



MINNESOTA  
SWIMMING

## New Fee Schedule for Club Membership

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The following new fee schedule for clubs was passed at the February 21, 2006 Board of Director's Meeting and will become effective beginning September 1, 2006 (the beginning of the 2007 Registration/Membership Year).

The new fee structure is based on the date the swim office receives all necessary items for charter approval. A monetary incentive has been provided for year-round renewing clubs to have their charters approved early in the membership year. The club charter renewal fee is based on the schedule below. \*\*All items necessary for club renewal must be sent (with nothing pending for approval) according to the dates on this schedule. If not able to be approved until a later time period, the fee may be higher – within the timeframe of the schedule below.

<u>Submission period with approval (date received)</u>	<u>Fee for Renewal</u>
September 1 <sup>st</sup> thru October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Club Fee \$100
November 1 <sup>st</sup> thru November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Club Fee \$200
November 16 <sup>th</sup> thru November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Club Fee \$250
December 1 <sup>st</sup> thru December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Club Fee \$300
December 16 <sup>th</sup> thru December 31 <sup>st</sup>	Club Fee \$350
After January 1 <sup>st</sup>	Club Fee \$500

\*\* Items required for approval include: Club Membership renewal (charter) form, the Renewal Fee based on the above schedule (or approval date), Non-athlete membership applications and fees for the club Safety Coordinator and the Head Coach. Copies of Head coach current certifications (according to the USA Swimming most current list of allowed courses). They should be current at all times, anyway! These must all be submitted with the application for approval. Any head coach needing to complete the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Coach Test must also submit proof with the application.

### Exceptions:

- ~ New clubs will be able to register any time for their 1<sup>st</sup> year at the \$100 fee.
- ~ Any club not wishing to conform to this policy as a year round club may apply for membership as a seasonal club. Seasonal club fees will remain at \$100, but the club membership would only be valid during the designated 5-month seasonal membership period (typically from early March until early August).

Updated registration information is sent to designated club registrars every year. In addition, the Club Charter Form and Non-athlete application (already there) will be on the MSI Website under a special area for club registrars. A document with the club renewal fee schedule will be on the website in this same location.

## History and need for change:

Due to USA Swimming requirements and expectations regarding swim meet reconciliations, we are experiencing increasing problems within the LSC. The timing of the submission of club charter renewals by most teams to the swim office has not advantageous to the current system.

After Jan 1<sup>st</sup> no athlete or non-athlete can be renewed or changed in SWIMS (the official USA Swimming database) if the club is not renewed for the new year (unless entered unattached). SWIMS does not recognize a club without current membership.

Processing a club renewal takes a good amount of time and when the majority of clubs are not submitted until the end of December (many incomplete at that time), we are paralyzed to get everything done (which would include registration of athletes, coaches etc) and at the same time to be able to do meet recons as expected by USA Swimming.

Last year there were only 2 clubs submitted AND approved in September. December 16<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> there were 18 clubs submitted (4 of which could not be approved until January). In January, 15 clubs were submitted/approved. Of our current 65 clubs, only 23 clubs were submitted and approved prior to December 15<sup>th</sup> .....just 15 days before their club membership would expire.

During that period we had over 1500 athletes and non-athletes to enter into SWIMS, but could not do so until the clubs were entered. All registrations are dated the date received in the swim office.

Club recons are not only impossible, but totally inaccurate, during this time frame. It is our goal to not put our clubs or swim meet host teams in harms way. We want to be sure that our athletes participating in a swim meet are properly registered. Host clubs have the ability to do a meet recon prior to a meet to find unregistered athletes. If the clubs are not registered, the athletes cannot be entered and recons, if done, will not be accurate.

Renewing your club early in the membership year is critical to all of the above. If you have club positions that change, you can simply complete a club update form so we can edit your club records. Also, those teams hosting swim meets in the new year are often held up in getting their sanction because the club is not renewed or coaches not registered for the new year. Ultimately, early club registration will make things easier for all concerned.

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