**Applying for a Sanction**

Before bidding for any meet (Niagara LSC or Invitational), please make sure to follow all the guidelines and instruction found in the sanction application (posted on the website). Only bid for meets that you are certain that you have the logistical and technical ability to host, taking into consideration all club considerations as to the feasibility of running the meet. Once sanctions are issued, that meet becomes part of the competitive calendar and integral to the overall programmatic direction of the Niagara LSC. Once the sanction is issued, ANY changes to the meet MUST be approved by the Executive Committee, Admin VC, or Sanction Chair. This includes invitational meets.

Any weekend not indicated as closed (for a Niagara Meet) is open to apply for starting immediately. If you are bidding on more than one open date meet, please prioritize them. For those meets, the sanction application, sanction fee and preliminary meet announcement must be received by **April 28, 2023 at 11:59 PM.**

Clubs bidding for meets on open dates need to be aware that you may have to change your date if something unforeseen occurs with a Niagara LSC Meet.

Sanction applications must be submitted through SWIMS (please see the last page for steps). Please note, Meet Announcements for timed final/time trial meets must use the [Niagara LSC Template (click here)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1g3PvUYdonRlDsRlflz5pZq5L6gj_RbZ2?rtpof=true&authuser=webmaster%40niagaraswim.org&usp=drive_fs) - Payment of $25 per day should be mailed (at the time of application) to:

**Eric Stimson**
**1185 Doebler Dr.**

**North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

* If there are multiple bids for a meet, the Executive Committee will review and make a decision.
* A meeting may be scheduled between the meet host, tech planning, and any other required people. This will be to review the restrictions involved and make sure a meet can be safely held. If it can, the formats will be finalized at that time and published ASAP. If it cannot, the weekend will be opened up for any clubs that might be able to hold a meet (if desired)

When applying for a Niagara Meet, the meet announcement submitted needs to include following - Host Club, Venue and brief description, Meet Director and Meet Referee (except Championships). All other information (i.e. Order of Events, format specifics, awards program, bonus eligibility, etc.) will be provided to you by Technical Planning.

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| **Entry Fees and Surcharges** |
| Club Meets & NI LSC Meets | **Maximum Entry Fees** |
| Deck Fee | Individual Entry | Relay Entry |
| Timed Finals SCY | $10.00  | $5.00  | $15.00  |
| Timed Finals LCM | $10.00  | $6.00  | $15.00  |
| Prelim/Finals SCY & LCM | $10.00  | $9.00  | $15.00  |
| Niagara Surcharges | $2.00 per athlete entered, except for the meets listed below (subject to Spring HoD resolution) |
| Exempt from Niagara Surcharge: 12 & Under IMX, JR/SR Power Point, Niagara Last Splash, Sizzler, Silver Championship, Short & Long Course Championship (Gold). |

**Fall / Winter 2023**

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| SEPTEMBER - 2023 |  | OCTOBER - 2023 |
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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |  | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |  30 |  | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |  |  |  |
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| NOVEMBER - 2023 |  | DECEMBER - 2023 |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |  | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|   |   |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |   |   |   |   |  | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |  | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |   |   |  | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 31 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| JANUARY - 2024 |  | FEBRUARY - 2024 |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |  | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |  | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |  | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |   |   |   |  | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |   |   |
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| MARCH - 2024 |  | APRIL - 2024 |
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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |  | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |  |  |   |
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The 2024 Summer Calendar is included for awareness. Bids will be received in advances of and awarded for these meets at the 2023 Fall House of Delegates meeting.

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| MAY - 2024 |  | JUNE - 2024 |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |  | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |  | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |  | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
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| JULY - 2024 |  | AUGUST - 2024 |
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| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |  | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |  | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |  |  |  | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Dates in **Yellow** are closed dates for Niagara LSC meets **(no sanctions for invitational or league meets)**.

Dates in **Red** are Eastern Zone meets.

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| December xx, 2022 | Niagara Winter Classic | **Open Bids**Up to two meet locations accepted(This is NOT a closed date Niagara meet)This will be provided as a Winter LCM opportunity. Meet will feature 2-3 sessions in a single day or day and a half format. (see meet descriptions on page 4)50M Long Course facility required.LSC assistance for facility costs -up to $1000 per meet**Cuts: None** |
| January 13-14, 2024 | Niagara AGES 9-12 Junior Power Point | **Open Bids**Single Host Site - **Open weekend with Tech planning approval**6-10 lane course2-session meetTeam Focus on IMR/ IMX competition, completion, and recognition |
| January 14-15, 2024 | Niagara Senior Power Point MeetAGES 13 AND OVER | **Open Bids**Single Host Site – **Open weekend with Tech planning approval**6-10 racing lanes, with warm up/warm down access.3-session, Timed Final meetCuts: same as previous years |
| February 23-25, 2024 | Niagara Silver Championships | **Open Bids**Maximum Host Sites – 2 **Closed Weekend**Championship formatMulti-age prelim & final**Cuts:** Faster than or equal to Niagara Silver Championship times, slower than Niagara Championship times.Capacity to offer at least one time-trial |
| March 8-10, 2024 | Niagara Open Championships (Gold) | **Open Bids**Single Host Site **– Closed Weekend**Minimum 8 lanes for PrelimsOpen, Championship format meet; P/F.3 day meet **Cuts**: Faster than or equal to Niagara Championship StandardsCapacity to offer at least one time-trial |
| March 15-17, 2024 | Niagara 14 & Under Championships (Gold)  | **Open Bids**Single Host Site **– Closed Weekend**Minimum 8 lanes for PrelimsAges 10 + under 2 TF sessions2.75 day meet**Cuts:** Faster than or equal toNiagara Championship StandardsCapacity to offer at least one time-trial |
| March 21-24, 2024 | Eastern Zone SC Speedo Sectional Championship | Christiansburg, VA (Christiansburg Aquatic Center) |
| March 21-24, 2024 | Eastern Zone LC Super Speedo Sectional Championship | Buffalo, NY (Erie County Community College) |
| March 27-30, 2024 | Eastern Zone Age Group Championship | Webster, NY (Webster Aquatic Center) |
| April xx, 2024 | Regional Niagara Last Splash | **Open Bids**2 Sites - **Closed Weekend**8 Lane Pool2 Days Timed Final Meet**Cuts**: No Faster than Standard TBD |
| June 15-16, 2024 | Open Water Championships | **Mamora, NJ (Beasley Point)** |
| July 18-21, 2024 | Niagara Long Course Championships | **Open Bids**Single Host Site - **Closed Weekend**Championship formatMulti-age prelim & final**Cuts:** Faster than or equal to Niagara Championship Standards50M Long Course facility required |
| August 1-4, 2024 | LC Senior Zone Championships | Buffalo, NY (Erie County Community College) |
| August 7-10, 2024 | LC Age Group Championships | Hampton, VA (Hampton Aquatic Center) |

**Niagara Meet Descriptions**

**For all Niagara meets below, meet format will be decided by Technical Planning Committee, any desired changes to existing meet formats please contact the Technical Planning Chair.**

**Niagara Winter Classic (LCM)**: There will be one (1) Super Circuit and one (1) Winter Classic meet allowed on the Sept-May calendar. **These dates are OPEN DATES and competing invitational meet sanctions will be allowed on these dates.**

**The Niagara LC LSC Super Circuit Meet** should consist of about 8-12 events each with 1-3, 3–4-hour sessions Max. Each super circuit meet is provided a $1000 stipend. Max of 3 super circuit meets, one in each geographic region or at the discretion of the tech planning committee. Meets can be any time of the year. If you exceed 4 hours, using session reports and no less than a 10 second interval between heats, you will not receive the $1000 stipend.

**The Niagara Winter Classic** would be a one (1) day P/F. This meet is designed to offer limited LCM swims in the traditional SCY season.

**Niagara Regional Last Splash Championship**: Four (4) session, timed final meet with no faster than qualifying standard (TBD). NT entries will be accepted to encourage participation. Heat winner prizes and ribbons. Up to two (2) host sites.

**Niagara 9-12 Junior PowerPoint Championship**: Two (2) session, timed final meet with no qualifying standard with the exception of the 400IM/500/1000/1650 free. NT entries will be accepted to encourage participation. Alternative awards (bell ringer) with power point scoring for high point awards. Design will mirror the Senior Power Point meet.

**Niagara Senior PowerPoint Championship**: This meet will be identical in format and design as has been done the last few years, designed for ages 13 and over. Three (3) session, timed final meet with alternative awards (bell ringer). Qualifying times TBD.

**Niagara Silver Championship Meet:** Must be faster than or equal to the Niagara Silver Championship standards but slower than the NI Championship standards. Prelims/Final format in place and the same event list as the Championship meet. Up to Two (2) host sites.

**Niagara Short Course Championships 14 & Under:** This meet will be the 14 & Under Championships for the LSC, with an emphasis on performance. Six (6) Session meet with a minimum of eight (8) lanes with separate cool down. Spectator seating of 500 minimum. Deck capacity of 550 Minimum. This meet will have a MINIMUM (faster than or equal to) standards meet, with the minimum cut times equaling the NI Championship cuts times.

**Niagara Short Course Open Championships:** This meet will be the Open championships for the LSC, with an emphasis on performance. Seven (7) session meet with a minimum of eight (8) lanes with separate cool down. Spectator seating of 500 minimum. Deck capacity of 550 Minimum. This meet will have a MINIMUM (faster than) standards meet, with the minimum cut times equaling the NI Championship cuts times. This meet has the potential for Time Trials in the afternoon.

Per Niagara Policies and Procedures 202.2

* Each geographic region [Buffalo, Rochester, Southern Tier and Syracuse] will be permitted two ‘open meet’ sanctions on the calendar for any given date. The second sanction will be issued as long as one meet is an LCM format. Unlimited ‘restricted meet’ sanctions will be permitted when there is no open meet on the calendar for any given date (see H below for an exemption).
* No application shall be considered, and no sanctions shall be issued for meets proposed (invitational, closed or league) to be held on ‘closed’ dates on which a Niagara LSC meet, as designated by the Executive Committee, is being held in the Niagara LSC.

When designing your meet formats, you must adhere to USA Swimming 4-hour rule 205.3 F “*With the exception of championship and open water meets, the program in all other age group competition shall be planned to allow the events for swimmers twelve (12) years and younger to be completed in four (4) hours or less per session (prelims, finals, timed finals). Events for the same 12 & under swimmers shall be limited to one session per day, except for prelim/final meets where events for 12 & under swimmers may be offered in both prelims and finals.*”

***To receive a sanction, the Meet Director must have a Meet Director Certification date that expires AFTER the date of their meet.***

Any questions about the bidding process should also be directed to the Sanction Coordinator – sanctions@niagaraswim.org. If you have any questions about the requirements, specifications, formats, or anything related to specific LSC meets, please contact the Technical Planning Committee Chairman - techplanning@niagaraswim.org.

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| **Niagara LSC Meet Responsibilities** |
| **Meet Host Responsibility** | **Technical Planning Responsibility** | **Officials Chair Responsibility** |
| Apply for Sanction | Provide Host Event Offering and Order | Select Lead Team and Notify Host Team |
| Assist with Meet Announcement  | Provide Host Meet Format | Enter Meet into Team App |
| Assist with Meet Manager Event File | Assist with Meet Announcement  | Housing Lead Team  |
| Swim Shop and T-Shirt Vendor | Assist with Meet Manager Event File |   |
| Request Niagara Radios from Officials Chair | Time Standards |   |
| Request Niagara Bells from Officials Chair | Meet Fees |   |
| Post-Meet and Finance Report | Select, Order and Pay for Awards through HASTY |   |
| Setup OME |   |   |
| Officials Shirts |   |   |
| Concessions |   |   |
| Meet Central Page on Team Website |   |   |

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| **Meet Applications/Meet Announcements** |

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| Effective January 1, 2023, Meet Applications **must**be requested through SWIMS 3.0. |

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| **How To:**Club Admins will start the process in SWIMS (hub.usaswimming.org) through the following menu:Club --> My Club; then Administrative --> Meets --> Request a Meet Sanction.If you have questions on who/how to access, please email admin@niagaraswim.org. |

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| 1) Enter the basic Meet Information and upload the meet announcement (it is not Optional for the Niagara Application process).* Please note that the year and LSC are already appended to the name of the meet. For example, if you enter "2022 Meet Name" in the Meet Name field, it will become "2022 NI 2022 Meet Name."

2) Complete all fields on the info page -- they are all required. If you do not see your facility, please reach out to admin@niagaraswim.org for assistance. All host facilities need to be part of the club record.* Meet Classification: you will most commonly choose Invitational or Open. If your meet has only one club, you may choose Intra Squad. If it has only two clubs, you may choose Dual Meet. Questions about what to choose should go to admin@niagaraswim.org

3) Next, enter at least one session. The session information should accurately reflect your expected sessions for the meet. This information ties into OTS, and the Meet Refs will need this to enter their information accurately.4) Lastly, enter the meet staff. You will need to know the ID of your Meet Director, Meet Ref, and Meet Contact (can be the same as the Meet Director if desired).* Niagara strongly encourages you to have all these roles identified **before starting**. If you need an ID, please email admin@niagaraswim.org (or just ask the person you need to enter)!

5) Submit payment of $25/day to:Eric Stimson1185 Doebler DriveNorth Tonawanda, NY 14120Thank you for your attention to this new process. Again, if you need assistance or have questions on this process, please contact admin@niagaraswim.org or adminVC@niagaraswim.org. |

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