

USMS Coaches Commitment and Responsibilities at 2017 FINA World Masters Championship

The **2017 FINA World Masters Championship** will be held in Budapest, Hungary in August. The Opening Ceremony is on August 7th, there are three open water technical meetings from August 9th through the 11th, the open water event takes place at Lake Balaton from August 10-12, and the pool competition will run from August 14-20. The pool events for ages 25-54 held at the Dagaly Aquatic Complex and the events 55+ at the Hajos Complex. Each complex supports two pools.

Swimmers in attendance will not swim for Team USA; rather they will continue to support their own clubs. However, the coaches are there as USMS representatives and will work to help each and every swimmer that desires it. Coaches should strive to create a sense of unification and team spirit.

Coaching responsibilities:

Prior to the meet:

- Social Media
 - o Set up and maintain a Facebook page for the event
 - Regularly post information and updates including photos and/or videos
 - Monitor posting by others and respond accordingly
- Communication with Swimmers and Coaches
 - o Set up and maintain email communication and Coaches and USMS participants
 - o Gather “in case of emergency” contacts
 - o Provide the coaches email addresses and phone numbers to the swimmers
 - o Provide coaches travel plans and arrangements
 - o Monthly emails introducing the coaching staff and allowing the athletes to ask questions
 - o Weekly emails the month of the event with pertinent reminders and notices
 - o Respond to swimmers’ emails in a timely fashion
 - o Be a contact person for trouble shooting with problems that arise for swimmers prior to the meet
- Schedule
 - o Arrange for the swimmers to be together during the opening ceremonies
 - o Create a schedule for the coaches to ensure each session is covered and all swimmers have an opportunity for feedback. A USMS coach representative is expected to be on deck at each site from the beginning of warm ups through the final swim of the day for a USMS registered swimmer
- Team apparel
 - o If there is a vendor for team apparel and caps – provide a web link and notify swimmers via email of the discounts provided

During the meet:

- Provide assistance during warm-ups, including: getting splits, providing race strategies, etc.
- Create a home base for the swimmers to sit and congregate
- Provide race feedback, splits, etc. as desired
- Encourage swimmers
- Arrange a team meeting the day before competition begins
- Coordinate a team picture
- Post reports and photos throughout the meet and relay to National Office for online publication
- Serve as advocate for USMS swimmers regarding protests & administrative problems
- Coaches may swim but their duties as a coach supersede their duties as a swimmer
- Coaches are there on behalf of USMS and not their home team or club

After the meet:

- Provide a report detailing the experience and giving feedback as to how things could be improved to EC, Executive office, Coaches Committee, etc.
- Send out a follow-up email thanking the athletes for participating
- Collect feedback from the athletes about their experiences - good and bad

Reimbursement:

- The maximum expense reimbursement will be \$4,500 for the Head Coach and \$2,800 for each Assistant Coach
- The Head Coach is expected for the entire event (opening ceremony, open water event, and pool competition Aug. 7-20)
- The Assistant Coaches will be involved during the pool competition (Aug. 14-20)

Application Process:

- Any interested, certified, and registered Masters Coach may apply for the positions
- Applicants must complete the application by April 15, 2017

Selection Process:

- The International Coaches Subcommittee will review all the applicants and recommend four to the USMS Coaches Committee
- The USMS Coaches Committee will vote to approve the coaches applications
- The applicants will be notified by May 15th, 2017

Supervision:

- The USMS International Coaching Sub-Committee supervises this project

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