

14. SWIMMING AND DIVING — BOYS AND GIRLS

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1) Interscholastic Participation

To be eligible for the OHSAA tournament in swimming and diving, student-athletes must become a member of the school team prior to the non-interscholastic date, at least four weeks (28 days) prior to the Monday of the week of the state tournament.

1.1) Contest Limitations

A team/individual that exceeds the regular season participation limitation (maximum number of contests permitted) or participates in regular season contest(s) prior to the designated start date for contests shall be removed from the OHSAA tournament.

1.2) Scheduling of Contests

1.21) A school may schedule varsity and non-varsity competition to be held on the same day. The opponents and officials shall be notified in advance that the contest will consist of both varsity and non-varsity competition. Competition thus scheduled is not considered to be exhibition.

1.22) All regular season swimming and diving contests that are concluded in a single day count as one contest regardless of the scoring procedure used or the number of schools competing (i.e., dual, double-dual, tri, quad, invitational, etc.)

1.3) Relay Entry

In order to be eligible for relay event entry in the OHSAA-sponsored tournaments, a school shall compete in a minimum of two interscholastic contests as a school team prior to the non-interscholastic cutoff date.

1.4) School Representative

No team or individual entry will be permitted to compete in a contest unless accompanied by the coach or a person authorized by the Board of Education. Teams or individuals unaccompanied by such school representative will be disqualified. The school representative shall be present throughout the contest. In accordance with Bylaw 3-3-2, when a male coach is assigned to a girls' team, an adult female (non-high school student) should be present at the contest. When a female coach is assigned to a boys' team, an adult male (nonhigh school student) should be present at the contest.

1.5) Lifeguards

In accordance with Ohio's Health and Safety Code, the licensee of a public swimming pool, public spa or special use pool shall provide lifeguards. This includes pools used for interscholastic swimming and diving practice and competition.

1.6) Swimmers/Divers Who Have Not Competed for Their School This Season:

A sports regulation identified as the Individual Non-Interscholastic Competition Date stipulates that a swimming and diving athlete who has not participated for the school in swimming and diving that season must cease non-interscholastic swimming and diving competition four weeks (28 days) prior to the Monday of the week of the state tournament in swimming and diving in order to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition.

In addition, an athlete who has participated for the school in swimming and diving who violates this non-interscholastic competition date by participating in a non-interscholastic contest in swimming and diving shall be ineligible for OHSAA tournament competition in swimming and diving in addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed.

Date: Monday, January 22, 2024 – Non-interscholastic competition NOT permitted on or after this date.

1.7) Girls Participating On Boys Teams

OHSAA Bylaw 1-6-1 permits girls to participate on boys teams. Therefore, a girl that participates in boys events must compete in only boys events during that meet. She is, however, permitted to swim for the girls team during different events during the regular season, but cannot swim for both gender teams during the same event. Girls who swim in both girls and boys events may not exceed the number of contests permitted in the season. For the OHSAA Tournament, girls who have been participating in boys and girls events during the regular season must choose to compete in either the girls or boys tournament.

A school that does not wish to sponsor girls swimming and diving but has seven or more girls participating may permit the girls to participate on the boys team, but they must enter the OHSAA-sponsored boys tournament competition.

2) Non-Interscholastic Participation

Reference the *Regulations for Non-Interscholastic Participation* in General Sport Regulation 7 for what is permitted in and outside of a school season and penalties that shall apply if violated, as outlined in Bylaw 11

A swimming and diving athlete who has not participated for the school in swimming and diving that season must cease non-interscholastic swimming and diving competition by **Monday January 22, 2024** order to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition provided applicable Bylaws and Regulations have been followed.

In addition, an athlete who has participated for the school in swimming and diving who violates this noninterscholastic competition date by participating in a non-interscholastic contest in swimming and diving shall be ineligible for OHSAA tournament competition in swimming and diving in addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed.

DATE: **Monday January 22, 2024**

- 2.1) Exception: The Executive Director's office may grant a waiver to this regulation in the event that the athlete has been selected to compete as a member of a national team or has been invited to participate in national or international competition by virtue of his or her past performance in the sport. In the sport of swimming and diving the following guidelines have been used to determine waivers:

- 1) The student has been selected as a member of the junior or senior national team in swimming and/or diving by the achievement of national standards in an event or events.
- 2) The student was either the champion or the runner-up in the OHSAA State Swimming and diving Tournament the immediately preceding year.

The intent of the waiver is to protect the integrity of the regulation and the interscholastic program while allowing the development of national-caliber athletes who have been invited to compete non-interscholastically during the school season. The procedure for requesting the waiver requires that the principal or official designee of the member school directly send a request to the OHSAA swimming and diving administrator. Please include the supporting documentation with the **wavier** request. Each request will be reviewed on an individual basis.

3) Transfer Bylaw

While all questions regarding the transfer bylaw should be addressed to the appropriate school administrator, information regarding the transfer bylaw can be found on the OHSAA website at this link, OHSAA.org/Eligibility/Transfer. Note that students who transfer and do not meet an exception to the transfer bylaw, and who participated in high school swimming and diving in the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer date, are ineligible for all regular season contests and the OHSAA postseason tournament beginning with varsity regular season contest #9.

4) Other Bylaws and Regulations

For information on Ejection for Unsporting Conduct See *Ejection Policies for Coaches and Players* under Section 13 and 14 of the General Sports Regulations at www.OHSAA.org. For information on Out of State Travel regulations see Bylaw 9-2 within the Bylaws on the Eligibility Page at www.OHSAA.org.

B. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — GRADES 9-12

- 1) Coaching, tryouts and instruction may begin — **October 27, 2023**
- 2) OHSAA tournament deadline date — **January 15, 2024**
- 3) Tournament seed/drawing meeting — **January 28, 2024**
- 4) First contest — **November 27, 2023**
- 5) Coaching and Season end — **February 24, 2024**
- 6) Scrimmages or Exhibitions — None permitted
- 7) Regular season contests — 16 for team and individuals

Note: Schools may schedule a maximum of 16 contests for divers either within a swimming and diving contest or in a separate diving competition.

- 8) Rules — National Federation Swimming and Diving
- 9) Officials:

- 9.1) Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 official required
- 9.2) Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 official required
- 9.3) Freshmen — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or 3 official required

C. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — GRADES 7 & 8

- 1) Coaching, tryouts and instruction may begin — **October 27, 2023**
- 2) First contest — **November 27, 2023**

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- 3) Coaching and Season end — February 24, 2024
- 4) Scrimmages — None permitted
- 5) Regular season contests — 12 for team and individuals.
- 6) Rules — National Federation Swimming and diving.
- 7) Officials — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1 or 3 official required.

SWIMMING AND DIVING CALENDAR

Swimming and Diving	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Coaching and Tryouts Begin	10/27	10/25	10/24	10/23
Season Begins	11/27	11/25	11/24	11/24
Non-Interscholastic Date	1/22	1/20	1/19	1/18
Sectional	2/5-2/10	2/3-2/8	2/9-2/14	2/8-2/13
District	2/12-2/17	2/10-2/15	2/16-2/21	2/15-2/20
State	2/20-2/24	2/18-2/22	2/24-2/28	2/23-2/27
Season Ends	2/24	2/22	2/28	2/27

SWIMMING AND DIVING — BOYS AND GIRLS STATE TOURNAMENT ROTATION

Diving	Swimming
Girls Div. II	Girls Div. II
Boys Div. II	Boys Div. II
Girls Div. I	Girls Div. I
Boys Div. I	Boys Div. I