



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S  
SWIMMING AND DIVING COMMITTEE  
APRIL 22-23, 2024, ANNUAL MEETING

**Action Items:** The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee will be asked to approve the 2025 zone diving sites (see Action Item 2).

**KEY ITEMS.**

- **2025 zone diving host sites.** The committee is recommending the five zone diving host sites for the 2025 championships.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- **2025 zone diving host sites.**

(1) Recommendation. Approve the following institutions and sites to host the 2025 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Zone Diving Championships from March 10-15, 2025:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Host Institution</u>	<u>Location</u>
A	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick	Piscataway, New Jersey
B	Auburn University	Auburn, Alabama
C	The Ohio State University	Columbus, Ohio
D	University of Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa
E	University of Utah	Federal Way, Washington

(2) Effective date. For the 2024-25 academic year.

(3) Rationale. These recommended sites were the only bids submitted for their respective zone competitions. They were also recommended by the coaches in each zone.

(4) Estimated budget impact. The NCAA does not reimburse for travel or per diem expenses for the zone diving meets. The estimated expenses for the recommended sites range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 depending on the facility rental fee (which is the primary expense). Zone diving hosts do not charge admission to the event.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes are given the opportunity to compete at the best diving facilities in the country with staff that is experienced in hosting NCAA zone diving meets.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of agenda and schedule.** The committee reviewed the agenda and meeting schedule and made no adjustments.
2. **Annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from last year's annual meeting as submitted.
3. **Championship strategic plan.** The committee reviewed and approved the Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships strategic plan for 2024-25 season with an additional goal of enhanced NCAA social media for the championships.
4. **Playing rules discussion.** Greg Lockard, NCAA swimming and diving secretary-rules editor, and Jay Fitzwater, NCAA assistant director of championships and alliances, joined the meeting to discuss areas of interest for the swimming and diving rules committee during its next meeting.

The committee will annually address the language related to bona fide competition criteria that further clarifies which USA Swimming and USA Diving meets may be part of a team's schedule and be counted for qualifying for NCAA swimming and diving championships:

*Select USA Swimming and USA Diving meets that are acceptable for achievement of time standards, consideration standards and optional-entry standards may be designated each year by the NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committees in all three divisions.*

Thus, the committee approved the following meets at which such standards may be achieved for the 2025 championships: the USA Swimming National Championships (Toyota U.S. Open), World Aquatics World Swimming Championships, USA Diving National Championships and the SPEEDO Winter Junior Championships East and West. The committee will consider requests from the membership for another country's diving national championship/trial meets on a case-by-case basis. The committee did not support including USA Swimming Pro Series meets on the approved list.

5. **CSCAA report.** Samantha Barany, executive director of the College Swimming and Diving Coaches of America Association, and Maureen Palchak, chief operations officer, joined the committee and discussed the following items: (1) general feedback on the 2024 championships; (2) future of the sport; and (3) areas of focus moving forward.
6. **Officials.**
  - a. **Review of officials' application.** The committee reviewed the application and will implement changes to the diving officials' application as recommended by the head diving

referees. The committee also recommended that the current head referees provide a recommendation on selection criteria to officiate the Division I championships that would be published with the application. The committee will review such criteria with planned implementation for 2024-25. The committee asked NCAA staff to continue posting the application on the USA Swimming and USA Diving websites and including it in the quarterly newsletter to encourage more officials to apply to work an NCAA championship.

- b. Selection timeline and process.** The committee discussed the process and reviewed the timeline for applications and the selection of officials and recommended no changes for the 2025 championships. The committee will continue to discuss eligibility requirements.
- c. Review of officials.** The committee reviewed feedback on the swimming and diving officials at the championship and noted overall good performance. The committee affirmed its commitment to growing the pool of qualified officials. The committee will work with the national governing bodies to identify top-tier officials to work the NCAA championships.

## **7. Coordinators.**

- a. Review of administrative referee responsibilities.** The committee reviewed the responsibilities of the administrative referee and made no changes. Additionally, the committee voted to extend an offer to Brad Erickson to serve as the administrative referee for the 2025 men's and women's championships.
- b. Review of officials coordinator responsibilities.** The committee reviewed the officials coordinator responsibilities and made no adjustments for the 2025 championships.
- c. Review of swimming and diving data specialist responsibilities.** The committee reviewed the swimming and diving data specialist responsibilities and made no adjustments for the 2025 championships.
- d. Selection of data specialists for 2025 championships.** The committee recommended inviting Herb Schwab to serve as the swimming data specialist for the 2025 men's and women's championships. The committee recommended Lia Fusaro to serve as the diving data specialist for the 2025 men's and women's championships.
- e. Selection of swimming and diving announcers for 2025 championships.** The committee recommended inviting Michael Poropat to serve as the swimming public address announcer for the 2025 men's and women's championships and Lia Fusaro to serve as the diving public address announcer for the 2025 men's and women's championships. The committee was pleased with the performance of both individuals.

- f. **Diving operations coordinator.** The committee will develop a job description for a diving operations coordinator to assist with diving competition at the championships finals sites. The position is necessary due to a need to balance of the coaching responsibilities of the committee members and their committee responsibilities for diving competition operations. An independent coordinator will provide the proper focus and attention to detail necessary for elite competition. The committee plans to reshuffle current responsibilities of the on-site and off-site data specialists, diving public address announcer and diving committee members. Staff will review budget availability before implementation.

## 8. Qualifying.

- a. **End-of-season competition process and form.** The committee reviewed the end-of-season competition process and form and made no changes for the 2024-25 season.
- b. **Qualifying standards and conversions.** The automatic-qualifying standards for individual events will remain as the average of the eighth best time on the performance list over the past three years, except for the women's 1,650 freestyle, 200 backstroke, 200 breaststroke, 200 individual medley and 400 individual medley, and the men's 500 freestyle. Those events will remain at the standards established for 2024 since they are faster than those projected for 2025.

The "B" standards for individual events will remain as the three-year average of the 125<sup>th</sup> best time on the performance list, except for the women's 500 freestyle. That event will remain at the "B" standard established for 2024 since it is faster than projected for 2025. The committee reset the women's 1,650 freestyle to the three-year average of the 125<sup>th</sup> best time on the performance list over the past three years, noting that the 2024 standard was not within statistical range.

For relay events, the qualifying standards will remain the three-year average of the 16<sup>th</sup> best time on the championship finals performance list, except for the women's qualifying standards in the 800 freestyle relay and 200 medley relay and the men's qualifying standards in the 400 medley relay. Those events will remain at the standards established for 2024 since they are faster than those projected for 2025. The provisional standard will remain the three-year average of the 24<sup>th</sup> best time on the performance list for all women's and men's relays.

For diving, the committee recommended no adjustments to the current qualifying standards.

The committee reminds the membership that in non-Olympic years, time standards achieved in 50-meter racing courses are not eligible for selection.

## 9. Review of 2024 championships.

- a. **Participant survey results.** The committee reviewed the participant surveys from the 2024 championships and will relay host-specific feedback to the tournament managers. The committee noted the excellent work of the University of Georgia and Indiana Sports Corp and IU Natatorium staffs to successfully host the 2024 championships. The committee noted feedback focused on hospitality, music/championship atmosphere, deck space and team seating.
- b. **OMEGA timing system.** The committee reviewed the performance of the OMEGA timing system and timing crew.
- c. **Team seating selection process.** The committee will adjust the team seating process to where teams that did not score at or did not attend the previous year's championships will select their team seating after the swimming coaches meeting on Wednesday at 1 p.m. on the pool deck. A representative from that team must be present at that time. The teams will be ordered by number of participants at the championships and alphabetically if tied. Those not on site at that time will be skipped and select at the end. The process will not change for those teams who scored at the previous year's championships. Those teams will select in order of finish from the previous year on Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday morning before the swimming coaches meeting. Teams must be prepared to select when approached by a committee member. If not on site, teams must be prepared to select virtually.
- d. **Massage therapy policies.** The committee agreed to continue ordering the massage therapy selection process to match the team seating selection process based on order of finish from the previous year's championships. The timing will remain on Tuesday at 8 a.m. and those not in attendance at that time will be skipped in the order and selected upon arrival. The committee will annually evaluate the ability to select two adjacent spots based on facility layout and space availability. A team must list two massage therapists on its deck pass list to be eligible for two spots.
- e. **Team ticket sale policies.** The committee confirmed retaining the team ticket sale policies that states, when possible, 10 percent of the total number of seats available per venue should be held back for public sale. This helps to provide an opportunity for the general public to purchase all-session tickets. Teams will be allowed to request up to 40 all-session tickets by the established deadline. Once the psych sheets are published, teams will be allowed to reduce their requests based on the number of tickets actually needed. Tickets that become available as a result will be offered to other teams first and then will be released to the general public.
- f. **Team video service.** The committee was pleased with the team video services provided by Sideline Scout at the men's and women's championships. The committee will evaluate if that service is necessary at future host sites based on each facility layout and capabilities.

- g. Media – review of policies and access on deck by photographers/videographers.** The committee reviewed policies regarding videographer/photographer access and discussed limiting team content credentials on the pool deck based on facility deck space if necessary.
- h. Access to competition pool during diving.** The committee reviewed the policy regarding warmups in the competition pool during diving and confirmed that this will be managed by the administrative referee to minimize the distraction for competing divers.
- i. Access to diving well.** The committee reviewed the policy regarding access to the diving well during the championships and confirmed it is to remain closed to swimmers for warmup and cooldown.
- j. Awards presenters and schedule.** The committee will discontinue the practice of awards presenters unless special circumstances warrant. The committee will continue to present the team awards. This will ensure a more efficient awards ceremony.
- k. Awards ceremony stand-ins.** The committee will implement a deadline of 5 p.m. each day for coaches to apply to have an awards stand-in for a student-athlete in two individual finals in one evening. There will be no exceptions to the deadline and there will be no substitutions if one of the events is a relay.
- l. Protest process.** The committee discussed processes for protests that advance to the committee during the championships and will coordinate with the secretary-rules editor and head referee on resources to prepare the committee in advance. The committee discussed potentially forming a subcommittee for such protests in the future.
- m. Deck passes and credential policies.** The committee made no changes to the deck pass and credential policies. Members noted that there are teams that continue to abuse the system and will emphasize tighter security with future hosts for deck access points.
- n. Team banners.** The committee was pleased with the first year of incorporating the logos of the participating institutions into the championships décor and signage package in lieu of the previous tradition of teams providing individual team banners. The committee agreed it improved the overall look and feel of the championship experience.
- o. Championship experience enhancements.** The committee reviewed the championship experience elements and applauded the use of the LED arch and individual introductions during finals. The committee noted feedback from participants on wanting the cold sparks added back in the future. The committee also noted feedback emphasizing music/DJ as a key element to the championship experience. The committee will continue to work on enhancing the championship experience each year.

## 10. 2025 action plan.

- a. **Schedule of events.** The committee reviewed the schedule of events and made no changes at this time. The committee will seek additional feedback on the timing of diving consolation finals before finals vs. directly after prelims and potentially moving the 100 butterfly before the 400 individual medley on Friday before making a final decision for the 2025 championships.

The committee will review lane assignments for practice and warm-up each day based on the facility and will revise the schedule accordingly for the participant manual.

- b. **Areas of focus for 2025 sites.** The committee discussed initial plans for the 2025 championships. The committee will also focus on the following areas with the host: student-athlete and fan experience, team seating, diving meet operations and community engagement opportunities.

## 11. Selection of swimmers.

- a. **Review of selection and relay qualification procedures.** The committee recommended no changes to the current procedures for the 2025 championships.
- b. **OME entry procedures.** The committee reviewed the current OME entry procedures and made no changes.
- c. **USA Swimming staff support and SWIMS database system.** USA Swimming staff recapped the second year of SWIMS 3.0 database system and selection tool, noting overall improvement from the first year. The committee recognized Trey Freeman, coordinator of events and data at USA Swimming, for his excellent responsiveness and efforts this season.

## 12. Diving.

- a. **DiveMeets zone diving registration process.** The committee reviewed the DiveMeets registration process and made no changes. The committee was pleased with efforts to remind coaches of the deadline after an inordinate number of late entries last year. There was only one late entry this year. The committee reminds the membership that DiveMeets is required for entries and results for the 2024-25 season and no paper entries or results will be accepted.
- b. **Zone diving host responsibilities.** The committee will add hospitality expectations to the zone diving host operations manual. In addition, the committee will add a requirement that the host has back-up diving boards on site for the zone diving championships.

- c. **Diving site representative responsibilities.** The committee reviewed and made no changes to the site representative responsibilities. NCAA staff will investigate potential options to add a meet referee at each zone diving meet in the future, but no current action anticipated for 2025.
- d. **Zone diving meet qualifying standards.** The committee made no changes to the current qualifying standards.
- e. **Zone diving scheduling options.** The committee made no changes to the zone diving scheduling options.
- f. **2025 number of qualifying spots per zone.** The committee confirmed the number of qualifying spots for each zone for the 2024 championships as follows:

Women	1m	3m	Pl	Men	1m	3m	Pl
Zone A	7	6	5	Zone A	4	5	5
Zone B	9	7	7	Zone B	7	8	6
Zone C	6	10	11	Zone C	10	8	10
Zone D	11	10	9	Zone D	9	9	8
Zone E	8	8	9	Zone E	6	6	7

- g. **2025 reimbursement spots per zone.** The committee confirmed the reimbursement allocations for each zone for the 2024 championships as follows:

Zone	Women	Men
A	5	5
B	7	6
C	11	10
D	11	7
E	7	7

- h. **2025 zone diving dates and sites.** The committee reviewed dates and recommended sites for the 2025 championships (see Action Item 2).
- i. **Team diving event.** The committee reviewed a report from the diving representatives on the exhibitions of the team diving event during the season and at various conference championships. The committee discussed next steps in the process for the team diving event. The committee will continue discussion and seek membership feedback on its potential inclusion in the championship schedule of events in the future. There is no action for the 2025 championships.



### 13. Committee.

- a. **Committee composition and vacancies.** The committee will have two new members for the 2024-25 season after the terms conclude for Hollie Bonewit-Cron and Bridgette Cahill. The committee thanks Ms. Bonewit-Cron and Ms. Cahill for their service on the committee, highlighting the excellent job by Ms. Bonewit-Cron as committee chair for the last two years.
- b. **Selection of committee chair.** The committee voted Mike Spiegler, senior associate athletics director at the University of Florida, as committee chair for the 2024-25 academic year.
- c. **Selection of committee vice chair.** The committee voted Jamie Greer, associate commissioner at the Coastal Athletic Association, as committee vice chair for the 2024-25 academic year.
- d. **Committee timeline.** The committee reviewed the proposed timeline for 2024-25 and made no changes.
- e. **Committee responsibilities and championships coverage plan.** The committee reviewed responsibilities during the championships and made no changes.

**14. Manual updates and review.** The committee asked staff to make the necessary changes and general updates to the manuals in preparation for the 2024-25 season.

**15. Future sites.** In 2025, Washington State University will host the women's championships and men's championships at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatics Center in Federal Way, Washington. A site visit will be scheduled with all key stakeholders in August or September. The committee reviewed bids received for the 2027 and 2028 championships and will reconvene this summer to make its final recommendations.

*Committee Chair:*        *Hollie Bonewit-Cron, Miami University (Ohio); Mid-American Conference*  
*Staff Liaisons:*        *John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances*  
                                  *Paige Newman, Championships and Alliances*

Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee April 22-23, 2024, Annual Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Matt Barany, University of Richmond.	
Hollie Bonewit-Cron, Miami University (Ohio).	
Bridgette Cahill, America East Conference.	
Jamie Greer, Coastal Athletic Association.	
Lisa Liotta, Canisius College.	
Richard Marschner, University of Utah.	
Ryan Rougeux, University of Louisville.	
Steve Schaffer, Grand Canyon University.	
Mike Spiegler, University of Florida.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Charvi Greer, Tulane University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Samantha Barany, College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America.	
Trey Freeman, USA Swimming.	
Greg Lockard, NCAA Swimming Secretary-Rules Editor.	
Macie McNichols, USA Swimming.	
Patrick Murphy, USA Swimming.	
Maureen Palchak, College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America.	
Joel Shinofield, USA Swimming.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
John E. Bugner and Paige Newman.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Ben Brownlee, Antonio Cannavaro, Jay Fitzwater and Linda Godby.	