate each meet official for \$50 per day worked. These funds would ONLY be provided to sanctioned meets and meets that are open to all members of the Florida LMSC (not "closed" meets limited to one team's members only). If the funds are not all needed for officials, the meet host would use the funds to cover other expenses at the meet (such as hospitality for the meet volunteers). These funds would be sent to the meet host after the meet (with the \$5.00 per entrant reimbursement), upon successful completion of the meet and submission of the meet results files and documents to the LMSC Top 10 Recorder.

The advantage of this proposal is that (a) it will help the LMSC spend down some of its reserves and (b) will simplify what has been a cumbersome process for the LMSC board to handle, with the current gift card arrangement.

In 2024 there were six one-day meets, five two-day meets, and one three-day meet (now postponed) that would have qualified for this proposal, for a total of \$7,400.00 in funds. With the LMSC's current level of reserves this proposal would help spend down the reserves.