



WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Athletic Directors of Schools Sponsoring Swimming and Diving

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This booklet includes information necessary for participation in the swimming and diving tournament series. Tournament assignments and time schedules will appear on the WIAA website. Schools desiring additional information must communicate directly with the designated meet manager. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to call me at (715) 344-8580 or email me at [<lridgeway@wiaawi.org>](mailto:lridgeway@wiaawi.org).

***** REMINDERS for 2025-26 School Year *****

Please pay special attention to the following items as you review this material.

Details regarding the items below are also included elsewhere in this mailing.

1. Maximum allowed meets is 15 **IF** one meet is an alumni meet.
2. **Individuals must compete in four (4) school meets throughout the regular season to be eligible for the WIAA tournament series.**
3. Entries must be submitted electronically to SwimCloud by Noon on Tuesday, Feb. 10. A team submitting entries after this time will be allowed to compete, but will NOT be seeded and will be placed in the slow heat.
4. Print, review, and retain the confirmation copy of your submitted entries. (Your email address **must** match) IF you make changes prior to the Tuesday noon deadline, confirm that your changes have been accepted. Print and keep the "revised" confirmation copy.
5. All substitutions and scratches must be provided in writing to the meet manager 10 minutes prior to the coaches meeting. Substitutions will be allowed for illness, injury or for reasons of school discipline.
7. Starting platforms must be in their constructed form. Towels are prohibited from being used during WIAA tournament series on platforms.
8. Oil-based lotions are allowed but must be applied in a designated area. No changing on Deck.
9. All competitors, once officially entered, must compete in all heats and rounds of competition (excluding swim-offs) for which they entered except:
 - a. With a declared false start.
 - b. When illness or injury certified by a physician or the referee forces a competitor to withdraw.
 - c. In both situations, the event counts as an entry withdrawn and no replacement is allowed.
 - d. A competitor who withdraws because of injury or illness may be reinstated by the referee or a physician at any time.
10. Swim sectional hosts are required to have the swimming competition start time be no later than 1 p.m.

NO PRACTICE AT FACILITY

Host schools are not permitted to allow participating schools to practice at their facilities prior to tournament competition.

ENTRIES

1. A school may enter a maximum of:
 - a. One entry in each relay event.
 - b. **Eighteen** individual event entries for the nine individual events (including diving).
 - c. A school not using all eligible entries may not fill these spots after the noon Tuesday entry deadline.

2. A competitor shall be permitted to enter a maximum of four events, no more than two of which maybe individual events.
3. A diver must have participated in a *minimum* of four school meets during the current season before they are eligible for entry into sectional diving competition. At least two of the required four meets must have had a championship format of eleven dives. Diving entries DO NOT require scores.

NOTE: Exhibition performances will count if verified by a signed official diving form.

4. **Entries will be submitted electronically via SwimCloud.** The **noon** Tuesday deadline is in effect.
5. **Team Lineups may be released to other schools after being received by the host school.**
6. Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA Tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament.
7. Schools submitting team entries after the deadline date or time will be permitted to compete, but will not receive consideration for seeds, lanes, heats, sections, etc.
8. Omitted entries may be added to the sectional entry list. (The deadline for adding omitted athletes or relay teams is the conclusion of the coaches meeting conducted prior to the start of the Sectional meet.) The added athlete(s)/relay team(s) will not be seeded. The penalty will be loss of per diem for each athlete advancing to the State Meet and a letter of reprimand to the school. The following criteria would apply:
 - a. 18 individuals' entries have not been met.
 - b. Cannot replace a previously entered athlete.
 - c. Relay team was omitted.
 - d. Athletes may not be switched from one event to another.
9. A team that enters more than 18 entries must scratch any individual who is entered incorrectly (i.e., more than four total events, more than two individual events, etc.)
10. The event that will be scratched is the one that exceeds the allowed maximum following the published order of events. Example--John Smith is entered in Diving, 200 Medley Relay, 50 Freestyle, and 400 Freestyle Relay. John Smith will automatically be scratched from the 50 Freestyle.

RELAYS

1. Coaches may list your relay entries via on-line entries (including up to 4 alternates); however, your *official relay entry* will be the entries you submit at the sectional coaches meeting.
2. Relay cards must be completed and turned in to the Meet Referee before coaches leave from the coaches sectional meeting. Coaches will be allowed to change the designated four swimmers until:
 - a. 200 Medley Relay.....End of coaches meeting.
 - b. 200 Freestyle Relay.....End of the 100 freestyle.
 - c. 400 Freestyle Relay.....End of the 100 backstroke.

SEEDING

1. Sectional entry times recorded for individuals must be the best/fastest time achieved during the current sport season.
2. Relay seed times should consist of the actual best achieved time of the students listed, not the fastest season relay time. Coaches should estimate if necessary.

3. Coaches must be able to document, at the coaches meeting, any challenged seed times or minimal meet requirements for divers by providing appropriate signed official meet result sheets.
 - a. Questioned times which cannot be verified by producing official signed meet results will not be seeded and will be placed in an outside lane of the slowest heat.
 - b. A diver whose minimal meet requirements cannot be verified will not be allowed to compete.
4. NFHS Rule 5, Section 2, ART. 1. In preliminary heats, or in finals for which there are no preliminaries, the time to be considered for purposes of seeding shall be the best competitive time for each swimmer as listed on the entry card and submitted to the meet committee (championship meets) or referee (other meets).
 - Therefore, if a challenge is raised by a coach questioning the entry of a "slow" seed time for a participant, coaches must be able to document at the coaches meeting any challenged seed times for swimmers that are not their fastest seed time of the past school season. If this seed time is not their "fastest" seed time of the school season, their fastest time must be presented and the event must be reseeded.
 - If a coach challenges a seed entry that does not provide a time, the coach making the challenge needs to have documentation of that swimmer's participation in that event. If the coach is able to provide that documentation, the new time is used and the heat must be reseeded.
5. The meet manager will not reseed an event.
 - a. The referee can, however, for unusual situations, make appropriate adjustments in heat and lane assignments.
 - b. There should be at least three seeded swimmers/relay teams assigned to the slowest heat after the initial seeding. In the event of a scratch at the coaches meeting, it is not necessary to have three swimmers/relays in each heat.
6. No challenges to seed times for swimmers or minimal meet requirements for divers will be allowed after the coaches meeting.
7. Seed Times.
 - a. Individual times must have been recorded from actual meet performances made during the current school season.
 - b. Relay seed times should consist of the actual best achieved time of the students listed, not the fastest season relay time. Coaches should estimate if necessary.
 - c. Times must be submitted in hundredths.
 - d. Times for individual events must be from that individual event. Splits from relays will be accepted only from a leadoff swimmer.
 - e. Times recorded by a swimmer who was disqualified from a race are not acceptable.
 - f. Exhibition performances will be accepted if verified by signed official meet results.
 - g. Times will be accepted from either yard or metric pools.
 - h. All times must be submitted in English yard times (either actual or converted from metric)
8. Corrections of Seed Times:
 - a. Coaches are asked to carefully review seed times.
 - b. Incorrect seed times results in reseeding of heats and events.
 - c. Reseeding causes Meet Directors' programs to be incorrect.
 - d. PLEASE be certain the seed times you enter are **correct** the first time they are entered.
 - e. **Print a confirmation copy and review your entries.**

- -SUBSTITUTIONS AND SCRATCHES- -

1. All substitutions and scratches MUST BE provided in writing to the meet manager 10 minutes prior to the coaches' meetings. Substitutions will be allowed for illness, injury or for reason of school discipline. Meet managers should provide a substitution/scratch sheet.
2. Individual(s) involved in changes will not be reseeded but must assume heat & lane assignments of original entries.
3. A school not using all eligible entries may not fill these spots after the noon Tuesday entry deadline.

4. Schools may not make a substitution in an event not originally entered after the noon Tuesday entry deadline.

Note: If a diver becomes ill or injured, is disciplined by the school, or due to extenuating circumstances after the entry deadline of noon Tuesday, a coach would be allowed to substitute for that diver(s) and enter a swimmer(s) in any event to reach the 18 entry allowance if the school has no other diver(s) eligible for entry into the sectional meet. The new swimmer is placed in the outside lane of the slowest heat - no reseeding of any event(s). The request to substitute must be made to the WIAA prior to 3 p.m. on Friday of sectional week. Final approval rests with the WIAA.

5. In the event of scratches, the meet manager will not reseed the event. The deleted swimmer/diver must be removed from all events (individual/relay) in the entire meet, except when certified by a physician or the meet referee.

6. All competitors, once officially entered, must compete in all heats and rounds of competition (excluding swim-offs) for which they entered except:

- a. With a declared false start.
- b. When illness or injury certified by a physician or the referee forces a competitor to withdraw.
- c. In both situations, the event counts as an entry withdrawn and no replacement is allowed.
- d. A competitor who withdraws because of injury or illness may be reinstated by the referee or a physician at any time.

7. Some examples of legal/illegal changes:

- a. Swimmer A becomes ill the Friday afternoon of sectionals and cannot compete Saturday. The coach, Saturday morning 10 minutes prior to the coaches meeting, in writing replaces Swimmer A with Swimmer B who was not previously entered in sectional competition.

Ruling: Legal, substitution allowed.

- b. Swimmer A becomes ill the Friday afternoon of sectionals and cannot compete. The coach, Saturday morning 10 minutes prior to the coaches meeting, in writing replaces Swimmer A with a swimmer/diver who has not exceeded the event limitation rule.

Ruling: Legal, substitution allowed.

- c. A coach, the Wednesday morning of sectional week, changes Swimmer A from the 500 freestyle to the 50 freestyle for Swimmer B.

Ruling: Illegal, substitution no longer allowed. All entries are final unless there is an illness, injury or reason of school discipline.

- d. A coach sends in an entry form with only 17 individual event entries. Tuesday, prior to noon, the coach wants to enter another diver.

Ruling: Legal, addition allowed. A school not using all eligible entries may fill those spots prior to the noon Tuesday entry deadline.

e. Team A's coach calls in numerous changes before 4 p.m. on Wednesday and informs the meet manager that he/she can't seed the meet until after 4 p.m. Wednesday.

Ruling: Illegal, substitutions are no longer allowed unless there is an illness, injury or reason of school discipline. There is no longer a 4 p.m. deadline on Wednesday.

SECTIONAL AWARD PRESENTATION

1. All award recipients must wear their official sweat top to participate in the awards ceremony. A plain top/T-shirt or a shirt with their school name is acceptable. Hats are not allowed.
2. Diving awards should be given out immediately after the diving competition is completed or prior to the start of the swimming competition.
3. Following each event, awards are given out **one event later**. The next event starts five (5) minutes after completion of the last heat of the previous event. Referees will manage this time and have it placed on a scoreboard.
4. One exception – Prior to the 100-yd butterfly, there shall be a 20-minute break with **15 minutes in water** should be taken.
5. Discourage post-meet celebrations

SWIMMING COMPETITION

All swimmers must have participated in a minimum of **four school meets** during the current school season to be eligible for sectional competition. All events will be timed final events. The highest seeded swimmers/relay teams will be placed as a group in the last heat, the next highest seeded swimmers/relay teams as a group in the next to last heat, etc. There must be at least three entered competitors/relay teams in each heat. In the event of a scratch at the coaches meeting, it is not necessary to have three swimmers/relays in each heat.

DIVING COMPETITION

1. All divers must have participated in a minimum of **four school meets** during the current school season to be eligible for sectional competition. At least two of the required four meets must have had a championship format of eleven dives.
2. Exhibition performances will count if verified by a signed official diving form.
3. A diver whose minimal meet requirement cannot be verified will not be allowed to compete.
4. E-Dive is now required for use at each sectional. E-Dive is used at the WIAA State Meet. Meet officials should provide diving judges with a report of scores for each dive by every judge following the competition. The diving referee should inform diving judges they will be receiving this information during the diving judges meeting prior to the diving competition.

Each diver is allowed 11 dives during WIAA Sectional Diving Meets.

5. All schools use the *original WIAA diving form*. Posted on the swim page of the website.
6. Diving forms are due at the time specified by the meet manager.
7. The 16 highest scoring divers through the semifinals will qualify for the finals at the State Meet.
8. The assigned diving order should be determined by the meet director using a seeding method based on scores or by lot. With no action from the meet director, the default method for determining the order of diving in a championship meet is by lot.
9. Judges will be selected by the WIAA based upon experience:
 1. Number of years judging at a WIAA State Diving Meet.

2. Number of years as a WIAA school team coach.
3. Exam score from the diving portion of the NFHS exam.

An application for diving coaches to judge at the sectional meet is posted on the swim page of our website. Deadline will be 4 p.m., on sectional entry Tuesday.

10. Results of the diving competition must be emailed to the WIAA office immediately following the sectional diving competition.

WARM-UPS

1. There should be provision for 1-1/2 hours for diving warm-ups. Schools are being asked to wait until entries for diving are received to determine a starting time for diving.
2. Diving warm-ups may be reduced dependent on the total number of entered divers.
3. There should be provision for 1-1/2 hours for swimming warm-ups.

Suggested swimming warm-up schedule (feet first entry):

30 minutes	All lanes	Circle swim
30 minutes	Outside Lanes	Sprints
30 minutes	Lanes 1, 2, 3, 4	Horn Starts
	Lanes 5, 6, 7, 8	Relay Starts
	Lanes 5, 6, 7, 8	Turns

COACHES MEETING

There should be two coaches' meetings conducted jointly by meet manager and the meet referee:

1. **Diving Coaches Meeting** - To review the rules governing the competition and hand in diving forms. This meeting should be held one (1) hour prior to the start of diving competition. Pool must be closed during meeting.
2. **Swimming Coaches Meeting** - To review the rules governing the competition and hand in relay cards. This meeting should be held one (1) hour prior to the start of swimming competition. Pool must be closed during the meeting.

TIMING

1. All sectionals must have fully automatic judging and timing equipment.
2. Each sectional must also have a full complement of three qualified timers per lane operative for all races as a back-up system. Do not start your swimming competition unless this requirement is totally adhered to.
3. If there are automatic equipment malfunctions where manual times must be used, follow NFHS Rule 6-4
 - On the official result sheet, decisions must be noted.

MEET COMMITTEE

1. Each tournament site must appoint a meet committee consisting of the referee, starter, meet manager and two coaches, not from the same school or the host school.
2. If the meet manager is also the host school coach, he/she may not serve on the meet committee. A third official should replace the coach/meet manager.
3. Their responsibilities are to:
 - a. Rule on situations not covered by rules.
 - b. Their jurisdiction does not extend to questions arising out of the actual conduct of competition.
 - c. The responsibility for enforcing and interpreting rules governing conduct of competition rests with the referee.

SWIMMERS/DIVERS UNIFORMS

1. Competitors will not be permitted to compete in attire, including swim caps and goggles, which has a partial/whole manufacturer's logo or trademark more than 2 1/4 square inches and not exceeding 2 1/4 inches in any dimension. Manufacturer's partial/whole logos may appear only once on each piece of competitive attire. Goggles are exempt from this rule.
2. The only other legal markings on attire including swim caps and goggles are: competitor name, school name, school nickname, school mascot, and/or one American flag (not to exceed 2" x 3").
3. Competitors must be wearing legal attire before they will be allowed to compete.
4. Oil-based lotions are allowed at a sectional meet. The meet manager is responsible for designating a location where all oil must be applied. The meet manager may not prohibit the use of oil at this meet.
5. **Shaving is prohibited at the tournament site. Penalty for shaving on-site is disqualification per NFHS communicable disease policy.**

BANNERS, NOISEMAKERS AND STEREO TAPE DECKS/RADIOS PROHIBITED

Meet managers will be enforcing the following restrictions. Please inform your athletes and spectators.

1. Placing mascots on the diving boards, starting platforms -or- in the water is prohibited.
2. Stereo tape decks and related radio equipment are prohibited on the pool deck/team seating area.

Note: "Walkmans" are allowed.

3. Other items not allowed in the spectator balcony or on the pool deck include: balloons, cakes, coolers, flowers, mascots, etc.
4. For indoor events, temporary banners are allowed, with some restrictions. Banners must be hand held or stationary. These banners may NOT have offensive language, be used to disrupt players or officials, interfere with spectators or be carried around the facility during an event. Banners may not be hung from balconies, ceilings, etc. Permanent banners of the host school are allowed, such as those hanging in a gym depicting conference schools, sportsmanship themes or with welcoming messages.

ADMISSION POLICIES FOR SECTIONALS

Free admission will be provided only for:

1. Athletes actually competing.
2. Three additional individuals (coaches, managers, etc.).
3. One administrator (district administrator, principal, etc.).
4. The athletic director from a participating school will be allowed free admission (one ticket). He/she should call the host school athletic director to request a ticket.

All other individuals accompanying the team (i.e., junior varsity swimmers/divers, additional coaches/managers, etc.) must pay admission.

STATE MEET PARTICIPATION

Participating in the State Meet will be the following:

1. Swimming

- a. Winner in each event at each sectional.
 - b. Next 18 (Div. 1) & 12 (Div. 2) fastest individuals (not including sectional winners) from all sectionals.
2. Diving
 - a. Winner at each sectional.
 - b. Next 18 (Div. 1) & 12 (Div. 2) best individuals (not including sectional winners) from all sectionals.

STATE MEET INFORMATION

The State Meet will be held on Friday, Feb. 20 for Division 2 and Saturday, Feb. 21 for Division 1 at the Natatorium at Waukesha South HS.

There are no entry forms for schools to complete after sectionals. Schools who qualified relay teams will be asked to complete relay cards at the state meet.

A tentative state qualifier listing will be made available to your school on our website <www.wiaawi.org> after all sectionals have been completed on Saturday evening. **Coaches are asked to verify this information and report any errors to the WIAA immediately.** The State Program will go to press on Monday at **9 a.m.**

The WIAA hopes all teams have a fun and successful season.