



YMCA National Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee YMCA Sanctioned Championship Swim Meets

This document sets forth the criteria for having a swim meet recognized as a YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet for purposes of serving as a qualifying meet for entry into the YMCA National Short Course or Long Course Swimming Championship meets. Required elements are listed first, followed by the explanation for each.

Required Elements of a YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet

- The meet is a closed YMCA meet
- The meet and all participants adhere to the *Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports*
- USA Swimming Technical Rules are used
- The meet is conducted by a minimum of three certified officials, at least two of whom are certified YMCA Swim Officials and one of whom is a YMCA Level II Swim Official and this individual serves as the Meet Referee
- Only coaches with current CPR, First Aid, Lifeguard/YASA/Safety Training for Swim Coaches and Principles of YMCA Competitive Swimming and Diving certifications are permitted on deck
- All swimmers are full privilege members of their YMCA and have represented only their YMCA in competition (high school excepted) for a period of 90 days prior to the start of the meet
- The meet has entry standards
- The meet is: the highest level championship meet for a given region, an end-of-season meet at a higher level for a given region, or a championship-style invitational that includes competitors from multiple regions and with a level of competition higher than that offered in their region
- At least 75% of the individual events and 60% of the relays in the YMCA National Championship Meet events are offered
- All participating teams have completed the YMCA Team Registration for the current season
- All coaches have completed the online YMCA coach registration for the current season

Purposes

A YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet is a celebration of the YMCA values and the accomplishments of YMCA swimmers through competitive swimming. It is the next logical progression, beyond local dual and invitational meets, by which the individual YMCA team integrates their smaller team community within an expanded YMCA community of teams in a broader geographic area, prior to participating in the National Championships.

As such, a YMCA Championship Meet sanctioned under the criteria set forth below provides the opportunity for individual swimmers to satisfy the YMCA National Championship entry requirement to participate in a YMCA Sanctioned, Closed Championship. Because the minimum age for entry into a YMCA National Championship Meet is twelve (12), a sanction applies to 12 and older competition only. There is no need to apply for a YMCA sanction for a competition for ages eleven and younger.

Eligibility

Eligibility of swimmers to participate in a YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet is set forth in the Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports and the YMCA Competitive Swimming Black Book. The Meet host may not waive these eligibility requirements.

A YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet shall be a closed competition as that term is defined in the Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports.

All swimmers must be full privilege members of their YMCA and must have represented only their YMCA in competition (high school excepted) for a period of 90 days prior to the start of the meet.

All swimmers must have previously represented their YMCA in YMCA closed competition meets during the current season.

All teams must be currently registered through the YMCA Online Team Registration system in order to participate in the meet.

All coaches must be currently registered through the YMCA Online Team Registration system and must show current certifications in the following safety courses in order to be permitted on deck at a YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet:

- First Aid

- CPR

- Safety Training for Swim Coaches *OR* Lifeguard *OR* YASA*

- Principles of YMCA Competitive Swimming and Diving

*If a Lifeguard or YASA certification is used, the coach must also pass the online Red Cross Safety Training for Swim Coaches test and show proof.

Coaches may show their current YMCA coach credential, current USA Swimming coach credential with the Y stamp or the individual current certification cards.

Scope of the Meet

A YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet must be :

The highest level end of season championship meet offered in that geographic area (i.e., group, cluster, district, etc.)

-or-

An end of season meet at a higher level (e.g., a state or field meet)

-or-

An in-season invitational meet that is open to YMCA teams from various geographic areas and of equal or greater competitive level than the above referenced district, cluster, state, field meets.

For local geographic area meets (group, cluster, district), the meet must be open to all YMCA teams in that local area and must attract a majority of the YMCA teams in the area

In geographic areas with a heavy concentration of YMCA teams, championship meets may be organized at different levels (eg. Gold, Silver and Bronze or A, B and C) and such meets may qualify for sanctioning.

In such heavily concentrated areas, an end of season dual meet team championship or other local end of season championship meet would normally not be eligible to be sanctioned.

The meet must be scored by team. Meets can be scored by women and men and by age group, but there should also be a combined score for each team.

Events Offered

As this is a championship level meet, which will qualify swimmers to swim at the YMCA National Championships, it is expected that at least 75% of the individual events swum at Nationals would be offered at such a YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet, including at least 60% of the relays swum at Nationals. The fact that some of the events offered are not swum due to lack of entrants will not automatically revoke the meet sanction.

Events offered must generally be scheduled as age-group events, although some events may be scheduled as open events (e.g., 400 IM, 1000 and 1650 Freestyle, etc.).

Events may be run as timed finals events, although where possible, a preliminaries and finals format is recommended, at least for the older swimmers who may qualify for Nationals.

Entry Standards

To qualify for a sanction a meet must have published entry standards, such as time standards, or the level of finish at a lower level meet (e.g., the top six finishers at each cluster meet move on to the district meet). Meets without any qualifying entry standards normally would not be sanctioned as a YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meet. (It is understood that in areas of less intense competition or

less YMCA geographic density, meet viability may necessitate eligibility for all team members, i.e., no time entry standards.)

Meet Conduct and Administration

YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meets must be run under USA Swimming Technical Rules. It is recommended that they also follow the USA-S Administrative Regulations of Competition in Part Two of the Rulebook, modified to adapt to local conditions.

It is expected that YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meets will obtain "Approved Meet" status from the local USA-S LSC and enter the results into the USA-S SWIMS database.

YMCA Sanctioned Championship Meets must be officiated by YMCA certified officials. USA-S certified officials may assist in the officiating and should be encouraged to do so. However, the Meet Referee must be YMCA certified and two additional YMCA certified officials must be on deck at all times, one of whom must be the deck referee. A copy of the Meet Referee's YMCA Certified Official's card must be submitted with the sanction request.

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