



MEMORANDUM

Jan. 9, 2026

VIA EMAIL

TO: Head Coaches of NCAA Institutions that Sponsor Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving.

FROM: Dr. Jessica Siegele, chair
NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee.

SUBJECT: 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Prechampionships Manual, Official Entry Process and Other Important Information.

Prechampionships Manual

The 2025-26 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Prechampionships Manual, which contains the policies and procedures governing the administration and conduct of the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships is available on the following site:

[Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Prechampionships Manual](#)

Championships Entry Process

The final deadline for online entries for swimming (USA Swimming) and diving (DiveMeets) is 11:59 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, Feb. 23.

REMINDER: Student-athletes are eligible for NCAA championship entry only if their team, by gender, meets legislated sport sponsorship requirements per NCAA Division II Bylaw 7.3.1.7.1.1 (for 2025-26, minimum of eight contests with at least nine student-athletes competing). Do **NOT** enter student-athletes if your team fails to meet the requirements necessary for championship participation. In addition, before the entry deadline, please notify Micaela Kapsalis at the NCAA national office of your team's status. Micaela Liddane can be contacted at mliddane@ncaa.org or 317-917-6513.

USA Swimming Championships Online Meet Entry System. By mid-January, head swimming coaches will receive an email from USA Swimming that will provide them with a link to the USA Swimming Online Entry System. This site **must** be used by institutions to complete the entry process for swimmers they would like to have considered for selection into the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships. In addition to providing the link to access the entry site, USA Swimming will also include in their correspondence detailed instructions to help assist coaches with completing the entry process, as well as contact information for USA Swimming staff members who will be available to answer questions.

When completing the online entry process, all student-athletes may be entered in up to a maximum of four individual events in which they qualified with an “A” or “B” standard. The fastest times must be submitted for all individual-event entries. Relays must be entered but will not be selected. Coaches may enter the fastest actual relay time, or an aggregate relay time if it is faster, achieved by the institution.

As a reminder, the qualifying window for the men’s and women’s swimming and diving championships began Sept. 7, 2025, or on an institution’s fourth day of classes for the fall term as set forth in its catalog; counting Monday through Friday only, whichever is earlier, through Sunday, Feb. 22 (11:59 p.m. local time.)

Preliminary national qualification lists will not be posted. Instead, the challenge period begins as soon as the entry list is posted by USA Swimming Monday, Feb. 23. Entry challenges are due by 3 p.m. Eastern time, Tuesday, Feb. 24. The official national qualification list, including alternates will be available on www.ncaa.com and www.usaswimming.org/ncaa by 5 p.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Diving Entry Process. The www.divemeets.com diving management system **must** be used by the head diving coach to complete the entry process for divers for the qualification and championships meets. Each qualifying diver must register online with www.divemeets.com by 11:59 p.m., Eastern time, Monday, Feb. 23. Information regarding the DiveMeets registration process is provided to assist you with completing the diving entry process (**Attachment**).

In order to participate in the qualification meet and the national championships on one-meter and/or three-meter boards, a diver must have achieved the minimum point totals along with the established minimum degrees of difficulty on the six optional and 11 dives within the qualifying period in bona fide competition, per the 2025-26 qualifying standards. Therefore, in order to complete the diving entry process, institutions are required to have submitted their qualifying scores via DiveMeets (if the meet was hosted by a Division I or Division II host that sponsors diving), or, if the meet was hosted by a Division II school that does not sponsor diving (but hosted a bona fide swim meet at the time the diving competition took place) and a Division III or non-NCAA host, the dive sheets must be emailed to Kerstin Hunter at the NCAA national office) by the end of the qualification period, which is Sunday, Feb. 22 (11:59 p.m. local time.) Kerstin Hunter's contact information is as follows: email: khunter@ncaa.org, phone: 317-917-6645. **As a reminder, two qualifying scores from separate meets must be submitted over the course of the season. One of these scores must be for 6 optional dives, the other for 11 dives.**

Dive coaches are strongly encouraged to check their divers’ qualifying status via the following link: [NCAA Division II - 2026 Qualifications](#) over the course of the season. If they notice any discrepancies or missing divers, they should notify Micaela Kapsalis (mliddane@ncaa.org) and Kerstin Hunter (khunter@ncaa.org) at the NCAA national office IMMEDIATELY.

Please note the following additional information regarding the championships:

- **Event Limits.** A student-athlete is permitted to compete in a maximum of seven (7) events, of which not more than four (4) may be individual events. A student-athlete who swims more than the allowable number of individual or total events will be disqualified and prohibited from participating in the remainder of the meet at such time as the allowable limit is exceeded.
- The fastest times must be submitted for all individual-event entries. Either the fastest actual relay time, or an aggregate relay time if it is faster, achieved by the individuals who swam the events in bona fide competition will be allowed for entering relays for entry/selection.
- Optional entries will be accepted and shown on the official national psych sheets in all swimming events (individual and relay events); however, all such entries must meet the respective “B” standards.

NOTE: Teams with four invited swimmers at the championships whose relays have not met the respective “B” standards can enter relays as optional entries. These entries can be made the week of the championships beginning at check-in Sunday. Entries will be closed Tuesday, at the conclusion of the administrative meeting. These optional relay entries will be seeded with no times.

- A list of institutions that are eligible to participate in relay events and were properly entered in the OME system will be posted online along with the individual event selections. Institutions must confirm all relays for which they are eligible and want to participate via the [Relay Confirmation link](#) by the date specified.

Financial Penalty

An error in the completion of any part of the championships entry process could jeopardize a team’s or an individual’s eligibility for championships selection. Late OMEs and/or diving entries via www.divemeets.com may result in a financial penalty of \$200 per team or individual. The maximum penalty amount is up to the NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving Committee, subject to approval by the NCAA Division II Championships Committee. An institution assessed such a financial penalty must make payment to the NCAA national office before the institution’s team or individual(s) will be allowed to compete in the national championships.

Deck Passes

Each institution entering competitors must have an official representative or someone duly appointed to represent its interests throughout the competition. Coaches, official representatives, assistant coaches and managers may be eligible to receive a deck pass. Deck passes will be available

at registration. Any coach without an entrant must pay the regular admission fee and will not be allowed on the deck. The maximum number of allowable deck passes **per gender** competing at the national championships are as follows:

Number of participating student-athletes	Number of deck passes per gender for non-student-athletes
1-4 swimmers	2
5-9 swimmers	3
10-14 swimmers	4
15-18 swimmers	5
Any diver(s)	+1
Any relay-only swimmers	+1

Request Process. Coaches will have the opportunity to request deck passes when entering student-athletes through the USA Swimming Online Meet Entry System. The formula above will be used to determine the maximum number of eligible passes per institution based on **entries**. Actual deck passes allotted to each team ultimately will be dependent on the number of student-athletes **selected** from that team. Coaches will be notified after selections by NCAA staff if their request exceeds the final number of deck passes available to their institution.

An additional deck pass will be provided to the head diving coach from any institution qualifying a diver to the national championships.

Participant Manual

The 2026 participant manual will be made available in mid-February. The manual will include all pertinent information regarding the championships, such as an event schedule, awards schedule, directions and Elite Scholar-Athlete Award nomination information.

Championships

The 2026 championships will take place March 10-14, at the Deaconess Aquatic Center in Evansville, Indiana. The University of Indianapolis and the Indiana Sports Corp will co-host the event. Additional information specific to the 2026 championships can be accessed at www.ncaa.com.

Drug-Testing Program

Student-athletes who compete in these championships may be subjected to drug testing in accordance with NCAA Bylaw 18.2.1.2. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships and, thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

Elite Scholar-Athlete Award

The Elite Scholar-Athlete Award is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average competing at the finals site for each of the NCAA's 92 championships. For more information regarding this program, please contact Olivia Baumhoer of the NCAA national office staff at 317-917-6222 or elite90@ncaa.org. All documents and nomination forms can be obtained at the following location:

[NCAA Elite Scholar-Athlete Award - NCAA.org](https://www.ncaa.org/elite-scholar-athlete-award)

The submission deadline for nominations for the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships is **5 p.m. Eastern time, Thursday, March 5**. The Elite 90 awards for swimming and diving will be presented in-venue during the championships.

Note: A swimmer must have qualified for the championship on their own merits; they are not eligible to win if they are a relay alternate. Divers must qualify for the national championship portion of the meet to be eligible to win the award.

Contact Information

Please contact Micaela Kapsalis, associate director, NCAA championships and alliances, at mliddane@ncaa.org.

JS:kh

Attachment

**Follow these easy steps to register for 2026 NCAA Division II
Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships:**

1. Before giving this information to your team members, every coach participating in this competition must register at www.divemeets.com. You will receive an email with your ID and password. For "organization" choose NCAA. If you do not find your organization listed, please send an email to support@meetcontrol.com with the following information: Team Website, Team Name, Team Address, Team City, Team State, Team Zip / Postal, Team Email, Team Phone, Team Code / Abbreviation, Team Point of Contact, Team Fax, and Team Affiliation and they will update the database. You will not be able to register if you do not follow this process. **If a coach has already registered in the past, they do not have to register again.**
2. After you register, you can tell your divers to go to www.divemeets.com to sign up and then register for the **2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships**. They also will receive an email with their ID and password. **If a diver has already registered in the past, they don't have to register again, but they must update their account to reflect they belong to the NCAA and choose their respective team. If they forgot the ID and Password, they can click on Login, and [Forgot your password or DiveMeets ID](#).**
3. Divers will be prompted to the meet information where they will be able to click on the events they are registering for and fill out dive sheets for each event. The program will make sure each dive sheet will be sent correctly. Coaches or divers can make changes to a dive sheet any time after registered and up to the meet registration closes online. Just log in and click on **View/Edit Dive Sheets** under the meet title.

Note: If coaches decide to register their divers for the meet, they will be able to do that after the divers have signed-up with www.divemeets.com and have a divemeets ID. Then, a coach logs in and can click on the **2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships** link. On that page coaches will find a drop-down box with the divers of their team. You will choose the diver you want to register for the meet, fill out the dive sheet and follow the prompts. You will have to do this process for every diver.

The next page is a good guide explaining the process of how to register for the meet. If you need any help please email support@meetcontrol.com.

How to Register for the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships:

If a diver has already registered in the past with www.divemeets.com, you don't have to register again, all you have to do is login with your divemeets ID and password and click on **2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships**. If you forgot the ID and Password, you can click on Login, and [Forgot your password or DiveMeets ID](#) and you will get an email with your ID and Password. If you do not see the **2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships** after you login, you must update your account to reflect that you are a member of the NCAA.

If you have not registered before with divemeets.com follow the following instructions:

1. Go to www.divemeets.com and place cursor over the LOGIN menu. Then, click on "Get a Divemeets ID".
2. Fill out the form for registration. For "organization" choose NCAA. If you do not find your organization and club listed, please send an email to support@meetcontrol.com with the following information: Team Website, Team Name, Team Address, Team City, Team State, Team Zip / Postal, Team Email, Team Phone, Team Code / Abbreviation, Team Point of Contact, Team Fax, and Team Affiliation and they will update the database. You will not be able to register if you do not follow this process. Click on Submit.
3. Fill out Form for registration (**when asked for Team Affiliation choose your team, for coach choose your coach**)
4. After you submit this form you will get a message "you have successfully registered."
5. Click on the "Pool Deck."
6. Click on "**2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships.**"
7. Click on the events you will be competing (**IMPORTANT!!!!** You must enter both dive forms for the events in which you will be participating. The 6-dive form, which is a final event for the first day, and the 11-dive form for the preliminaries of the championship).
8. Click on Submit.
9. Depending on how many events you register, you must fill out as many dive forms.
10. Once you are done filing out the dive form, click on submit.
11. Click on the "Release Form Paragraph," select coach and provide your email and click submit. It will ask you to review your information and click submit again.
12. The new page will have your dive sheet and a message that "you have successfully registered for the **2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships.**" You will get an email with your DiveMeets ID and password. Also, you will receive an email with confirmation of your registration in the meet.

If you need any help, please send an email to support@meetcontrol.com, they have great customer service.