

TO: SWIMMING AND DIVING COACHES, NORTHEAST DISTRICT, SECTIONAL INFORMATION

FROM: Beth Sonnhalter, Sectional Meet Manager
216-513-2942(Cell); swimming@chagrinschools.org (email)

SUBJECT: 2026 NORTHEAST OHIO HIGH SCHOOL SECTIONAL SWIMMING AND DIVING MEET

DATE: February 9-14, 2026

Diving: There will be no Sectional diving. All divers advance to Districts.

Swimming: **Friday, February 13, 2026**—Girls & Boys will swim together in one session.

LOCATION: Cleveland State University, 2451 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44115

MEET SCHEDULE: 11:15am doors open

11:30am Warm-up start-Schedule TBA

1:00pm Meet Start

Please use your common sense a help get the teams with the 1st warm-up on deck in a timely fashion

SWIM ENTRY PROCEDURE:

- Entries should be electronic on Hy-Tek Team Manager
- Event files can be found here. [Swimming & Diving Tournament Information](#)
- Electronic swim entries must be e-mailed to Beth Sonnhalter at Swimming@chagrinschools.org by **5PM on Sunday, February 8, 2026**
Make sure your school has correct OHSAA school code for entries. List is on OHSAA website -
- All coaches must be listed in your electronic entry or they will not be allowed on deck at Sectionals and Districts
- Each team is allowed up to 4 entries in each individual event
- Teams are allowed one relay per event
- Divers must be included on the Hy-Tek entry
- Contestants are allowed to enter a maximum of four events (no more than two individuals).
- Being listed on a relay does not count as an event until the swimmer actually swims the event.
- All swimmers and divers entered in Sectionals must be listed on the OHSAA Eligibility Form, including relay-only swimmers
- **Entries are due 5PM on Sunday, February 8, 2026.** Entries may be turned in earlier as it would help with the clerical work. Please make sure you have the correct [team code](#) on your entry.
- Be sure to include a USA number for any USA swimmer.
- Psych Sheets shall not be posted until **Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM**
- If you need a little more help please see the following link: [Sectional Swimming Tournament Entry Process](#)

DIVING COMPETITION:

Please Reference [2025-26 Tournament Regulations](#) or read the information below. (They are the same)

Divers do not need to be entered in HY-yek but must be entered in cleanentries by **5pm on Sunday, February 8, 2026.**

All diving entries shall be submitted through edive to Clean Entries no later than Sunday February 4, 2024 at 5:00pm EST. (Note: SW starts diving D2 Boys and Girls on Feb 7 and will have this posted on Monday Feb 6)

ii) Psych Sheets will be made available **Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

iii) In order for a diver to compete in the diving competition, the diver must have completed an 11-dive championship competition at least once during the current regular season verifying that the diver can perform an 11-dive championship slate. For clarification purposes, completing an 11-dive competition refers to performing all 11 rounds with no more than one failed dive in the same competition. Note: Representation for the state diving tournaments shall be calculated based on the entries for the current season at the first level of competition.

iv) Documentation for completing 11-dives shall be sent to each district manager who will confirm tournament participation by cross referencing data in Cleanentries. In the event a school or meet does not use electronic scoring, a required form noting the completion of 11-dives shall be submitted to the district tournament manager. (1) Alternates and qualifiers (a) Any diver that qualifies for the state level of the tournament and becomes ill or injured shall be replaced with the next qualifying diver (based on score) from that district. (b) In the event that a diver is not available from that district, then the ill or injured diver shall not be replaced.

v) Live Results may be available at CLEANENTRIES.COM if sufficient internet is available.

Here is more information if you need it: [DIVING ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS FOR COACHES](#)

TEAM AREAS: Athletes will use the locker room door to enter the pool deck area. There will be opening seating around the pool and in the instruction pool area. Coaches can use the door by hospitality. Please use as little space as your team really needs.

USA OBSERVATION:

This meet will be USA observed; therefore, all USA Swimming registered athletes who are members in good standing at the time of the swim will have their times uploaded to SWIMS. Please make sure you have submitted the athlete's full and correct first name, last name, date of birth and USA Swimming ID # in the database to ensure that the times are uploaded. Athletes must be USA registered for 2026. If you are unsure, please email Sarah at ccsmeetentries@gmail.com.

COACHES' MEETING AND RELAY CARDS:

- Coaches meeting will be at 12:30pm
- Relay cards due upon entrance of meet to computer operator by 10am
- All scratches must be done immediately upon your arrival at the computer table and no later than one hour before the start of the session, including relay names and updates.
- Swimmers need to notify timers of relay order at the block.

SCORING: Championship Meet Scoring format will be used to score the meet.

AWARDS: There will be no awards presented at this meet.

DECK CREDENTIALS: Please check-in upon arrival. Deck credentials must be worn at all times by those permitted on deck. Credentials are also required for your entry to hospitality. Coaches not listed on the OHSAA Emergency Contact form by February 8, 2026 are not permitted on deck.

- If needed we will follow the state and district guidelines: 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: The girls and boys locker rooms will be available for the girls and boys, respectively. It is recommended that participants bring their own lock to use in the locker room. Individuals are solely responsible for their own belongings

PARKING: Classes will be in session at CSU on Friday, February 13th, 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: \$10 adults and \$5 students

**All tickets can be purchased at ohsaa.org

Heat Sheets will be available for purchase: \$4
(PRICES SET BY OHSAA)

INFORMATION & RULES REGARDING USE OF THE FACILITY

- The pool is ten lanes, 25 yards long, numbered 1 to 10
No swimmers are allowed on the bulkhead
- Swimmers are not allowed in the area immediately behind the starting block area unless they are competing in the event in the water or the event on call. Please keep this area as clear as possible for the timers and officials
- Coaches and swimmers need to remain quiet at the start keep the areas clear for the officials
- Only coaches, swimmers, meet workers, and officials should be on the deck. It will be up to coaches to monitor swimmers
- Deck credentials must be worn by coaches to be permitted on deck and for admittance into hospitality
- Only volunteers wearing a deck pass/wristband will be permitted on deck during the meet
- The girls and boys locker rooms will be available for the girls and boys, respectively
- We are not responsible for personal belongings
- Coaches are responsible for seeing their team areas and locker rooms are left clean at the end of the meet
- NO glass containers on the pool deck, please
- There will be no shaving down allowed in the facility
- 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.
- No helium balloons are permitted in the facility.
- 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.
- The instructional pool will NOT be open for swimming. Teams may use this area for team seating
- No hand paddles are permitted in the pool.
- Taping of signs to painted surfaces will not be permitted.

GOVERNING RULES:

The meet will be conducted under the OHSAA 2026 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 Commissioner by the tournament manager. The Commissioner 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.

PARA ATHLETE:

(1) The OHSAA recognizes two para categories that include: (a) CATEGORY ONE – Non-ambulatory (uses a wheelchair) with limited use of all four extremities (b) CATEGORY TWO – Dwarfism, multiple limb deficiencies, ambulatory with assistance, can use a wheelchair with a high functioning upper body Verification form can be found here: [Swimming & Diving - Northeast Sports & Tournaments](#)

(2) Para swimmers must be entered in the Hy-Tek system.

(3) Para swimmers may swim in relay events at any time during the postseason, including the state meet.

(4) Para Qualification: Only the top sixteen (16) qualifiers (by time) in each category, in the state, will advance to compete at the state tournament. Automatic timing must be used. No stopwatch or paper timing will be accepted. A maximum of two (2) heats per category will be swam at the state tournament.

(5) District Participation: Para swimmers may compete at the district level as an additional opportunity (last chance meet) to achieve a better time to advance to the state tournament. Para swimmers are not required to swim at the district level nor would they receive district accolades for participation. (6) Para swimming events will be conducted during the Division II State Finals of the OHSAA Tournament.

ALL COACHES:

It is your responsibility to be versed in the rules and regulations, including the changes and the highlighted areas of the 2023-2024 Swimming and Diving Rules and Regulations. Please read carefully all the highlighted areas in the following document on the OHSAA website [2025-26 Tournament Regulations](#) Direct any questions you have about any rule or regulation to your Sectional Meet Manager or District Meet Manager for clarification.

Additional Information:

Ties up to 16th place will be resolved in one of three ways: a swim-off, a toss of a coin, or one swimmer may defer to the other swimmer.

One 15-minute break will occur after the 50 Freestyle to be consistent with the District and State Tournament format. There shall be a minimum 15-minute time-period from the start of consecutive same gender events in the postseason tournament. (Taken directly from OHSAA.)

Coaches should have all medical forms with you for all of your swimmers and divers during competition. For any and all swimmers using the kinesis/medical tape, you must have the properly signed documentation to present at all levels of regular and post-season competition.

Please read in the section entitled ENTRIES (4) the bolded NOTE entry in the 2023 REGULATIONS BOYS AND GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING TOURNAMENTS at www.ohsaa.org.

The district swimming portion of the meet will begin at 12 noon on Friday, February 20, 2026

DISTRICT QUALIFIERS:

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

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

REMINDER: All events in DI and DII will include the 2 automatic qualifiers from each sectional meet even when the top 32nd or 24th time may be faster than the automatic qualifying time.

STATE MEET QUALIFIERS: The Northeast District Tournament will qualify the following number of athletes to the State Meet as automatic qualifiers.

Individual Qualifiers =32
(12 automatic, 3 from each district; 20 at-large)
Relay Qualifiers =24
(8 automatic, 2 from each district; 16 at large)
Divers = TBD 02/08/25

STATE INFORMATION:

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Swimming-Diving/Swimming-and-Diving-2024-25/2025-Swimming-Diving-State-Tournament-Coverage>