

OZARK LMSC POLICY

USMS Convention Delegate Selection, Responsibilities and Reimbursement

The following policy and procedure shall govern the selection, responsibilities and reimbursement of Ozark LMSC delegates to the annual US Aquatics - USMS Convention.

Selection of Delegates

The Chair of the Ozark LMSC (“Ozark”) shall automatically be named each year as Ozark’s first delegate to the annual USMS National Convention (“Convention”) unless the Chair is unable to attend, in which case the Board shall select a replacement. To the extent Ozark qualifies for any additional delegates under the rules and regulations of USMS, such additional delegate(s) shall be selected by the Ozark Board of Directors (the “Board”) no later than three (3) months prior to that year’s convention or June 15 whichever is earlier. These delegates are considered the “official” representatives of the Ozark LMSC and as such are eligible to apply for reimbursement of expenses within the limits of the Ozark LMSC budget.

The Board may decide to request the appointment of an “at large” delegate by USMS at its discretion. An individual member may initiate this process, but the member must have the concurrence of the Board to accompany the application for At Large status. At Large delegates may apply for reimbursement of expenses from USMS, the Ozark LMSC, or Clubs, but are not guaranteed reimbursement.

Additional Ozark LMSC members may be eligible to attend and vote in the House of Delegates as “automatic delegates” by virtue of their membership on certain USMS committees or offices they may hold within USMS. Such delegates may apply for reimbursement of expenses from USMS, the Ozark LMSC, or Clubs, but are not guaranteed reimbursement.

Members wishing to be considered “official” Ozark delegates to the Convention shall submit a written (or e-mail) application to the LMSC Chair no later than June 1st, listing their prior contributions to USMS and to the Ozark LMSC and reasons that should be considered in deciding on their appointment as delegate. At Large and automatic delegates should also submit such an application if they wish to be considered for reimbursement of expenses by the Ozark LMSC.

The Ozark LMSC Board shall choose delegates from the applications sent to the Chair. A vote of the majority of the Board members present or responding to an email call for vote shall govern the selection of official Ozark delegates.

If the number of applications received does not exceed the number of delegates to which Ozark is entitled, additional applications may be considered after the deadline, at the discretion of the Chair.

It is the goal of the Ozark LMSC to send the largest possible number of delegates to Convention within the fiscal restraints of the LMSC budget, in order to best represent the interests of Ozark in matters considered by the House of Delegates and as a presence to cover as many Committee meetings as possible.

Responsibilities of Delegates

Delegates are expected to attend all House of Delegates proceedings and to participate in all House of Delegate votes. Delegates shall attend Committee meetings in order to cover as many deliberations as possible in the interest of the Ozark LMSC.

Delegates are required to submit a written (or e-mail) report to the Ozark Board, within 30 days of the conclusion of the convention or Oct 15th, whichever is later, summarizing all Convention meetings attended, including meetings assigned by the Chair or as agreed among the delegates attending to cover as many committee meetings as possible.

Reimbursement of Expenses

The Chair, or his/her replacement delegate, may request reimbursement from Ozark to the extent set forth below; provided, however, that any delegate who is entitled to reimbursement from USMS itself, or from any club or other entity, shall not be eligible for reimbursement from Ozark. Any additional delegate selected by virtue of the USMS rules relating to numbers of registered members in Ozark shall be reimbursed by Ozark to the extent that such funds are available in the Ozark LMSC budget. Any member of Ozark who attends Convention by virtue of a Committee appointment, USMS office, At Large status or otherwise, but who has not been selected by the Board as an Ozark delegate, shall not be eligible for reimbursement by Ozark, unless the Board specifically approves such reimbursement in advance of such member's attendance at convention.

Any member eligible for reimbursement or requesting consideration by Ozark shall submit a Budget Request to the Chair of the Board and Treasurer no later than 60 days prior to start of each year's Convention or July 15th, whichever is earlier. The Budget Request should include justification for the mode of transportation chosen taking all variables into consideration, including cost of parking, total duration of travel (layovers/transfers/travel to airport), etc. Reimbursement decisions will be based on available funds and potential benefit to the Ozark LMSC from the attendance of a particular delegate. The Board will advise applicants of approval or denial of funding no later than one month prior to convention or Aug 15th, whichever is earlier, including the limit of funds that will be available to them.

Reimbursable expenses include the following:

- (1.) Registration fees;

- (2.) Reasonable airfare, if the Convention is more than 300 miles from St. Louis;
- (3.) Cost of gas (or \$0.25/mile) for travel by car, provided that delegates attempt to travel in the same vehicle, if possible;
- (4.) One half the cost of a double room at the Headquarters hotel for each night that the Convention is in session; and
- (5.) Cost of airport transfers or a rental car, whichever is cheaper, whenever Convention is more than 300 miles from St. Louis.
- (6.) Parking expense, whether at airport or hotel.

No reimbursement shall be provided for other expenses, including, but not limited to, meals or entertainment, unless approved in advance by the Board. Variation from the above reimbursement guidelines may be considered by the Board based on justification received in advance of the expenditure in the Budget Request.

Requests for reimbursement shall be accompanied by receipts and should be submitted to the Ozark Treasurer no later than 30 days following the convention or Oct 15th, whichever is later. For expenses other than mileage, only actual costs will be reimbursed. Documentation of mileage will serve as receipt for mileage. The treasurer will reimburse approved delegate expenses only after receipt of the required written convention summary report which will be posted on our website for the benefit of our members. Expense reimbursement requests submitted after the above deadline will not be reimbursed without Executive Committee approval.

If any official delegate is unable to attend the Convention because of unforeseen circumstances, such as illness, etc., said delegate may be reimbursed such pre-paid, non-refundable expenses already incurred, at the discretion of the Chair and the Treasurer.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD this 11th day of May, 2009,
amended 22 October, 2012