

Middle School Swimming and Diving

Frequently Asked Questions

Are there rules that apply to Middle School Swimming and Diving?

Yes! If your high school is a member of MSHAA, then so is your Middle School. The rules are available from your Athletic Director by asking to see the Handbook for the current year. There is an entire section dedicated Middle School Rules. The rules are summarized below. In addition, all national high school federation rules apply and must be followed during competitions.

What determines the school that an athlete would swim for?

A Student must be enrolled in at least 50% of his/her current classes in the school for which he or she competes.

Are there Co-ops in Middle School?

Yes, just because your HS might have a Co-op, it doesn't mean your Middle School does. In order to be a co-op, your school must follow the same application procedure used for High School Co-ops.

Are there Eligibility rules to compete? Yes! See below

- In order to **represent** a Junior High/Middle School there must be a physical on file in the offices of the superintendent or principal or athletic director of the middle school they attend and will swim or dive for during that season. The physical must be for the current school year certifying that the student has passed a physical exam and is physically able to compete.
- Students wanting to compete in MS cannot be older than 15 before September 1st
- Student must have passing grades in at least 50% of a full class load. A first year MS student can compete without reference to his or her record in the 5th grade; however; a student who repeats a grade is subject to academic requirements.

My Middle School is 6-8 or 5-8 grades. Can they all be on the Middle School team and compete in a meet?

6th graders are now eligible to compete against 7-8 graders. MHSAA is now recognizing 6-8 as Middle School. If your school changes their MS program to include 6th graders then they can swim and dive effective 2016.

Can I just pull Middle School aged kids off my Club team and compete in a Middle School meet?

Not unless all your club swimmers have physicals on file at the Middle School for which he or she attends 50% or more and is academically passing 50% or more of a full load.

Can my MS swim team compete in both Middle School competitions and club competitions?

Yes but not more than 2 outside meets! A student who, after practicing with or participating in a contest or scrimmage as a member of a junior High /Middle School Athletic Team cannot participate in more than 2 outside contest during the remainder of the season. An event held on not more than three consecutive calendar days is considered a single meet. For example a club meet with events running Friday, Saturday and Sunday counts as one outside meet.