MICHIGAN TEAM SWIM LEAGUE
RULES OF OPERATION

I. Duties of the Host Team:

A. Telephone or write the visiting team at least two weeks prior to the day of the meet with the following:

1. Time of the meet.
2. Location of the meet (map).
3. Mutually accepted changes in the format of the meet.
4. Refreshments availability.
5. Marshaling format (cards).
6. Pool and locker room facilities.

B. Provide a warm up of 30 minutes or more.

C. Record and provide a signed copy of the meet to the visiting team.

D. Provide two competent officials who are familiar with MTSL and USS rules to serve as the starter and referee.

E. Provide timers for the lanes, but the visiting team can help if they so desire. F. Expedite the running of the meet—a session of continuous swimming should last no more than four hours.

II. All USS rules govern all MTSL sanctioned meets.

III. MTSL meet rules and exceptions to USS rules include the following:

A. Scoring:

1. Dual meet when three lanes per team are available:
    a. Individual events -- 6-4-3-2-1-0
    b. Relay events -- 8-4-2-0
2. Triple or dual meets when only two lanes per team are available:
    a. Individual events - 4-2-1-0
    b. Relay events – 6-3-1-0
3. A team can score no more than 12 points per relay event.
4. The first heat for each event will be the scoring heat, exhibitions will follow.

B. Age Group Eligibility:

1. A swimmer's age group is based on his/her age on the date of the competition.
2. Swimmers may swim up in individual events and relays in any MTSL regular season sanctioned meet for points.
3. Swimmers must swim in their own age group at the Championship meet, League(Novice) and State, for individual events, but may swim up or relays. See section IV/B/2 for details.
4. Meet directors can combine events to expedite the meet, but awards will be based upon age/sex.

C. List of Events:

1. The MTSL meet format will consist of up to 92 events in the 5 age

groups of boys and girls (8 & Under, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-18) in the usual order. The only exception to this is at the State Novice meet.

2. Coaches will determine which of the 15-18 boys events will be swum at each meet. All other events will be swum as long as there is one swimmer entered from either team to allow the chance of each meet for championship qualification.

D. Number of Events:

1. A swimmer may swim a maximum of 4 events for points in each meet. The maximum number of individual events is 3, and the maximum number of relays is 2 for each swimmer.

E. Exhibition Swimmers:

1. Exhibition swimmers, by definition, swim for official qualifying times, but do not score points or receive awards.
2. Exhibition swims satisfy the requirements for 2 MTSL meets to qualify for the final meets.
3. Extra heats of exhibition swimmers may be added only by mutual agreement of the coaches.

F. False Start Rule:

1. Any swimmer who is charged with committing or causing a false start shall be disqualified and shall not be permitted to swim the event.
2. In MTSL dual meets and final meets this rule will not apply to 8 and Under swimmers—they will be allowed to swim exhibition following a false start for official time, no points or awards will be given.

G. Dual Meet Awards:

1. The host team has the option of providing ribbons (place or participant) for the visiting team.

IV. MTSL State Championship Meet and League Championship (Novice)

Meets: A. Eligibility:

1. A swimmer must be a registered swimmer of an MTSL team.
2. A swimmer must have competed in at least 2 MTSL meets as a registered swimmer of an MTSL team in order to qualify for either the State Championship meet or the League Championship meet, the League Championship meet cannot count as 1 of the 2 meets required to compete in for the State Championship meet. Invitational meets which receive sanction by the league qualify as an MTSL meet.
3. The swimmer must meet or beat the State Championship qualifying time, in a 25 yard/meter pool in an organized swim meet in the period beginning with the previous year's State Championship meet. Times must be on hand to prove at the State Championship meet. 25 meter swims should be converted to yards by multiplying the time in seconds by .901.
4. If a swimmer achieves only one individual qualifying time, they will be allowed to swim a bonus event at the State Championship meet. They will be allowed to score points in the bonus event.
5. Swimmers may not enter the State Championship or the League

Championship meet as a “no time,” with a coach’s time trial, or a made up time. Times must be met for the State Championship meet and proof must be on hand. Times must be met in an organized swim meet.

6. A swimmer may attend only one of the final meets even if he/she swims only one individual event or relay.
5. If a swimmer achieves an MTSL qualifying time(s) at the League Championship Meet, they will be allowed to swim that event(s) at the State Championship meet.
6. Swimmers with MTSL qualifying times will be allowed to swim in the League Championship meet in the event(s) for which they do not have qualifying times. If they achieve an MTSL time at the League Championship meet, they will be allowed to swim in that event(s) at the State Championship meet.
7. Entries for swimmers achieving MTSL State times at the League Championship meet must be submitted to the State Meet entry chairperson by the Saturday night prior to the State Championship meet.
8. Teams may not allow swimmers from non-MTSL clubs to swim as a member of their club during these meets.
9. An MTSL Meet Record can only be attained if the time is achieved ONLY in the specific event swum during the actual meet.
10. Time trials may not be used for meet records, only for qualifying times.

B. Relays at State Championship Meet (State meet):

1. There are no qualifying times for relays at the State Championship meet, however, at least two of the relay members must have met qualifying times for at least one individual event for that swim year.
2. Swimmers are allowed to swim up in age groups at the State Championship meet, but at least two of the four swimmers on that relay must be in the age group that the relay is competing in.
3. Mixing gender in relays is not permitted.
4. Each MTSL team participating in the State Championship meet is allowed one relay per age group, per gender to score points. Each team can have multiple relays participate, awards will be given based on place, but only one relay can score points for that team.
5. Relays can be added for the State Championship meet if enough swimmers achieve MTSL qualifying times at the League Championship meet.

C. League Championship (Novice) Meet Age Groups:

1. MTSL League Championship meet events will be in the following age groups of boys and girls: 6 & Under, 7- 8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-18.
2. The League Championship meet will be run in one session.

D. Awards:

1. Medals will be given for 1^{st}-6^{th}; and ribbons for 7^{th}-12^{th} places in the State Championship meet. Heat ribbons will also be awarded.
2. Medals will be given for 1^{st}-6^{th}; and ribbons for 7^{th}-12^{th} places in the League Championship meets. Heat winners will also be awarded.

3. Age group plaques will be awarded based on cumulative points at the State Championship meet only. A traveling team plaque will be awarded to the State Championship team based on total points on the meet.

E. Fees:

1. There will be an entry fee charged per event at both the League Championship and State Championship meets to help defray the award costs. This is not included in each club's league dues. Host teams are required to pay these entry fees, they are not exempt.
2. Host teams for both Championship Meet and State Meet will turn in money collected from entry fees by the next Friday following the event date.
3. Entry Fees for Novice Championship Meet will be as follows: $4 individual and $16 relays, Entry Fees for State Championship Meet will be as follows: $5 individual and $12 relays.

F. Results:

1. The host teams for the final meets will provide results in a timely manner (within 2 weeks) at the leagues expense.
2. Starting blocks must be provided at the current legal dimensions for the final meets.

V. Invitational Swim Meets:

A. Invitational meets may be proposed for league sanction by representatives from teams at the annual fall meeting provided that:

1. All MTSL teams are invited to the meet.
2. Meet rules conform to MTSL and USS rules.

B. Host teams may designate event format, fees and award structure.

C. League sanction will be given by a majority vote at the annual fall meeting.

D. League sanction will allow these meets to qualify as MTSL meets for the purpose of satisfying the requirements for swimmers to compete in 2 MTSL meets to be eligible to swim in the final meets.

VI. Conduct of MTSL Teams and Coaching Staff:

A. Uncalled for conduct of any swimmer or the coaching staff on a sanctioned MTSL team will not be tolerated by any means:

1. Swimmers and coaching staff will be warned for the first offense.
2. Team will be suspended from the league for a period of 1 year for the second offense.
3. Any further offenses will be grounds for dismissal from the league for good.

VII. League Size:

A. The MTSL will have a maximum of 23 teams.

B. If the league has 23 teams, the procedure to apply for membership is as follows:

1. Teams wishing to join the MTSL will be placed on a waiting list.
2. If a current team exits the MTSL, the first team on the waiting list will be invited to apply for membership. If the first team declines to apply, the second

team on the waiting list will be invited to apply.

C. Any team must receive a majority of positive votes from the current members to be invited to join the MTSL.