

TO: SWIMMING AND DIVING COACHES, NORTHEAST OHIO

FROM: SUE LUTKUS, DISTRICT MEET MANAGER

330-472-4063 (Cell); email: lutkusswm@gmail.com

SUBJECT: 2026 NORTHEAST DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING AND DIVING MEET

AUTOMATIC SWIMMING QUALIFIERS / AT-LARGE QUALIFIERS FROM SECTIONALS TO DISTRICTS

	INDIVIDUAL	RELAYS		INDIVIDUAL	RELAYS
GIRLS DI	2 automatic x 3 = 6 At-large Qualifiers = <u>26</u> TOTAL: 32	2 automatic x 3 = 6 At-large Qualifiers = <u>18</u> TOTAL: 24	GIRLS DII	2 automatic x 2 = 4 At-large Qualifiers = <u>28</u> TOTAL: 32	2 automatic x 2 = 4 At-large Qualifiers = <u>20</u> TOTAL: 24
BOYS DI	2 Automatic x 3 = 6 At-large Qualifiers = <u>26</u> TOTAL: 32	2 automatic x 3 = 6 At-large Qualifiers = <u>18</u> TOTAL: 24	BOYS DII	2 Automatic x 2 = 4 At-large Qualifiers = <u>28</u> TOTAL: 32	2 Automatic x 2 = 4 At-large Qualifiers = <u>20</u> TOTAL: 24

REMINDER: All events in DI and DII will include the 2 automatic qualifiers from each sectional meet even when the top 32nd time may be faster than the automatic's qualifying time.

DATES: February 18, 19, 20, and 21, 2026

LOCATION: The Robert F. Busbey Natatorium at Cleveland State University
2451 Euclid Ave. (between East 24th and East 30th, north side of Euclid), Cleveland, Ohio 44115

MEET SCHEDULE: The warm-up and competition schedule is on page 3.

COACHES' MEETING AND RELAY ENTRIES: Athlete passes, coaches' wristbands, and relay entry sheets will be available at CSU prior to entering the locker rooms and the pool deck on the scheduled competition day. Detailed information and instructions will be posted on the NEDAB website no later than February 19th at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Northeast-Sports-Tournaments/Swimming-Diving>.

STATE MEET QUALIFIERS: The Northeast District Tournament will qualify the following number of athletes to the State Meet as automatic qualifiers. The number of divers qualifying to the OHSAA State Tournament will be determined after all diving entries have been entered and each diver has been verified to have completed an 11-dive contest and posted no earlier than February 8th.

DI	GIRLS:	3 SWIMMERS	2 RELAYS	DIVERS – TBD
	BOYS:	3 SWIMMERS	2 RELAYS	DIVERS – TBD
DII	GIRLS:	3 SWIMMERS	2 RELAYS	DIVERS – TBD
	BOYS:	3 SWIMMERS	2 RELAYS	DIVERS – TBD

DIVING COMPETITION: Girls' and Boys' Diving will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, February 18 and 19, 2026. See schedule on page three. There will be two sessions of diving per day with DII divers competing on Wednesday and DI divers competing on Thursday. Divers must be entered through [cleanentries.com](https://www.ohsaa.org/Northeast-Sports-Tournaments/Swimming-Diving) to compete in the tournament. Verification of a completed 11-dive meet per diver MUST be recorded on the Dive Sheet Verification site. See diving information on the <https://www.ohsaa.org/Northeast-Sports-Tournaments/Swimming-Diving>. The order of divers will be determined by lot and the relative position of divers will remain the same for all levels of the competition. The diving will be conducted according to the rules in the 2025-2026 National Federation Swimming and Diving Rule Book. Divers must be accompanied by a coach or faculty representative to participate.

SWIMMING COMPETITION: The swimming competition will be held on Friday, February 20, and Saturday, February 21. Each event will be swum as timed finals in the order of high school events. The DII District Girls and Boys meet will be conducted on Friday, while the DI District Girls and Boys meet will be conducted on Saturday. Refer to the schedule on page 3 for warm-up times and meet start times.

PARA EVENTS: This year events will again be offered for DI and DII Para 1 and Para 2 athletes at the 2026 State Swimming Tournament. Para athlete events will be conducted during the Division II State meet. Para athletes will be able to compete in the 50 free and the 100 back. Check the Para Athlete information for swimming options available to the para athletes at the District meet and the State meet. A unique para athlete entry form is required as well as a medical/verification form. Both forms and directions for entry are available on the OHSAA and NEDAB websites.

SCORING: Events will be scored through 16 places as specified in the Federation Rules of Scoring for Championships. All participants are eligible for points and team scoring. Relays: 40 - 34 - 32 - 30 - 28 - 26 - 24 - 22 - 18 - 14 - 12 - 10 - 8 - 6 - 4 - 2. Individual: 20 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 14 - 13 - 12 - 11 - 9 - 7 - 6 - 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1.

AWARDS: Medals will be awarded through eight places in all events and trophies to first place and runner-up teams. Coaches will present the medals. Award presenters will be assigned by the OHSSCA board. Athletes on the awards stand for medal presentations shall be attired in team issued warm-ups or tee shirts and shall be free of all other articles including but not limited to headwear, sunglasses, footwear other than deck sandals, and any other decorative item. In addition, no flowers shall be brought to the awards podium. (Refer to the State 2025-26 Regulations for BOYS and GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING TOURNAMENTS at <https://www.OHSAA.org> Swimming and Diving.)

GOVERNING RULES: The meet will be conducted under the OHSAA 2025-26 Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving Tournaments rules and regulations located on <https://www.OHSAA.org>. The official coach or school representative must be with his/her swimmers or divers at all times. This includes the entire warm-up period and all competition. If it is determined that the coach or representative is not in attendance at any time, all competitors from the school will be disqualified from further competition.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT PENALTY: During participation in OHSAA tournaments, any student or coach ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in swimming and diving until the two regular season/tournament contests are competed at the same level as the ejection. Individuals ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be reported to the OHSAA Executive Director's Office by the tournament manager. The Executive Director's Office will investigate the situation and may impose additional penalties in accordance with Bylaw 11 if the situation warrants. Participation in an athletic contest is a privilege. Each individual is expected to conduct himself or herself in an exemplary manner while participating.

DECK CREDENTIALS: Coach deck passes (wristbands) will be issued to each school entering a team as defined by OHSAA. Coaches must display their wristband at all times. Coach credentials will be allotted as follows: 1-3 qualifiers, one pass; 4-5 qualifiers, two passes; 6-10 qualifiers, three passes, 11+ qualifiers, 4 passes. Swimmers will be issued a ticket for deck access. **THE ONLY SWIMMERS PERMITTED ON DECK WILL BE PARTICIPANTS OF THE CURRENT MEET SESSION.**

LOCKERS: It is recommended that participants bring their own lock to use in the locker room. Individuals are solely responsible for their personal belongings.

PARKING: Classes will be in session at CSU on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, February 18-20, so parking will be limited. No school buses will be permitted in the parking lots adjacent to the natatorium. There will be a limited number of spaces for meet staff, coaches, and officials. It is recommended that swimmers and divers be dropped off at the natatorium. Check the Cleveland State University parking information for available parking areas. Parking at CSU for the sectional and the district meet in CSU lots and garages is a pay-to-park event. Any vehicle will be towed if parked illegally.

ADMISSION: Adults: \$10.00 Students: \$5.00 (PRICES SET BY OHSAA)
Tickets will be handled by Hometown Ticketing and will be available on-line.

RULES REGARDING USE OF THE CSU FACILITY

1. Per State Health Department guidelines, there will be **NO SHAVING** in the CSU Physical Education Building.
2. There is no insurance coverage for property damage. Any damage at the site by participants, including cost of repair, will be assessed to the responsible school. Schools and the president of the NEDAB will be notified the next working day of any damage caused by participants.
3. Coaches are responsible for maintaining cleanliness of their deck and locker room areas to be sure they are free of food and other debris.
4. No helium balloons are permitted in the facility.
5. Per State Association orders, the facility will be closed following the last swimming event. There will be no celebrations in the facility after the meet.
6. The instructional pool will NOT be open for swimming. Teams may use this area for team seating.
7. Rubdowns are to be done only in the instructional pool on a table or blanket. A towel is not sufficient.
8. No hand paddles are permitted in the pool.
9. Taping of signs to painted surfaces will not be permitted.
10. The building will be open for swimmers on Friday at 10:00 a.m. and on Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

**THE 2026 NORTHEAST OHIO SWIMMING AND DIVING DISTRICT MEET SCHEDULE
AT THE ROBERT F. BUSBEY NATATORIUM**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

GIRLS DIVING DII	WARM-UP	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	COMPETITION	11:00 AM
BOYS DIVING DII	WARM-UP	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	COMPETITION	6:00 PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

GIRLS DIVING DI	WARM-UP	7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	COMPETITION	9:00 AM
BOYS DIVING DI	WARM-UP	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	COMPETITION	6:00 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

NO ONE PERMITTED ON THE POOL DECK BEFORE 10:15 AM

**SWIMMING EVENTS: TIMED FINALS
200 MEDLEY RELAY THROUGH 400 FREE RELAY**

DIVISION II	GIRLS AND BOYS	WARM-UP	10:30 PM
		COMPETITION	12:00 PM

- Warm-up will begin as soon as athletes are allowed on the pool deck and lifeguards are in place, but not before 10:15 a.m. on Friday.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025

NO ONE PERMITTED ON THE POOL DECK BEFORE 10:15 AM

**SWIMMING EVENTS: TIMED FINALS
200 MEDLEY RELAY THROUGH 400 FREE RELAY**

DIVISION I	GIRLS AND BOYS	WARM-UP	10:30 AM
		COMPETITION	12:00 PM

- Warm-up will begin as soon as athletes are allowed on the pool deck and lifeguards are in place, but not before 10:15 a.m. on Saturday.

SWIM COACHES:

- Athlete entry check should be completed prior to arrival at CSU. Relay sheets will be available at team check-in in the upper lobby at CSU PRIOR to locker room and pool deck access or on-line at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Northeast-Sports-Tournaments/Swimming-Diving>.

Additional Information:

The first award presentation will be after the completion of the Girls' and Boys' Medley Relays and will continue on a one event delay for the remainder of the events and meet. Please make sure your athletes wear their school attire to the awards podium during the award presentations per 2026 State Rules and Regulations for Boys and Girls Swimming Tournaments.

One 15-minute break will occur after the 50 Freestyle to be consistent with the State Tournament format