



MEMORANDUM

September 9, 2025

VIA EMAIL

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

FROM: Corey Bray
Associate Director, Championships and Alliances.

SUBJECT: Diving Qualification and Entry Procedures for the
2026 NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Swimming
and Diving Championships.

Please review the following information regarding the diving qualification and entry procedures for the 2026 NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships. **Please ensure that the head diving coach at your institution receives this memorandum.**

Divers will qualify for the NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Championships through one of four NCAA diving regionals. Even though the gender that swims each event first alternates each year, the order of diving events at the 2026 regional sites and finals site will remain the same as the order in 2025 so that the totality of the length of the schedule each day at the finals site will remain similar across each day of the championships.

1. Qualifying Score. To qualify for participation in the regional diving meets, a diver must achieve the qualifying standard at least twice on the same board during the qualification period. More specifically, the two qualifying scores on the same board (i.e., 1-meter or 3-meter) must be achieved on two different dates of competition (one of which may be a conference championship) during the qualification period.
2. Results Submissions. Once a diver achieves two qualifying scores on the same board, the signed dive sheet(s) along with the [Division III Men's and Women's Regional Diving Information Form](#) must be submitted by the diver's coach to Lewis Fellingner (divencd@gmail.com) by 8 p.m. Eastern time on Monday, February 23. The diving coach is no longer required to send in every qualifying score. A list of all qualified divers will be posted on ncaa.org.
3. Regional Entry. For a diver to be entered into a regional meet, the diver must have met the qualifying criteria outlined above in sections 1 and 2, and must submit a dive list via the divemeets.com system for the appropriate regional meet. The deadline to submit the dive list is 8 p.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, February 24. Failure to submit the required information by the deadline will result in the omission of the diver from the regional meet. Additionally, financial penalties may be imposed on any institution whose student-athlete fails to compete after submission of the regional diving form.

4. Regional Judges. Each participating institution is required to supply one qualified judge (e.g., diving coach) for each event in which the institution has a diver entered at the regional diving meet. Judging panels will be selected at the coaches meeting, along with the selection of an assistant referee for each panel. Diving regional meet hosts will hire an independent head diving judge but not a full judging panel.
5. Selection of Divers to NCAA Championships. Each regional diving meet will be given a fixed number of NCAA championship qualifiers to ensure equitable access opportunities. This number will be determined by the number of divers officially entered and eligible to compete in each region who have submitted all necessary information to compete. At the end of the qualification period, all divers eligible to compete in a regional meet will be assigned to a geographic region. The number of eligible divers competing at each region will be divided by the total number of competing divers at all regions then multiplied by 24 for the men and 29 for the women to determine the ratio for assigned qualification spots. Regardless of ratios, no region will have less than two qualifiers. The regional qualification allocation shall be posted on [ncaa.org](https://www.ncaa.org) by Noon, Eastern on Thursday, February 26.

When all results are made final, ties between two or more divers will be broken in advance of selections using the tiebreaker procedure below.

- a. First place finishers from each board will be selected, using two of the allocated spots. If the same diver finishes first on both boards, only one spot will be used for that diver.
 - b. Next, second place finishers from each board will be selected, using two of the allocated spots. If the same diver finishes second on both boards, or one/both divers were already selected, only one or no allocations will be used.
 - c. This will continue with each finishing spot (i.e., third, fourth, fifth, etc.) until all the allocated spots are assigned for each region.
 - d. If there is one allocation left and two divers who have not been selected are up for qualification, finishing in the same ranking on each board, the committee will use the diver's combined score made up of their one-meter and three-meter scores. The competitor with the highest score will be invited to the meet, earning the final allocation.
6. Diving Regional Host Sites. Hosts for the 2026 diving regionals have not been selected yet because the committee has yet to receive a bid from any institution in region 3. Institutions in region 3 are strongly encouraged to consider submitting a bid to host a diving regional. Please contact Corey Bray (cbray@ncaa.org) as soon as possible if your institution is in region 3 and is willing to submit a bid to host a diving regional.

7. Competition Requirements. Dive lists for those divers qualifying for the championships will be rolled over and changes can be made on divemeets.com. Review the Diving Entry Procedure section in the 2025-26 Division III Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Prechampionships Manual for detailed instructions located [here](#).
8. Diving Regional Order of Events. The order of events at diving regionals will match the order of events at the national championship. Therefore, the order of events at the four diving regional sites will be men's three meter and women's one meter on day one, with men's one meter and women's three meter occurring on day two.
9. Simultaneous Events at Regional Championships. The committee will allow simultaneous events at regional diving meets in a facility that can run simultaneous events (requirements listed below). The host may offer this option to the participating institutions. For this format to be used, all participating institutions must agree to the format. The host will inform the committee and championship manager of their desire to run simultaneous events, prior to the entry deadline. The committee and staff will poll all participating institutions after the entry deadline. The competition format, schedule, and all details will be provided to the participating institutions prior to the regional meet starting on Friday. A host running events simultaneously must have two diving recording tables running simultaneously with two judging panels and two referees. This will require a total of six table workers, and a minimum of 12 judges.
10. Last Chance Diving Events. The committee does not accept diving qualification scores achieved at last chance meets for entry into the regional qualification meets. While the host of a last chance meet may still offer these diving events to serve other purposes, scores achieved will not be included in the qualification process. All qualification performances must be achieved during the traditional season or conference championships.
11. Conference Championships. The committee does not see value in an exception for a single qualification performance at a conference meet to enter the selection process. As was stated above in section 1, every diver will need to achieve a qualification score, at two different meets (one of which may be a conference championship) on the same board (i.e., 1-meter or 3-meter), for entry into the regional meet.

More information about the diving qualification and entry process, and the diving regional information form is located [here](#).

CB:cj

cc: Lewis Fellingner

NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee