

Proposed Orange County Swimming (OC) as an USA Swimming LSC

On January 15, 2020, all current Club members of Southern California Swimming have the opportunity to attend a Special House of Delegates meeting to consider the request of Orange Committee to leave SCS and become a new LSC in USA Swimming. Please consider the following information regarding this request.

- Historical perspective: In 1979 when USA Swimming was split from the AAU to become its own NGB under the USOC, the boundaries for LSCs were established as the existing AAU boundaries, boundaries set decades earlier largely to meet the needs of track/field, boxing and basketball. The adopted AAU boundaries were established long before Orange County became the urbanized area it now is. SPAAAU Swimming became Southern California Swimming under the new NGB USA Swimming.

In 1985 when SCS reorganized around an executive director and staff as needed, the total athlete membership was 6,000+. Between 1985 and 2015 athlete numbers increased to 24,000+ with Orange County growing to 6,500-7,000+ clearly a size that can function as an LSC. Comparable size LSCs include North Texas (Dallas area) and Southeastern (Tennessee, Alabama) considered mid-size by USA Swimming.

- Advantages to Southern California Swimming:
 - Ability to reduce number of sites for age group championships (ex: could serve 10-15% at JO level without 4 meets)
 - More opportunities for SCS age group athletes to participate in All Star competition. Historically Orange has often made up 40-50%+ of All Star teams.
 - Reduced senior travel expense v revenue. With approximately 25% of SCS athletes, Summer 2019 Orange represented 41% of athletes at Futures, 47% at Juniors and 38% (50% if do not include College teams) at Nationals.

- Orange as an LSC: Orange County offers a clearly defined, compact geographic unit with a convenient central meeting point to engage more representation in governance and be more responsive to changing circumstances.

Orange would be able to design age group programs specific to its needs including dual/tri/leagues/invites/all star and championship meets to encourage innovation.

An Orange LSC would reduce travel time and expense (ex: hotel rooms) for its Clubs.

- Orange will invite SCS to all major Senior Invitationals (ex: Grand Challenge, SMOC) and will request that SCS reciprocate (ex: KP, LAI).

Respectfully,
Orange County Swimming Organizing Committee