

Swimming and Diving

IHSAA Modifications



IHSAA Season

1. Exhibition swimmers and/or divers are not permitted.
2. Swimmers and/or divers below 9th grade are not permitted to swim in a high school contest.

IHSAA Tournament Series

1. A school may enter four (4) or less contestants in each event but only three (3) or less may participate.
2. The modified ballot computation system will be used as a back-up system when electronic timing devices are used.
3. During the state championships, the following deck passes will be issued:
 - 1 to 3 participants – two non-participants (coaches) will receive deck passes
 - 4 to 8 participants – three non-participants (coaches) will receive deck passes
 - 9 or more participants – four non-participants (coaches) will receive deck passes

IHSAA Contest Limits

The maximum number of meets one can participate in is eighteen (18). An athlete is a participant in a meet if they enter one event, regardless of whether that event is a swimming or diving event. For example, if a school has a full schedule of eighteen swimming meets and also schedules two diving invitationals, the diver participating in the two diving invitationals is prohibited from competing in at least two (2) of the swimming meets (in any event).

IHSAA By-Law 15-1.1d

A few of our member schools have an individual student athlete who wishes to participate in swimming and diving. Rule 15-1.1d addresses the procedures must be adhered to in these instances. In general, all IHSAA policies and procedures must be followed by member schools that allow their student athletes to participate under this rule. Below are guidelines for scheduling meets and determining competition formats:

1. The host school must enter into a contract with each participating school (including schools represented by any individuals). The contract must list all schools represented in that contest.
2. All participating schools should be listed on officials' contracts.
3. The individual student athlete may participate using the following options:
 - a. Student athlete(s) may compete in invitationals. Points earned should be applied to the varsity team score for his/her school.
 - b. Student athlete(s) may compete in junior varsity races. Points earned should be applied to the junior varsity team score for his/her school.
 - c. In a six lane pool, student athlete(s) may compete in varsity races, provided the other two teams agree to submit two individuals for competition in that event (as in a three-way meet format). All events shall be scored using the dual meet format, but all three teams shall score.
 - d. In an eight lane pool, student athlete(s) may compete in varsity races, and swim in available lanes. Points earned should be applied to the varsity team score for his/her school.
 - e. The IHSAA does not permit exhibition races.
4. During competition, the individual(s) member school must provide their own coach to represent the student athlete. The representative shall serve as the team coach in all aspects of the competition, including coach's meetings. A coach may not work with athletes from different schools at the same time.
5. In order for a student to qualify for participation in the IHSAA tournament series in swimming and diving, the student must have participated in a minimum of 25% of the authorized season contests in that sport, which is 4 contests.

NFHS Rule 3-1-2c

By prior mutual consent, in a pool of eight lanes or more, each team shall be permitted as many additional entries as may be equally provided for both teams.

Indiana Modification – By prior mutual consent, in a pool of eight lanes or more, each team shall be permitted junior varsity entries in the varsity race. Member schools may also conduct junior varsity events during a varsity meet. The IHSAA recommends that the events be included as part of the contest contract agreed to by member schools and officials, (prior mutual consent).

1. When a contract is prepared and received by all schools and officials (prior mutual consent), it is not necessary that each junior varsity event contain student athletes from both member schools.
2. However, if there is no prior mutual consent from both schools and the officials, and the decision is agreed upon by all parties on the day of the meet, there must be student athletes from both schools participating in each junior varsity event.

Situation 1: Prior to the beginning of the meet, coaches from team A and B agree to swim a few junior varsity events. (A) The first junior varsity event is the 50 free. Team A has 3 swimmers and Team B has 1 swimmer. (B) The second junior varsity event is the 100 free. Team A has 3 swimmers and Team B has no swimmers.

Ruling: (A) Legal - Junior varsity events may be swum when there are competitors from both schools. (B) Illegal – If there are not competitors from both schools, the junior varsity event may not be held because there was no prior mutual consent. The junior varsity event counts as one of the four allowed entries for the swimmer.

Situation 2: Team A and B have a contract for a Varsity and junior varsity meet. (A) The first event is the 50 free. Team A has 2 swimmers and Team B has 1 swimmer. (B) The second event is the 100 free. Team A has 3 swimmers and Team B has no swimmers.

Ruling: Both A and B scenarios are legal because junior varsity events were listed on the contract and both teams know what is expected. The official should have a copy of the contract and know that the meet involves varsity and junior varsity events.

NFHS Rule 4-1-1

The meet committee shall make decisions on matters not specifically covered by the rules or on the misapplication of a rule during a meet. Judgement calls are not subject to review by this (meet) committee. The decision of the meet committee is final.

Indiana Modification – The referee's decision is final in all meet committee discussions. The meet committee shall serve in an advisory capacity, and function only if the referee-starter wishes to consult with it. The meet committee shall be convened only at the request of the referee-starter. All final decisions rest with the referee-starter.

NFHS Rule 5-1-1

The order of events may be modified for non-varsity and invitational competition, and state championships.

Indiana Modification – The order of events may be modified such that the diving event may be conducted at the same time as the swimming events, provided that there is mutual consent between both schools and two IHSAA licensed officials are hired.

NFHS Rule 6-3-3

The use of automatic relay judging equipment is permissible.

- a. In non-championship meets, at least one relay takeoff judge must be assigned to observe the relay exchanges. In championship meets, dual confirmation is required. Two relay takeoff judges (starter and assistant starter) must be assigned this responsibility for each lane.
- c. If the electronic relay judging equipment is utilized, a negative exchange differential indicates a false start. A disqualification shall occur if there is dual confirmation of the rules violation by:
 - (1) electronic relay takeoff equipment and the starter or assistant starter;
 - (2) the starter and assistant starter

- d. An alleged rules infraction that is observed by either a takeoff judge shall be recorded immediately in writing. Each relay takeoff judge who observes an alleged rules violation should wait until the last competitor is in the water before signaling an observed violation by raising a hand overhead, with open palm.
- e. An alleged rules infraction that is recorded by the electronic relay takeoff equipment shall be made public only after the race is completed and then only if there is a resulting disqualification. A coach may have access to all electronic relay takeoff equipment records that have been generated by his or her team, following the completion of the meet.

NFHS Rule 9-3-1

The number of team entries in diving competition shall be the same as in the swimming events for that meet.

- a. If the contest is conducted in a six lane pool each school is permitted three entries per event.
- b. By prior mutual consent, when both schools and the IHSAA official(s) agree to conduct a junior varsity diving event, the maximum number of junior varsity divers permitted would be three per school.