

OREGON MASTERS SWIMMING

Scholarship Program

Mission of Program: To promote participation in adult swimming for life as a means of fitness and promoting health.

Goal of Program: To assist OMS members or potential members with expenses associated with swimming and/or OMS sponsored events in situations where a swimmer's financial ability to pay limits his/her participation in these activities. Such activities may include but are not limited to costs associated with OMS registration fees, Oregon LMSC swim meets and open water entry fees, USMS postal events hosted by the Oregon LMSC or an Oregon team, etc. OMS funds shall not be used for team dues or team functions as it is believed that teams can consider funding of these fees.

Application Process:

- OMS Chair shall be contacted by the individual needing assistance or person recommending the swimmer for assistance. If a person recommends the swimmer, the swimmer shall be notified by the nominating person of his/her submission of name for this assistance and agree to the name submission.
- Either the nominating person or a representative of the swimmer applying for assistance shall assist the OMS Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer in obtaining necessary information for decision making.
- A brief outline of the swimmer's expenses related to swimming should be included, i.e. specifics of planned money usage.
- OMS Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer will evaluate the request and make a decision on approval/disapproval and amount of funding.
- OMS Board will be notified of decision and approve funding at its regular meetings prior to disbursement of funds.
- Application must be made each year and no scholarship will be automatically renewable.

Basis for Decision: No documentation of a swimmer's income shall be required. This will be on the honor system. If a person qualifies for a public assistance program, e.g. welfare, food stamps, Oregon Health Plan, housing assistance, etc., approval shall be automatic. There shall be no expectation that all requests will be approved.

Reporting/Accountability:

- A report of requests and approvals with dollar amounts without names shall be submitted to the OMS Board at its regular meetings.
- A record of all disbursements with details shall be kept by the OMS Chair.
- The OMS Treasurer shall make a line item for income and disbursements.
- There shall be a maximum expenditure of \$300 per swimmer and \$1200 yearly total from OMS funds. Expenditures exceeding \$1200 per year shall require OMS Board approval.
- All disbursements shall be considered on a yearly basis.

Promotion/Notification:

- A description of the program shall be published in the Aquamaster and on the OMS web site with information regarding the OMS Chair as contact for nominations.
- A notation with information about the Gold Medal Sponsorship program shall include that these funds may be used for scholarship programs.

Confidentiality: All applicants' names shall be confidential and remain anonymous to OMS membership except the OMS Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer.

OMS Process: Processes for certain fees shall be as follows:

- OMS/USMS Registration Fees: Applicant shall write 'Scholarship' on the application sent to the OMS Registrar and send no money. The Registrar shall notify the Treasurer regarding the fee to be sent to USMS.
- Meet Entry Fees: Applicant shall write 'Scholarship' on the meet entry form and send no money. Meet host reimbursement from OMS shall include all scholarship recipients.
- Open Water Events: Applicant shall write 'Scholarship' on the open water entry form and submit to event director. Event director shall notify the OMS Treasurer and be reimbursed the full entry fee.
- Other fees shall be handled on a case by case situation.