



2026 NEW ENGLAND 15-18 AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Presented by: Crimson Aquatics

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

February 26-March 1, 2026

Held under the sanction of USA Swimming/New England: NE26-0226CRIM

Hosted by



SSRP

| ROLE | NAME | EMAIL | PHONE |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Meet Director | Patty Spring | crimaquatics@gmail.com | 978-495-1317 |
| Meet Referee | Derek Helmer | dhelmer1970@gmail.com | |
| Entry Chairperson | Gabrielle Hunt | gabriellehunt@live.com | 603-540-9103 |
| Admin. Referee | Jessica Workman | Jessworkman.swim@gmail.com | 802-238-2326 |
| Safety Monitor | Mike Spring | crimaquatics@gmail.com | 978-495-1317 |

QUALIFYING TIME STANDARDS

APPLICATION TO OFFICIATE

SESSIONS:

| | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Prelims Warm-Up | ----- | 7:30-8:55am | 7:30-8:55am | 7:30-8:55am |
| Prelims Start | ----- | 9:00am | 9:00am | 9:00am |
| Finals Warm-Up | 4:00-4:50pm | 4:15-4:50pm | 4:15-4:50pm | 4:15-4:50pm |
| Finals Start | 5:00pm | 5:00pm | 5:00pm | 5:00pm |

NOTE: The Meet Director, with the concurrence of the Meet Referee, reserves the right to modify session times once entries are received. *Any updated session times received from the meet host will be reflected on the Event Page of the New England Swimming website.*

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| IMPORTANT DEADLINES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OME opens: February 1, 2026 ● Final Date of Entry: February 17, 2026, by 11:59pm ● Payment Deadline: February 21, 2026 ● New Cuts Deadline: February 23, 2026 by 8:00pm |
| SITE | The WPI Competition Pool is a 10-lane, 25-yard pool with 7-foot-wide lanes and non-turbulent lane lines. The timing system includes a fully-automatic Colorado Time Systems electronic timing system with touchpads at the finish end of the pool with a full color digital display. There are no touchpads at the turn end of the pool. Four lanes will be separated from the 10-lane competition pool by a bulkhead and used for continuous warm-up and warm down. The finish end of the pool is 6 to 11 feet deep; the turn end of the pool is 6-11 feet deep. Spectator seating is for 350. The pool is located inside the WPI Recreation Center with the main address of 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609. Please enter through the lower entrance adjacent to the track and parking garage off Salisbury Street. Directions may be found later in this document. |
| COURSE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SCY ● Entry times will be seeded in the following order: SCY, LCM, SCM |

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| <p>FORMAT:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The meet will be conducted in a Trials/Finals format. Prelims and finals will be conducted in 10 lanes. There will be 3 heats in Finals: C (bonus), B (consolation), A (championship) heats, in that order, in all events except the 1000 Freestyle and the 1650 Freestyle. The 1000 Freestyle and the 1650 Freestyle will be timed final events. ● 50 yard events, except the 50 Freestyle, will use their time in the 100 of the event to qualify and enter the event, even if they a 50 time in SWIMS. ● DISTANCE EVENTS: The 1000 and the 1650 Freestyle are timed final events. On Thursday evening, the 1000 Freestyle will be seeded fastest to slowest, alternating heats women/men. On Sunday, the fastest heat (10 swimmers) of women’s and men’s 1650 Freestyle will compete in finals. All other heats will be seeded fastest to slowest alternating women/men, immediately after the completion of the final Sunday prelims event. All distance swimmers in the prelim heats must provide one timer for their swims ● EARLY DISTANCE OPTION: During the positive check-in process for the women’s and men’s 1650 Freestyle on Sunday, coaches will have the option of declaring for a preliminary session swim. The fastest 10 swimmers who state no preference to compete in the preliminary session will be seeded into the Finals session. ● THURSDAY DISTANCE: There will be a warm-up session at the conclusion of the distance events and before the 800 Freestyle Relays. The length of warm-up will be determined by the Meet Director after the seeding of the distance events. ● 500 FREESTYLE AND 400 IM: The 500 Freestyle and the 400 IM may be seeded in an A/B Flight format. All swimmers in the 500 Freestyle and the 400 IM must provide one timer regardless of flighting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FLIGHT A: The fastest 4 heats of women will be swum slowest to fastest (with the top 2 heats circle seeded) followed by the fastest 4 heats of men swum slowest to fastest (with the top 2 heats circle seeded) ○ FLIGHT B: The remaining heats will be swum fastest to slowest, alternating women/men. (These heats may be swum at the end of the session.) ● No events will swim with more than one swimmer per lane |
| <p>SCRATCHES</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scratch forms will be located at the Control Table ● Entrants in the Thursday 1000 Freestyle must positively check in and confirm their intention to compete by 4:15pm on Thursday ● Other pre-meet scratches (including Thursday relays) can be emailed to Gabrielle Hunt (gabriellehunt@live.com) by 4:00pm on Thursday. Write SCRATCH-your team’s name in the subject of the email. ● All scratches for prelim sessions, including prelim relays, are due 30 minutes after the start of the finals session the night before. Scratches should be processed, in person, at the control table. In the event that you need to scratch but have not yet arrived at the pool, please email jessworkman.swim@gmail.com. ● All Scratches for Finals session Relays are due to the Admin Referee by the end of that days prelims. ● Positive check-in for the 1650 Freestyle is 30 minutes after the start of finals on Saturday. ● Coaches and swimmers are expected to understand the scratch, verification and relay rules before the meet begins. ● In all events where preliminary heats are necessary or in any timed final event for which the swimmer has been positively checked in, after the heats have been seeded any swimmer who |

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| | <p>fails to complete in an individual event heat in such swimmer entered and has not been scratched will be barred from all further individual and relay events that day. The application of this penalty shall pertain to the order in which the events/heats are swum, not the numerical order of the events. Additionally, that swimmer shall not be seeded in any individual event on succeeding days unless the swimmer declares an intent to swim prior to the close of the scratch box for that day's events. As an alternative, the swimmer may elect to pay a fine of \$100 for immediate reinstatement in the meet, to be split between New England Swimming and the meet host. The Meet Referee has the discretion to waive the penalty in the case of illness, injury, and/or other circumstances beyond the control of the swimmer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scratches from finals will be conducted in accordance with articles 207.11.6D and 207.11.6E in the USA Swimming rules, with the only deviation concerning penalties for failure to compete. Failure to compete in the finals round of a prelim/finals event, without properly scratching, will result in the swimmer being barred from all further competition for the remainder of the meet, including relays. In the event that the swimmer has no further competition from which to be penalized, a \$100 fine will apply, to be split between New England Swimming and the meet host. |
| ELIGIBILITY | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All swimmers must be currently registered as athlete members of USA Swimming (USAS) <i>before 5:00 pm on the day before the first day of the meet.</i> All swimmers 18 & Over must have completed their APT (Athlete Protection Training) 24 hours before the first day of the meet. Swimmers must have achieved at least one qualifying time between June 1, 2024 and the entry deadline. Only New England swimmers may participate in this meet Any swimmer who has competed in NCAA collegiate competition is ineligible to participate in this meet. Age is determined by the age of the swimmer on the first day of the meet. Any swimmer entered in the meet must be certified by a USAS Member-Coach as being proficient in performing a racing start or must start each race from within the water without the use of the Backstroke ledge. When unaccompanied by a Member-Coach, it is the responsibility of the swimmer or the swimmer's legal guardian to ensure compliance with this requirement. Coaches must be registered before the start of the meet. If a swimmer who is not properly registered with USAS competes in a sanctioned competition, the host LSC will impose <i>a fine of up to \$100.00 per event against the individual, member coach, or a member club</i> submitting the entry. Deck Registrations will NOT be accepted. |
| BONUS EVENTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be a time that is verifiable in SWIMS. Time must be achieved between June 1, 2024 and the entry deadline. ALL BONUS EVENTS MUST MEET THE BONUS TIME STANDARDS. Qualify in 1 event - get 3 bonus events Qualify in 2 events - get 2 bonus events Qualify in 3 events - get 1 bonus event |
| DISABILITY SWIMMERS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletes with a disability are welcome; they, or the athlete's coach, shall provide advance notice of desired accommodations to the Meet Director. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The athlete, or the athlete's coach, is also responsible for notifying the Meet Referee of any disability prior to the competition. |
| ENTRY POLICY | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimmers may enter as many events in which they have qualified, but may only compete in a maximum of three (3) individual events per day (including time trials) and a maximum of seven (7) individual events in the meet (not including time trials) |
| VERIFICATION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWIMS DATABASE PROOF OF TIME: Times from USA Swimming Sanctioned, Approved and Observed competitions will be in the SWIMS, the national times database. Times must meet qualifying time standards and any entry times not in the SWIMS database will be rejected. Times must be achieved during the qualifying period. All entries will be verified before the meet. |
| CUT PROTOCOL | <p>If a session is over-subscribed, the following changes will take place in the meet format (in no particular order):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonus events will be cut • 800 Freestyle Relays will be limited to one (1) per team if the session is over-subscribed • Relays beyond B teams will be cut • Some heats of relays in Finals may be moved to Prelims <p>Clubs will be notified of changes by Monday, February 23, 2026</p> |
| ENTRIES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams/Athletes must enter this meet in OME at: www.usaswimming.org/OME by February 17, 2026 by 11:59pm. Credit cards will not be accepted. Once you check out of the entry on OME, send your cover/liability waiver page, a copy of your entry and a check to be received no later than February 21, 2026 to the address below. • It is the coach's responsibility to know the events for which the athlete is qualified. Entries may be modified in OME by adding to the original entry, but only BEFORE you check out. You cannot delete an online entry. Once you complete your online entry, you will be sent a confirmation email by the OME program. Please print this report and include it with your payment and keep a copy for yourself. • Do not email your Hy-tek entry file to the entry chair. • No refunds will be given for entries that are accepted or for entries that are rejected due to improper entry. • No deck entries will be accepted. • Mail completed signed Entry Payment and Liability Release Form, as well as payment, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike Spring 16 Brady Loop Andover, MA 01810 • OPTION FOR ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS: Entry Fees may be paid through <u>Venmo (@Mike-Spring-2)</u> in lieu of payment via check. Teams are still required to bring to the meet, or email as a PDF, a signed Entry Payment and Liability Release Form if paying Entry Fees via Venmo. • Any team that fails to send the Entry Payment and Liability Release Form as well as payment by the aforementioned date may be scratched from the meet and may be assessed a \$100 fine at the discretion of the Entry Chairperson. If no payment is received after 30 days, the fine is doubled. This fine is payable to Crimson Aquatics. Late payment of entry fees may result in future exclusion from meets hosted by our club. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IMPORTANT: If payment is sent via Express Mail/FedEx/Airborne/UPS/etc., please ensure that a signature is NOT required for delivery. ● NEW CUTS: Entries for athletes achieving the qualifying standard for the first time between February 17, 2026 and February 23, 2026 may be sent by email to the Entry Chair in email format. These entries must be received no later than Monday, February 23, 2026 at 8:00pm. Full payment and a printed copy of the entry must be received prior to the start of the meet. If payment is not received the swimmer(s) will be scratched from the meet. ● LATE ENTRIES: Any other additional entries (additional swimmers and/or swims) submitted after the entry deadline constitute late entries. Late entries must be submitted no later than Monday, February 23, 2026 at 8:00pm. No late entries will be accepted thereafter. Any late entries will incur an additional late entry penalty as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$25 per swimmer to add swimmer(s) not already entered into the meet ○ \$25 per relay to add relay entries to the meet ○ \$10 per swimmer to add event(s) for swimmer(s) already entered into the meet ● The Meet Referee has the discretion to waive the late entry penalty in cases of extraordinary circumstances. All late entry penalty fees must be submitted to the meet host prior to the start of the meet and will be split between the meet host and New England Swimming. Teams submitting late entries on a repeat and/or excessive basis may be referred to the Admin Review Board for further action. ● All Unattached swimmers must be declared as “Unattached” on the Entry Payment and Liability Release Form before the meet begins. |
| RELAYS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dual Human Confirmation of relay take off violations will be required at all New England Swimming meets. ● Relays will be limited to 2 Scoring Relays per team per event. However, teams may additional exhibition relay teams. Any relays other than A & B will be marked as Exhibition. ● The 200 Medley Relays must be entered with 200 seed times. ● The Meet Director reserves the right to limit teams to one (1) relay entry for the 800 Free relay after entries are received. ● Relays in finals may be A/B flighted in the following manner: the top 3 heats of women’s relays followed by the top 3 heats of men’s relays will swim slowest to fastest. All other relays will swim in the B flight, fastest to slowest, alternating heats of women and men ● All relay swimmers must be officially entered into the meet. Any relay only swimmers entered in the meet after the entry deadline are subject to the late entry policy and procedures. ● Unattached swimmers may not participate in relays. ● Mixed relays must consist of four swimmers, two of each gender. |
| RELAY CARDS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relay cards are due 1 hour prior to the estimated start of the relays ● Each coach shall pick up relay forms from the control table on which he/she shall list the competing relay swimmers, their first names and last names and the order of swimming for each entered relay. ● Relay order may be changed up until the time of the swim. |
| FEES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Individual Events: \$10.00 ● Relay Events: \$25.00 ● Time Trial Individual Events: \$10.00 ● Time Trial Relay Events: \$40.00 ● Per-Swimmer Participation Fee: \$30.00 |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Per-Swimmer NES Travel Fee: \$2.00 (to be included in the check sent by the host team to NES) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TIME TRIALS | <p>Generally, time trials are open to any swimmer registered with USA Swimming regardless of whether or not they are entered in the meet. However, the Meet Referee may elect to limit time trials to only swimmers entered in the championship meet and/or limit time trials in other ways in the event of time and/or capacity restraints.</p> <p>Any time trial swimmers and/or swims not accommodated due to time and/or capacity constraints are eligible for a refund.</p> <p>If a meet permits time trial-only swimmers, these swimmers must be entered into the meet no later than 24 hours prior to the start of the meet and must pay both the swimmer participation fee and the travel fee. To do so, these swimmers must be submitted to the entry chair by Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 7:00pm. The swimmer's name, club, date of birth and USA ID number must be submitted.</p> <p>If a meet permits time trial-only swimmers, these swimmers are only permitted on the pool deck for session(s) in which they participate in time trials.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MEET MOBILE | <p>MEET MOBILE: Meet Mobile will be functional for this meet, (dependent upon satisfactory internet access) All users should be aware that Meet Mobile publishes unverified raw data that may not always be accurate.</p> <p>Meet Mobile Heat sheets will be offered free of charge.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WARM-UP | <p>USA-Swimming warm-up policies will be in effect for the meet. Diving will be prohibited during warm-up in the warm-up /warm-down pool at all times during the meet. One-way sprint lanes will be announced during warm-ups for starting practice only. Coaches must instruct their swimmers to obey these rules. Failure to comply with designated safety marshal's orders could result in disciplinary action. All swimmers participating in the meet without a USA Registered coach shall report to the referee before warm-ups prior to each session. The last 30 minutes will be controlled warm-up. Lanes 1 & 10 will be pace lanes and lanes 2 & 9 will be sprint lanes. It is up to the discretion of the Meet Referee to declare more pace and sprint lanes as necessary. Failure to abide by these rules and any other rules that may be announced or posted by meet officials during the meet may result in ejection from the facility.</p> <p>See "Safety" for Warm-up safety guidelines.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AWARDS | <p>The first 3 places in individual events and relay events will receive awards. Timelines for the evening sessions, including any awards ceremonies, will be distributed during the Finals warm-ups. Awards will be presented to the top three high point winners for women, men and teams. The high point ceremony will take place on Sunday evening at the conclusion of the session. Coaches are responsible for making sure their swimmers are present to receive their awards. Please note that only the top 20 final swims will be scored for team and high point awards.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCORING | <p>Scoring: 1st to 20th place</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>PL</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IND</td> <td>24</td> <td>21</td> <td>20</td> <td>19</td> <td>18</td> <td>17</td> <td>16</td> <td>15</td> <td>14</td> <td>13</td> <td>11</td> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> <td>7</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RLY</td> <td>48</td> <td>42</td> <td>40</td> <td>38</td> <td>36</td> <td>34</td> <td>32</td> <td>30</td> <td>28</td> <td>26</td> <td>22</td> <td>18</td> <td>16</td> <td>14</td> <td>12</td> <td>10</td> <td>8</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </table> | PL | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | IND | 24 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | RLY | 48 | 42 | 40 | 38 | 36 | 34 | 32 | 30 | 28 | 26 | 22 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| PL | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IND | 24 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| RLY | 48 | 42 | 40 | 38 | 36 | 34 | 32 | 30 | 28 | 26 | 22 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LEGAL SPLITS | <p>Individual Events: Preferably, Legal Splits should be requested before the event, by a coach, using a Legal Split Form (available from the Control Table), and the requesting party should supply an additional timer(s) on the lane for the split, if necessary, to ensure an accurate time (one timer with touchpad timing, three timers without touchpad timing). Timers must be positioned over the lane at the end of the racing course. Optionally, a Legal Split may be requested after the event using a Legal</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>Split Form when using a fully automatic timing system. The Admin Official has discretion to either grant or deny the request after reviewing the available evidence. Backstroke Legal Splits must be requested in advance to ensure a legal finish.</p> <p>LEGAL SPLITS – Relays: All lead-off splits for relays are automatically loaded into SWIMS and do not require additional watches for validation unless there are no touchpads present, or the second swimmer starts in the water. If there are no touchpads, or the second swimmer starts in the water, a legal split form with three watches will be required for entry into SWIMS. Timers must be positioned over the lane at the end of the racing course. It is recommended that coaches report lead-off time discrepancies to the Administrative Referee or Administrative Official. In the event that a relay is disqualified, a legal split on the lead swimmer must be requested.</p> |
| SWIMWEAR | <p>Per USA Swimming rules (102.8.1.F), 12&Under swimmers may not wear a Technical Suit at any Sanctioned, Approved, or Observed meet. The age of the swimmer is determined on the first day of the meet. Guidance on identifying compliant and non-compliant suits can be found on the USA Swimming website under Tech Suit Restriction for 12-and-Under Swimmers.</p> |
| RULES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations including the Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy (MAAPP 2.0) will govern this meet. ● Operation of a DRONE, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present without written USAS approval. ● Use of audio or visual recording devices, including cell phones, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms. In addition, photography behind the blocks is <u>not permitted</u>. ● PHOTOGRAPHY: As per NES policy, professional photographers contracted by M.F. Swimming, LLC, or press photographers who have been approved in advance by the Meet Director, are allowed on deck. Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted behind the starting blocks, including in any spectator area behind the starting blocks, nor in any other marked NO CAMERA ZONE, including on deck. All NO CAMERA ZONES will be clearly designated. Email the Meet Director with questions and requests. ● VIDEO STREAMING: All video streaming must be approved in advance by the Meet Director. Any such video stream must conform to all current SafeSport policies defined by USAS, NES, and the Meet Host. No video stream may originate from behind the starting blocks or from any other area marked as a NO CAMERA ZONE. ● Deck Changing is PROHIBITED. ● An athlete suspected of sustaining a concussion or exhibiting signs of a concussion, will immediately be removed from competition and shall not return to competition that day. The athlete may return to competition on a subsequent day, but only with a release authorization signed by a licensed healthcare provider. ● According to NES Best Practices, all athletes should shower before entering the pool. ● In accordance with NES Policy, only those coaches who have current, valid USAS credentials will be permitted to act in a coaching capacity at this meet. Coaches with expired or non-current credentials will be required to leave the deck area. |
| SAFETY | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No shaving is permitted at the competition site. |

- No glass containers are permitted within the facility.
- Swimmers must be under the supervision of a coach. If a swimmer arrives at the meet without a coach, the swimmer should notify the Meet Referee before he/she warms up, and the Meet Referee will assign the swimmer to a registered coach for warm-ups.
- Lifeguards and an AED will be available. If you require medical assistance please notify a facility lifeguard or a member of the meet staff.

WARM UP SAFETY:

- Diving will be prohibited during warm-ups except in specifically announced one-way sprint lanes. There will be no diving in the warm-up and warm-down areas at any time.
- For all warm-up sessions, swimmers must utilize a “sit-and-slide”/“three-point” entry to enter the pool for warm-ups, by first sitting on the deck, and then sliding, feet-first, into the pool.
- In extraordinary cases, due to bulkheads and other pool designs, it may be determined that it is unsafe or impossible for swimmers to perform the required sit and slide entry. In such extremely rare cases, the sit and slide rule may be modified. Exceptions to the sit and slide rule shall only be made when performing the sit and slide entry poses risk of injury to swimmers and/or risk damaging or ripping of swimsuits. An exception to the sit and slide rule shall only be made when the Safety Monitor, Meet Director, and Meet Referee have evaluated the risks and unanimously determined that the use of the sit and slide entry poses such great risk as to be unsafe. In these cases, the Safety Monitor, Meet Director, and Meet Referee must determine and agree upon an alternative safety plan to ensure swimmer safety.

SAFE SPORT

- The USA Swimming SafeSport program is USAS’s comprehensive abuse prevention program dedicated to creating a healthy and positive environment free from abuse for all its members. Components of the program include, but are not limited to, providing education and training, enforcing policies (such as the [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy](#)), rules and best practice guidelines, promoting healthy boundaries and mandatory reporting of violations.
- The [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy](#) prohibits Adult Participants (as defined) from having one-on-one interactions with minor athletes which are not within an observable and interruptible distance from another adult participant. Adult Participants are required to abide by this policy in full during this meet.
- Pursuant to [USAS Rules and Regulations and](#) federal law, it is every member’s responsibility to immediately (i.e., within 24 hours) report any incident of child abuse, including physical or sexual abuse, to law enforcement and the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. A report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport may be made via telephone at 833-5US-SAFE (833-587-7233), or via online at www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern. Various state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.
- For information on how to report other alleged violations, including without limitation the Code of Conduct found within the USAS Rules and Regulations as well as the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, please visit www.usaswimming.org/report.
- All athletes age 18 and older must complete **Athlete Protection Training** in order to be a USA Swimming registered member in good standing. *Any athlete who turns 18 on or after February 26, 2026, who has not completed Athlete Protection Training by the first day of competition, will*

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| | <i>be prohibited from participating in the competition until such time as all membership requirements are completed.</i> Times achieved by an athlete who turns 18 on or after February 26, 2026, who competes in this USAS sanctioned event without completing this requirement, will NOT count for qualification or recognition. This includes participation as a member of a relay. |
| CHANGES TO MEET | Once a meet is sanctioned, changes can be made to the Meet Information before the meet only with the approval of the Co-Technical Chairs, Patrick Johnstone and Greg Gowern . Any change to the Meet Format after the meet begins will be at the discretion of the Meet Referee and will be presented to the coaches at a coaches meeting. |
| WEATHER/FACILITY PROTOCOL | If weather or facility conditions make it impossible to follow the original timeline of events, the Meet Director and Meet Referee have a right to make changes to the meet sessions. The Meet Director will notify the teams of the changes with as much notice as possible. Cancellation of the meet, or a session, is the decision of the Meet Director, Meet Referee, and the Meet Jury. |
| MEET JURY | The Meet Jury will be made up of one official, one coach, and one athlete to be selected by the Meet Referee who will present issues and moderate the Meet Jury but not vote. When possible, the three members shall be from separate teams. The Meet Jury will decide all issues of eligibility, and anything not addressed in the Meet Announcement. The Meet Referee shall have authority as described in the current USA Swimming Rulebook. |
| DECK ACCESS | <p>Only current USA Swimming registered athletes, coaches, officials, and official meet staff are permitted on the pool deck. All non-athletes on the pool deck must produce proof of their valid USA Swimming registration when asked. Individuals without proof of a valid membership in USA Swimming will be removed from the pool deck and will be fined by New England Swimming \$100 to the coach, and \$200 to the coach's club.</p> <p>Credentials for coaches that will serve as deck passes for this event shall be issued to those coaches listed on each team's deck pass request list. The deck credentials are issued according to the schedule below, based on the total number of participating athletes. If a team wishes to purchase more coach passes than the below stated amounts, there will be a charge of \$35.00 and all coach names and payment must be submitted by the entry deadline. All individuals should check in upon arriving at the meet to pick of their passes.</p> <p>1-3 swimmers in individual events: 1 coach pass 4-6 swimmers in individual events: 2 coach passes 7-9 swimmers in individual events: 3 coach passes 10-20 swimmers in individual events: 4 coach passes 21-30 swimmers in individual events: 5 coach passes 31-40 swimmers in individual events: 6 coach passes 41-50 swimmers in individual events: 7 coach passes 51 or more swimmers in individual events: 9 coach passes</p> <p>Unattached swimmers with a team shall be included in the above schedule even if listed on a separate entry.</p> <p>Unattached swimmers not with a team: 1 coach pass. (Coach must be USA Swimming coach certified.)</p> <p>Replacement passes will be \$10.00 per pass</p> |
| OFFICIALS | Officials that know they will be attending the meet are highly encouraged to email the Meet Referee and let him/her know your level of certification, team, and sessions you will be available. Officials meetings will be at least 30 minutes prior to the start of a session or conducted virtually in the days before the meet. While completing the intent to officiate will help with pre-meet planning, walk-on officials are always welcome and appreciated. |
| ADMISSIONS | <p>No admission fee.</p> <p>Heat sheets will be available for free on Meet Mobile.</p> |

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| GENERAL | A T-Shirt vendor will be available on site. Coach and Official hospitality will be available throughout the meet. Coaches and Officials are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles. |
| TIMERS AND OTHER WORKERS | According to the New England Swimming policy, Crimson Aquatics will make timing assignments for the meet based on the size of the team's entry. Please be cooperative and punctual. We need full cooperation of all teams, large and small, to adequately run this meet. All teams will be given timing/work assignments based on the number of entries. Teams treating this meet as a team travel meet need to ensure that they have enough parental workers at the meet to fulfill their team obligation. The timing assignments will be posted on the web page with ample time to get workers. All swimmers in the 500, 1000, and 1650 Freestyle events, and 400 IM are reminded that they must provide 1 timer. |
| "NO SHOW" WORKERS | If a team does not provide the timers it has been assigned at a championship meet, the team will be fined \$100 per incident and will not be allowed to enter swimmers in another New England meet until the fine(s) are paid. This can be appealed to the Admin Review Board of New England Swimming and is enforced only if the meet management has properly assigned timers based on the number of swimmers a team has entered in the meet. |
| DIRECTIONS | https://maps.app.goo.gl/JTsAtiarYTuf648i7 |
| HOTELS | Residence Inn by Marriott, 503 Plantation Street, Worcester (508)753-6300 Hilton Garden Inn, 35 Major Taylor Blvd, Worcester (508)753-5700 Courtyard by Marriott, 72 Grove Street, Worcester (508)363-0300 Hampton Inn & Suites, 65 Prescott Street, Worcester, (508)886-9005 |
| EVENTS | See below. |
| WAIVERS | USA Swimming, Inc., New England Swimming, Inc., Crimson Aquatics and WPI cannot prevent you (or your children) from becoming exposed to, contracting, or spreading COVID-19 while participating in USA Swimming/New England Swimming sanctioned events. It is not possible to prevent the presence of the disease. Therefore, if you choose to participate in a USA Swimming/New England Swimming sanctioned event, you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19. |



2026 NEW ENGLAND 15-18 AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Presented by: **Crimson Aquatics**
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
February 26-March 1, 2026

Held under the sanction of USA Swimming/New England: NE26-0226CRIM

Hosted by



SSRP

| Thursday, February 26, 2026 | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Finals: 5:00 pm Start | | |
| Women | Event | Men |
| 1 | 200 yard Medley Relay | 2 |
| 3 | 1000 yard Freestyle | 4 |
| 5 | 800 yard Freestyle Relay | 6 |

| Friday, February 27, 2026 | | |
|--|---|-----|
| Prelims: 9:00am start Finals: 5:00pm start | | |
| Women | Event | Men |
| 7 | 200 yard MIXED Freestyle Relay | |
| 8 | 200 yard Freestyle | 9 |
| 10 | 100 yard Breaststroke | 11 |
| 12 | 50 yard Backstroke | 13 |
| 14 | 100 yard Butterfly | 15 |
| 16 | 400 Individual Medley | 17 |
| 18 | 400 yard Freestyle Relay (<i>in finals</i>) | 19 |

| Saturday, February 28, 2026 | | |
|--|---|-----|
| Prelims: 9:00am start Finals: 5:00pm start | | |
| Women | Event | Men |
| 20 | 200 yard MIXED Medley Relay | |
| 21 | 200 yard Butterfly | 22 |
| 23 | 100 yard Freestyle | 24 |
| 25 | 200 yard Backstroke | 26 |
| 27 | 50 yard Breaststroke | 28 |
| 29 | 500 yard Freestyle | 30 |
| 31 | 200 yard Freestyle Relay (<i>in finals</i>) | 32 |

| Sunday, March 1, 2026 | | |
|--|--|-----|
| Prelims: 9:00am start Finals: 5:00pm start | | |
| Women | Event | Men |
| 33 | 1650 yard Freestyle | 34 |
| 35 | 200 yard Individual Medley | 36 |
| 37 | 50 yard Freestyle | 38 |
| 39 | 200 yard Breaststroke | 40 |
| 41 | 100 yard Backstroke | 42 |
| 43 | 50 yard Butterfly | 44 |
| 45 | 400 yard Medley Relay (<i>in finals</i>) | 46 |

ENTRY PAYMENT AND LIABILITY RELEASE FORM

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|---|--|--|
|  | <p>2026 NEW ENGLAND 15-18 AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP</p> <p>Presented by: Crimson Aquatics Worcester Polytechnic Institute February 26-March 1, 2026</p> <p>Held under the sanction of USA Swimming/New England: NE26-0226CRIM</p> | <p><i>Hosted by</i></p>  <p>SSRP</p> |
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|---------------------|--|
| CONTACT INFO | CLUB NAME: CONTACT NAME: CONTACT EMAIL: CONTACT CELL PHONE: LIST UNATTACHED SWIMMERS: |
| ENTRY FEES | Individual Entries all distances: \$10.00 Relay Events @25.00 each Swimmer Participation Fee (@ \$30.00/athlete) _____ = \$ _____ NE Travel Surcharge (@ \$2.00/athlete) _____ = \$ _____ TOTAL DUE _____ \$ _____ |
| PAYMENT | <p>Make Checks Payable To: Crimson Aquatics</p> <p>Send To: Mike Spring 16 Brady Loop Andover, MA 01810</p> <p>Payment Deadline: February 21, 2026</p> |
| WAIVER | <p align="center">LIABILITY RELEASE</p> <p>Any swimmer whose entry is accepted will, for him/her/themselves and his/her/their executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages he/she/they may have against United States Swimming, New England Swimming Inc., Crimson Aquatics and WPI for any and all injuries suffered by him/her at said meet, including COVID-19. In submitting this entry, the undersigned team certifies that all athletes in the entry are registered with USA Swimming and understands that the team may be fined \$100 for each swimmer in the entry that is not registered with USA Swimming.</p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Signature of Authorized Team Official</i> _____ <i>Date</i></p> |