

**ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOYS & GIRLS SWIMMING BY-LAWS
Updated August 3, 2021**

1. The current year National Federation Rules, the NYSPHSAA Hand Book and the following OCIAA rules shall apply:
 - A. A minimum of seven (7) participants is required to compete on a team level. Team size is fixed from day one of the start of the competitive season.
 - B. A mandatory list of required dives for OCIAA League meets must be compiled and distributed by the Chairperson to all participating schools prior to the start of the dual meet season.
 - C. If the host school has inadequate facilities (i.e. - diving board, water depth, starting blocks, etc.) they must inform the visiting school so that there is prior written mutual consent to conduct the meet.
 - D. The host school must provide a minimum of one (1) timer per lane.
 - E. Radios and MP3 players are permitted on the pool deck, with referee's discretion.
 - F. Host team must report meet results to the media and to the Section IX Swimming website. All scores **MUST** also be reported to the league via the rSchool Today mobile app.
 - G. To participate in a League Swim Meet as an individual, all necessary paperwork should be on file before the first League Swim Meet.
2. Unsportsmanlike Conduct:
 - A. When a coach is ejected from a contest please refer to the NYSPHSAA Handbook, Sportsmanship Standard #27.
 - B. When a swimmer(s) is ejected or disqualified from a meet for unsportsmanlike conduct, the following action is required by the NYSPHSAA Regulation, detailed in Standard #27b.
 - i. (1) First ejection - that swimmer(s) cannot participate in the next scheduled meet.
 - ii. (2) Second ejection - that swimmer(s) cannot participate in the next two scheduled meets.
 - iii. (3) Third ejection - that swimmer(s) cannot participate in any remaining scheduled meets - including sectionals and any higher level of competition.
 - C. There is no appeal to a player(s) ejection. The official's decision is final and includes the following contest(s).
 - D. The official that ejected the swimmer(s) will notify the OCIAA Athletic Coordinator, prior to 12:00 p.m. the following day, with the name(s) of the player(s) and the type of infraction(s).

- E. The coach of the swimmer(s) who was ejected will notify his/her Athletic Administrator. The Athletic Administrator will then contact the Athletic Coordinator's Office to confirm that the swimmer(s) will not be allowed to participate in that school's next scheduled meet or meets as required above.
- F. A swimmer(s) that is ejected from a meet, will not be allowed to be present at the site of any meet that swimmer(s) has been disqualified from participating in (home or away).
- G. For unsportsmanlike violations that occur during the OCIAA season, penalties will carry over into sectional play. NYSPHSAA unsportsmanlike conduct rules will apply after the completion of the league season.

3. Championships:

An individual must have completed in six (6) high school swim meets prior to participating in the Section IX Championship Meet. This includes but is not limited to the League Championship (OCIAA), Section IX Championship, NYS Championship

There will be two divisions: Division 1 and Division 2. The Division Champion will be determined by the point system: 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie (Conference meets only). If there is still a tie after using the point system, the following will be used to determine the regular season Division champion:

1. Head to Head overall between teams tied.
2. Points allowed between tied teams
3. Record vs. the team occupying the next highest position in division standings
4. Points allowed vs. the team occupying the next highest position in division standings

4. Awards:

Plaques will be awarded to each boys and girls swim teams for the following:

- 2 OCIAA Division Champion (Dual Meet Season)
- 1 OCIAA Division 1 Meet Winner
- 1 OCIAA Division 2 Meet Winner
- 1 Section 9 Championship Meet Winner

Medals: Awarded to first, second and third place in the OCIAA Division Championships. Individual and Relay Events – Top 3.

OCIAA Patches: Each individual school may purchase their own patches if they choose to do so.

5. Safety Guidelines at Meets

- A. Coaches shall actively supervise their swimmers and divers during warm-up sessions at meets.
- B. The available number of lanes for swimming warm-ups must be equally divided between both schools.
- C. There shall be no swimming under the diving board(s) while divers are warming up.
- D. Backstrokers shall ensure that they are not starting at the same time as a swimmer on the block. Swimmers are not to step up on the block if there is a backstroker ready to start.

- E. Warm-up procedures shall be enforced during any breaks scheduled during the competition.
 - F. Hazards on deck, in the locker rooms, or in areas used by coaches, swimmers, spectators, or officials shall be removed or clearly marked.
 - G. A minimum of 30 minutes of warm-up must be provided to the visiting team in the event of a late arrival.
 - H. Feet first entries in water depth less than 9 ft.
6. **Extra Heats** are permitted if both schools agree by **prior mutual consent (24 hours ahead of start of meet), unless involving a “shadowing” school or athlete (aka team of less than 7 athletes)**. All extra heats must precede the scoring heat according to NFHS Rules.
 7. Rules Interpretation Meeting:
A Rules Interpretation Meeting will be held prior to each season.
 8. Mergers
 - A. Follow all Section 9 rules, regulations and application process.
 - B. Follow all OCIAA & MHL rules, regulations and application process.
- Shadowing – A team of less than 7 members will be a “shadowing” team (determined on day one of the start of the competitive season). The shadowing team will follow an identified parent team’s dual meet schedule.
- It is the shadowing team’s responsibility, or its named representative, to make contact with the other two participating schools one day in advance to inform them of the additional heats that will be required due to permitting all athletes to participate in the number of required events by NFHS rules.
9. All athletes from shadowing schools should be given the opportunity to swim in the faster heats if their time warrants that type of placement.
 10. Lane assignments are decided upon NFHS Rules and a “shadowing team” will use the lanes assigned to the parent team they are shadowing regardless of what heat they are swimming in.
 11. If any shadowing swimmer's time is equal or better, parent or shadowed school's coach makes determination "shadowing" swimmers heat.
 12. If the shadowing swimmer's time is said to be faster than the parent schools third swimmer, then the shadowing schools athlete will swim in the faster heat and the parent schools third swimmer will then be placed into the extra preceding heat. To avoid swimming in a heat alone the opposing school will move its third swimmer into the same preceding heat. You will score only the deeded or named ‘third’ swimmers designated by the coaches prior to the event. Any additional lanes maybe filled with extra swimmers as exhibition.