I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Competition in the IHSA Girls & Boys Swimming and Diving Tournament Series will be held for all member schools without classification.

Students with physical/visual disabilities will compete in girls’ or boys’ swimming against other students with physical disabilities regardless of school classification. A disability is a physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.

Students with physical/visual disabilities wishing to participate in the girls’ or boys’ swimming events for students with physical/visual disabilities must have a statement of disability on file with appropriate personnel responsible for student health issues at the student’s school. The IHSA reserves the right to request this documentation as part of the entry process.

Competitors with physical/visual disabilities will be categorized into one of two classifications based on U16/18 standards developed by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports USA (WASUSA).

Competitors who are classified as S1-S7 shall participate in Classification A.

Competitors who are classified as S8-S13 shall participate in Classification B.

Student athletes with physical/visual disabilities (or any adult acting on their behalf, e.g., a coach, parent, or guardian) are required to provide their school with a written statement of their classification, for purposes of the 2020-2021 IHSA swimming and diving championships, by any of the following means at the time of the Sectional meet, the IHSA reserves the right to request this documentation as part of the entry process.

Competitors with physical/visual disabilities will be categorized into one of two classifications based on U16/18 standards developed by Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports USA (WASUSA).

Competitors who are classified as S1-S7 shall participate in Classification A.

Competitors who are classified as S8-S13 shall participate in Classification B.

Student athletes with physical/visual disabilities (or any adult acting on their behalf, e.g., a coach, parent, or guardian) are required to provide their school with a written statement of their classification, for purposes of the 2020-2021 IHSA swimming and diving championships, by any of the following means at the time of the Sectional meet, the IHSA reserves the right to request this documentation as part of the entry process.

II. DATES AND SITES

A. Girls Sectional meets will be held on October 24, at 16 sites. Sectional assignments will be posted on the IHSA website mid-September.

B. Boys Sectional meets will be held on TBA, at 16 sites. Sectional assignment will be posted on the IHSA website mid-November.

III. SCHOOLS AND OFFICIALS CENTER INFORMATION, ON-LINE SCHOOL ENTRIES, RULES MEETING PRESENTATION, WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE, ELIGIBILITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND ON-LINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. The policy for Original School Entry Deadlines, Late Entries, and Late Withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entry for all IHSA-sponsored sport/activities. For complete instructions, please login to the IHSA Schools & Officials Center with your Official Representative USER ID and Password. Click on the activity tracker and click the button to add sports for the upcoming year. Sports Entry Deadlines are Sept. 11 (fall), Nov. 1 (winter) and Feb. 1 (spring).

B. There will be an entry fee of $100 whether the school has a team entry or individual entry.

C. On-Line School Entries (Including individuals in the Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities Division)

All Official Representatives must login to the IHSA School Center; click on “Sport & Activity Tracker”; click on “enter your teams or individuals”. There you will select the sports and activities your school will participate in during the 2020-2021 school term. IHSA uses this information to assign schools to Sectionals after the Fall entry deadline (September 11) and November 1 (Winter).

D. Late On-Line School Entries: Schools that wish to enter Girls Swimming after September 11 will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the Principal/Official Representative must email Kraig Garber (kgarber@ihsa.org) for approval. The penalty for late entry shall be a payment of $100.00 for that sport/activity by the school.

E. List of Participants Six Contest Verification (Team entries only): By checking the Six Contest Verification box, schools are verifying that the school’s boys or girls interscholastic team has participated in six boys or girls interscholastic meets during the current Boys and Girls Swimming & Diving season. This allows teams to compete for team honors (trophy) during the sectional meet in accordance with IHSA By-law 3.054.

Individuals: Schools with only individuals competing do not check the Six Contest Verification box. Individual entries are not eligible to compete for team honors (trophy).

F. REQUIRED RULES VIDEO (Head Coach of every participating school and officials): The Swimming & Diving On-Line Rules Video begins August 11 and ends on September 15. Boys Swimming & Diving head coaches can view the presentation through December 1.

1) If you coach at two different schools, you must contact Cheryl Lowery at the IHSA Office (clowery@ihsa.org), once you have been given the presentation and manually give you credit for the other position you hold. Our server runs an update every evening, if you view the presentation and it doesn’t give you credit (within 24 hours) the first time, contact Cheryl Lowery at the IHSA Office.

2) Diving Rules Presentation (Required for coaches to serve on Sectional Dive Panel) – Refer to the Online Seeding Meeting Timeline in the Manual for Schools and Managers.

G. Breach of Contract By-Law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedure): You must withdraw by notifying the IHSA Office, not the Sectional Manager. To withdraw without penalty, the Official Representative from the school must email Adela Espindola (aespindola@ihsa.org) at the IHSA Office, notifying IHSA of the school’s intention to withdraw by 11:59 p.m. Monday, October 19 (Girls)/TBA (Boys).

To withdraw without penalty, the Official Representative or Principal must email Adela Espindola (aespindola@ihsa.org) notifying IHSA of the school’s withdrawal from Swimming & Diving no later than the List of Participants Deadline.

If a school withdraws after the deadline and/or does not show up for competition, the school will be charged a $100 penalty. If applicable, the school will be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended
school(s) or the Association, as a result of such breach.

H. Eligibility
All member schools in good standing may enter an individual(s) or a team under the provisions of IHSA By-law 3.054 for both the able-bodied swimming and diving program and the events for students with physical/visual disabilities.

In accordance with By-law 3.050, schools are subject to entering eligible student-athletes.

I. Affirmative Action Policy: Only boys may participate in the boys’ competition in the meet series and only girls may participate in the girls’ competition in the meet series, except as provided in the Illinois High School Association Affirmative Action Policy.

J. On-Line List of Participants (Including individuals participating in the Students with Physical/Visual disabilities Division): Each school entering the sectional (whether entering a team or an individual) must submit its On-Line List of Participants via the Internet through the IHSA Schools Center Web Site. If a school does not submit its On-line List of Participants by the deadline, coaches and participants from that school are subject to sanctions, which could include but not be limited to being ruled ineligible to compete in the Sectional. Schools which do not submit their school's On-Line List of Participants and are consequently ruled ineligible for the Sectional and must formally withdraw (see Withdrawal Procedures/Breach of Contract above in Section III-C).

SPACES LEFT BLANK DURING THE ON-LINE LIST OF PARTICIPANT PROCESS MAY NOT BE FILLED IN AFTER THE ON-LINE LIST OF PARTICIPANT ENTRY DEADLINE.

COACHES NAMES: If a coach on your coaching staff doesn’t appear in the drop-down menu in the List of participants, coaches must have the following information indicated in their personal information under the Staff Responsibility page in your IHSA Schools Center:
1) Designated as Head Swimming Coach or Assistant Coach
2) Designated coaching certification (ASEP/ISBE/NFHS)
3) Designated completion date for the PES Examination
4) Designated completion date for the Concussion Risk Management Exam (80% out of 30)

Concussion Risk Management Program: Illinois State law requires all staff and officials to pass a Concussion Risk Management Program examination every two years, prior to working with students.

5) Coaches who wish to be considered for the Sectional Diving panel must also view the required Diving Rules Presentation, be nominated by the Head coach on the List of Participants and be listed as the Head Diving Coach in their IHSA Schools Center (School Administrator only).

K. A school may enter two contestants in each individual swimming event and two contestants in the diving event. A school can enter a maximum of two (2) participants per event in each gender for the physical/visual disabilities division.

IV. HOST FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A. Host school shall pay for all local expenses. Each sectional host will receive a guarantee of $525.00. A financial report must be sent by the sectional manager to the IHSA office within 10 days following each sectional meet. This form can be found in the “H Tournament Hosting & ScoreZone” section.

B. Neither the State Association nor the local meet manager will assume responsibility for any other contestant expenses of any kind for any meet except those expenses specified above.

C. Admission Prices: Due to capacity limitations established as a result of COVID-19, spectators are not permitted to attend the sectional meets.

D. The Sectional meet revenue shall include the television and radio rights fees collected by the Sectional manager as provided for in Item IV-E and IX-G.

E. Rights Fees for TV and Radio: See the IHSA web site (www.ihsa.org) for the fees to be charged by Local Managers and/or the IHSA for television and cable broadcasts and radio originations.

V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS AND SEED MEETINGS

A. All schools who complete their On-Line School Entry for both the able-bodied swimming and diving program and the events for students with physical/visual disabilities by the deadline in the IHSA Girls/Boys State Swimming and Diving Meet Series will be assigned to compete in one of the sixteen (16) Sectional meets depending on geographic basis.

B. School Sectional Assignments will be posted on the respective IHSA Swimming/Diving Activity Web Page End of - September (Girls) and Mid-November (Boys).

C. ONLINE ELECTRONIC SECTIONAL SEEDING MEETING: Please refer to the Swimming & Diving Manual for Schools for instructions and the timeline.

D. PERMISSIBLE CHANGES DURING THE ELECTRONIC SECTIONAL SEEDING: After the LOP deadline, changes to names or times will not be permissible for either individual events or relays. The only allowable changes prior to 6:00p.m. of the Electronic Seeding meeting are those that involve misspelling of names or a correction to an athlete’s year in school.

E. Individual swimmers who do not have an interscholastic time for the current season must submit a non-interscholastic time for seeding purposes. The principal must provide written verification of accuracy to the Sectional manager, the non-interscholastic time has been performed in actual competition during the period of July 1, 2020 through the current Girls/Boys swimming season. These non-interscholastic time verifications from the principals must be available for review by competing team coaches upon request. If an interscholastic time that has been performed during the current season is available, it must be used for seeding purposes at the Sectional meet. “No Time” entries shall not be accepted. Schools do not need to submit a time for the competitor(s) it is entering in the Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities Division.

Note 1: All seed times submitted for Sectional meet seeding must be recorded to hundredths. Times submitted in tenths shall have the factor nine (9) added to them for seeding purposes (i.e., 55.1 for a Backstroke seed time will be changed to 55.19 at the Seeding Meeting.)

Note 2: Verified non-interscholastic times for relay team entries shall not be “add-up” times.

Note 3: A verified leadoff relay time is not an acceptable individual seedtime in the appropriate event.

Note 4: Entries will be assigned to heats and lanes in the swimming events determined by (1) best times; and, (2) the composite opinion of the head Girls’/Boys swimming coaches. In case of a discrepancy, (2) is to take precedence over (1). Coaches must be prepared to present evidence (which might include official meet results) to support the times submitted for seeding purposes at the Sectional meet.

F. Scratch Meeting: A scratch meeting with the Sectional Referee and all coaches shall be held immediately prior to the start of the Sectional Swimming and Diving Meet. After the scratch meeting, there shall be no substitutions or changes in a school’s entries. Only changes related to illness or injury will be permitted at the Sectional Scratch Meeting (see VH. below), and in individual events only.
G. Entry Substitutions: AT THE SECTIONAL MEET - In case of illness or injury, as certified to in writing by a principal or physician, an entry substitution may be made in an individual event following the Electronic Sectional Seed Meeting on a person or basis only. Additionally, in circumstances where the school has deemed an athlete ineligible to compete as certified to in writing by a principal, an entry substitution may be made in an individual event following the Electronic Sectional Seed Meeting on a person or basis only. These substitutions must be made at the Sectional Meet Scratch Meeting (Referee and all coaches) to be held immediately prior to the start of the Sectional meet. No contestant shall be permitted to change events in order to act as a substitute.

Note: A different swimmer may be substituted in each event in which the injured or ill swimmer was entered. All Swimmers/Divers used as substitutes must have been on this year’s school team and must be eligible in all respects.

VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES

A. For the Sectional meets, the local managers shall hold Electronic Seed Meetings on Wednesday prior to sectionals. Please refer to V-C. for complete instructions.

B. SUGGESTED SECTIONAL MEET TIME SCHEDULE: Saturday, October 24, 2020 (Girls) and (Boys-TBA). The host school WILL determine when they will open the doors for participants and spectators prior to the start of the meet. Sectional Meet Managers will provide final dates prior to the Sectional Meet to the schools assigned to their Sectional Meet.

Diving Warm-ups: 7:30 a.m.
Diving Prelims, Semifinals, and Finals start: 9:00 a.m.

Note: The Preliminary, Semifinal and Final rounds of competition in the Diving event will be held in the morning session at the Sectional meet. Diving awards shall be presented at the conclusion of the diving competition. Both classes in the Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities Division will race at the same time at the sectional meet. In the event, IF more athletes compete than there are lanes, multiple heats shall be conducted.

Swimming
Pool doors open to contestants/coaches only for Swimming Warm-ups: 11:30 a.m.; Swimming Finals start: 1:30 p.m.

Swimming Order of Events: Due to the IDPH regulations in order to keep Swimming & Diving a Low Risk sport, there will be no relays in this year’s Sectional Meets.

200-Yard Freestyle for Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities
200-Yard Freestyle
200-Yard Individual Medley

50-Yard Freestyle for Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities
50-Yard Freestyle (15-Minute Break)
100-Yard Butterfly
100-Yard Freestyle for Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities
100-Yard Freestyle (15-Minute Break)
500-Yard Freestyle
100-Yard Backstroke
100-Yard Breaststroke for Students with Physical/Visual Disabilities
100-Yard Breaststroke

Note: All Swimming events at the Sectional meets shall be conducted on the “Timed Finals” basis. No preliminary or final heats shall be held.

VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

Since the 2020 state series only consists of a one round event, there will be no advancement of teams or individuals beyond the Girls Sectional.

Important Notice:
***Sectional hosts are required to email Kraig Garber (kgarber@ihsa.org) a complete set of meet results immediately after completing the Winner Report before leaving the site.

In the diving event at the Sectional Meet the sixteen (16) divers with the highest scores in Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 shall qualify for semifinal Rounds 6, 7 and 8, the twelve (12) divers with the highest total score after Round 8 shall qualify for the finals.

All swimming events in the Sectional meets shall be conducted on the “Timed Finals” basis. No preliminary or final heats will be held.

Note: All Sectional times shall be recorded to two decimal places. In the event automatic timing equipment fails, and stopwatches are used for backup timing, times shall be recorded in accordance with Rule 6-1-2.

VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES

A. The current Swimming and Diving Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules governing the competition in all state series meets unless otherwise specifically provided for in these Terms and Conditions or in printed instructions to meet managers.

B. In accordance with IHSA By-laws 2.020 and 2.070, every school is required to have a qualified coach or faculty representative present at all times during the sectional meet and be available for assignment as might be required by the meet manager. If a school does not have a qualified coach or faculty representative present at the Sectional site during warm-ups or competition, that school’s competitors shall not be permitted to participate.

C. As a result of a Modification of Rule 3-2-1, an individual contestant shall be permitted to enter a maximum of four individual events. There will be no relay events in Swimming & Diving in order to keep Swimming & Diving at a Low IDPH Risk. Those points will be awarded for scoring team points according to the IHSA scoring system.

Student-athletes in the physical/visual disabilities division shall be allowed to swim in up to four individual events in the Sectional meet. During this season, there will not be a combined championship.

D. The Referee and Starter for the Sectional meets shall be assigned by the IHSA Office. In addition, the Sectional managers shall appoint all other non-paid meet officials and shall appoint a full complement of officials as needed for a championship meet.

E. At the Sectional meets, the panel of judges for diving shall be comprised of five (5) persons. The Meet Referee and Starter (assigned by the IHSA Office) and three nominated Diving Coaches from the schools participating in the Sectional meet. Coaches that wish to be considered as Dive Judges are required to view the Diving Rules Presentation found in the IHSA School Center and be nominated by their Head Swimming Coach.

Note 1: Wednesday prior to Sectionals. Deadline to vote for 3 coaches to serve on sectional dive panel from the list of eligible coaches must be returned to the Sectional Host by 6:00 p.m. Only coaches from schools that have divers competing in the sectional competition may vote. Only names of coaches who received credit for the Diving Rules Presentation and were nominated during the school’s List of Participants process will be listed for the vote.

Note 2: Diving Score Sheets will be distributed at Diving practice on Wednesday prior to Sectionals and will be available on Saturday morning of the Sectional Meet (2 forms per school).

F. In accordance with IHSA By-law 6.033 and the Swimming and Diving Rules, the decision of the Meet Referee and Starter shall be final.

G. Conduct of swimmers and divers: Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches or contestants or the use of profane language by coaches or contestants will not be tolerated and shall be punishable under the provisions of Bylaws 3.141 and 4.061.
H. Uniforms: Swimmers and divers shall wear suits that comply with specifications included in the modified NFHS Rule 3-3. Coaches and athletes are encouraged to work with their distributor to determine if any suit meets the standards defined in 3-3. To be deemed a legal suit, any suit must meet the style and construction restrictions described in rule 3-3, (i.e.: must be completely permeable to water and air). A suit listed on the FINA list of approved suits will be legal for competition. Not being included on that list does not necessarily mean the suit is not legal. It is legal to wear two caps.

I. In the swimming events at the Sectional meets, points shall be awarded to the swimmers achieving the twelve (12) fastest times in each event.

1) No team points shall be recorded for the places won by contestants from schools that do not meet the six contest requirements of IHSA By-law 3.054. No points shall be scored for places won by such contestants and this provision shall not alter the order of finish or the points scored of other contestants.

IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES (NO SPECTATORS)

A. Bands: No bands, pom-pon squads or drill team groups shall perform.

B. Signs, Banners, Balloons and Mechanical Noisemakers:

1) The display of signs, banners, posters or similar items at IHSA state series events is permitted, provided:
   a) They are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use;
   b) They reflect identification and encouragement to participants;
   c) They are not displayed on the field of play or in a manner that interferes with the meet;
   d) They do not obstruct the view of participants; and,
   e) They are not safety hazards.

2) All mechanical noisemaking devices, including balloons, shall be excluded from the swimming and diving facilities.

C. Cheerleaders: No cheerleaders at sectional meets.

D. Damage to Property and Equipment: If contestants or people from any school entered in a state series meet are found guilty of carelessness or maliciously destroying, damaging or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

E. Media Requirements:

1) Provide Space: Space shall be set aside to provide for new media representatives covering the state series whether they are from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations and/or cable television stations.

2) Radio and TV Originators: It is the responsibility of the Local Manager to accept applications, approve requests to originate, collect proper rights fees payments (where required) and make cancellation refunds for television and/or radio play-by-play origination’s, according to the IHSA Television and/or IHSA Radio Broadcast Policy.
   a) Television Rights Fees for all levels of competition below the State Final level shall be paid to the host school and shall become part of the revenue to be shared by the member school(s) and the Association according to the financial terms stipulated in these Terms and Conditions.
   b) Radio Broadcast Rights Fees are not required for any level of competition in this series. Local Managers shall permit radio play-by-play origination’s of the competition.
   c) Television and/or Radio Stations which do not apply in advance, or which do not pay required rights fees prior to the start of competition in each respective level in this series shall not be given credentials nor allowed access to the facility to originate. Sponsors of the origination for television and radio shall be only those so stipulated in the respective IHSA Television and Broadcast policies.

3) Local meet managers shall be responsible for reporting meet information and results to the IHSA Office and the news media as stipulated in printed instructions received from the IHSA Office.

4) Flash photography is not allowed by anyone except the photographers from V.I.P. These photographers are contracted by the IHSA and have been trained in the appropriate uses of flash photography during events.

F. Flash photography is not allowed by anyone. Anyone who does not abide by these provisions will not be permitted to film or videotape at the meet.

Note: If a diver from a school qualifies for the diving event at the State Final meet, and video of her/his dives is needed for her/his application for All-American consideration, arrangements to film are to be made with the local manager prior to the meet.

G. Tobacco/Liquid Nicotine Products: The use of tobacco or liquid nicotine products in any competition area, either during a practice or while a contest is in progress, or affiliated property of any IHSA Sectional contest by any coach, player, any other person connected with a team, or fan shall be prohibited. Sectional hosts are required to make all sectional contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, tobacco/liquid nicotine free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site.

H. Use of Inhalers: A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition, while under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self-administration in the Illinois school code.

I. Alcoholic Beverages and IHSA State Series Events: The possession, distribution, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of any IHSA sectional contest. Sectional hosts are required to make all sectional contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, tobacco/liquid nicotine free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Such penalty may include but not necessarily be limited to prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA sectional contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted. No ticket refunds will be granted in such cases.

J. Children Not Allowed on deck: Children will not be allowed on deck. Only authorized personnel, coaches and participants are permitted on deck. NO EXCEPTIONS!

X. AWARDS

A. Sectional

1) Individual: Medals will be awarded to the first six place winners in each individual event. Medals will be given to the first six individual finishers in each event at the sectional meet for students in the Physical/Visual Disabilities Division.

2) Team: Plaques will be presented to the school winning the team championship at the Sectional meets.

3) Duplicate Awards Order Forms is available within the Manual for Schools and Managers.

XI. OFFICIALS

A. Appointment and Fees

1) Sectional: Two (2) officials will be assigned from the IHSA Office. The IHSA Office will assign and pay officials to the 16 Sectional Meets. $175.00 flat fee for the Meet Referee and Starter.
B. Mileage Reimbursement Policy: The officials appointed by the IHSA will be paid mileage from the IHSA Office upon receipt of a mileage voucher submitted by the appointed official to the IHSA Office within 30 days of the contest. Appointed officials will receive 30 cents per mile for every mile over 70 miles for each round trip. Mileage vouchers can be printed from the IHSA Web Site through the IHSA Officials Center. Note: Mileage is determined to and from the official’s home to the site of the competition, unless prior approval has been given from the administrator in charge of the sport/activity.