

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION | SWIM & DIVE



# PLAYOFF BULLETIN



2025 - 2026



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# 2026 SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIP BULLETIN

Updated 4/09/26

## DIVING ENTRY PROCEDURES

FOR THE 2026 CIF SOUTHERN SECTION – FORD

## DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Coaches must list their diver/s as participants in the 1/3m diving event @ Swim Meet Maker ([www.SwimMeetMaker.com](http://www.SwimMeetMaker.com)) AND upload an electronic PDF of the qualifying dive list (this is the dive sheet from the meet when the diver achieved their qualifying score). Hand-written sheets (or sheets where a dive verification program was not used to create the list) will not be accepted.

**ENTRIES DUE NO LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>.**

**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

On Tuesday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m., check the <http://faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss> website to see if your diver is listed as one of the top 36 qualifiers. If their name appears, the diver has qualified and can now submit their list at <https://scoresandmorelive/>. This is the list they intend to perform on the day of their divisional championship.

## SWIMMING ENTRY PROCEDURES

FOR THE 2026 CIF SOUTHERN SECTION – FORD

## SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Coaches must submit their entries online via Swim Meet Maker ([www.SwimMeetMaker.com](http://www.SwimMeetMaker.com)).

SwimMeetMaker will be open for entries beginning on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

If, by 4/10/26 you have not yet received an email invitation from SwimMeetMaker, contact Tamara at the CIF Office ([tamarat@cifss.org](mailto:tamarat@cifss.org)) or 562.493.9500.

**All information must be completed and submitted  
NO LATER THAN 9:00 A.M. ON SATURDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>.**

**NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

CIFSS qualifying swimming times must be achieved using a fully automatic timing system

## **ATTENTION ATHLETIC DIRECTOR & SWIMMING/DIVING COACH:**

*The checklist below will assist in covering all entry information needed for the 2026 CIF Southern Section Ford Swimming & Diving Championships.*

- Sign into Swim Meet Maker [www.SwimMeetMaker.com](http://www.SwimMeetMaker.com)  
Register the appropriate information along with all your athletes (**DIVERS ALSO!**). If you have not received an invitation from SwimMeetMaker to create a login and password, please contact Tamara Towgood at the CIF Office (562.493.9500 or [tamarat@cifss.org](mailto:tamarat@cifss.org)). You may sign in and out of SwimMeetMaker changing times and updating entries until the entry deadline of 7pm on Monday, April 27<sup>TH</sup> FOR DIVING and 9am on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> FOR SWIMMING.
- Coaches Contact Information  
When you register your contact information with SwimMeetMaker, make sure you are providing the coach's phone number where he/she can be reached AFTER HOURS. If there are any issues with your entries, this is the number we'll call on the Saturday entries are due. Failure to provide a number where your coach or AD can be reached may result in entries being nullified if they're incorrect and we cannot reach you.
- Coaches and Divers: If you have a diver(s) you must do the following...  
Add the diver to your roster in SwimMeetMaker. Enter the "Qualifying Dive Score" and "Total Degree of Difficulty" for each. To get the total degree of difficulty (DD), add all eleven (11) DD numbers from the qualifying list together. Enter the name of the HIGH SCHOOL dive supervisor (this is the person hired through your district) that will represent the diver on championship day (it may be your swim coach). A club dive coach IS NOT a supervisor unless hired by your school district and cannot act as supervisor. If an athlete(s) arrives without their school designated swim/dive coach, they may not check in, warmup or compete. Upload the PDF of each diver's "Qualifying Dive Sheet". This document is the signed dive list from the meet where the athlete achieved the dive score used to enter. It must be an electronic copy form with all signatures/information completed. At 10am on Tuesday, April 29<sup>TH</sup>, check the website <http://faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss/> to see the top 36 qualifiers per division. If your diver is listed as a qualifier, he/she will then enter their competition dive list at <https://scoresandmore.live/>
- Before Submitting Swimming Entries: Each athlete will be permitted to swim a **maximum** of 4 events, no more than 2 of which may be individual. Being designated as an entry in a relay does not count as an event until the swimmer physically competes. You may list a swimmer in all three relays (and two individual events). You may not list a swimmer in three or more individual events.  
**ENTRIES MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE ENTRY DEADLINE OF MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:00 P.M. FOR DIVING AND SATURDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 9:00 A.M FOR SWIMMING.**
- Pre Verification: If your league championship is conducted using SwimMeetMaker, **UPLOAD THOSE RESULTS FOLLOWING YOUR CHAMPIONSHIPS** as it helps with the time verification process during check-in. Electronic submission of league results from meets **NOT** using SwimMeetMaker may be submitted. Coaches **MUST** maintain verification cards in case electronic submission is not done correctly; you will have to verify your times. **Bring your cards to championships!!!**

**CIFSS qualifying swimming times must be achieved using a fully automatic timing system and diving scores must have been achieved with 5 or more judges!**

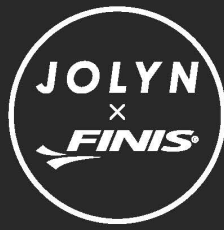
**If you have any questions regarding the information above,**

**Please contact Tamara Towgood ([tamarat@cifss.org](mailto:tamarat@cifss.org)) at the CIF office (562.493.9500).**

**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION DIVING ENTRY DEADLINE IS MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:00 P.M.**

**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION SWIMMING ENTRY DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> @ 9:00 A.M.**

**NO EXCEPTIONS!**



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**JOLYNxFINIS** - Strives to put athletes first by offering choice and discounts on practice suits, tech suits and training equipment for ALL!

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**CONTACT** - teamsales@jolyn.com and a team sales associate will reach out to you.

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34 36 38 40  
YOUTH SIZE  
18 20 22  
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● SHADOW



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Order silicone or latex caps for the team this season! We also offer the option to personalize caps with individual names.

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# CIF Swimming & Diving Online Entry Process

## STEP 1—ACCESSING YOUR SWIMMEETMAKER ACCOUNT

Each school has been assigned a SwimMeetMaker account for his/her team. Once you receive the invitation from SwimMeetMaker you can log in using the username and password that you created last year. Your account will have the ability to enter both boys and girls. If you have other coaches who should have access, use the “Invite Your Coaches” link to complete the account set up process. If you do not have an account from last year, you will get **an invitation to create one. In this case,** the invitation link will be the ONLY way you can create an account in SwimMeetMaker **and have access to the CIF meet.**

**If you have any problems logging in with the username and / or password, contact Tamara Towgood at the CIF Office ([tamarat@cifss.org](mailto:tamarat@cifss.org)) or 562.493.9500**

**\*\*Go to [www.SwimMeetMaker.com](http://www.SwimMeetMaker.com) and log in with your username and password\*\***

## STEP 2--SETTING UP YOUR ONLINE ROSTER

Before entering an athlete into the CIF meet, the athlete must be listed on your team roster.

- 1) Click on the “Roster” tab and either “Add New” (manual) or “Import” (use the available template).
- 2) Review/add/edit your athletes on your roster for the CIF meet by clicking on the “Eligibility” button listed by the CIF Meet.
- 3) Mark which athletes you want eligible to participate in the CIF Championship meet (don’t forget to include your relay alternates and divers!).

## STEP 3--SUBMITTING ONLINE MEET ENTRIES

**Once your athletes are added to your roster, you may start submitting your meet entries.**

- 1) On your SwimMeetMaker HOME page, look at your “Upcoming Meets”. Click on the “Event Entry” button to begin the entry process. If the division is incorrect, contact the CIF office immediately!
- 2) Select the appropriate gender and click the “Load” button. Your roster for the CIF meet should appear. If the roster does not appear, make sure the athletes are on your eligible roster for the meet! (see the Setting up your Online Roster instructions above).
- 3) Mouse over the box corresponding to your athlete and the event to begin entering your athletes into “Individual Events” and “Relay Events” (you should see “Enter” appear). Every time you click the “Save” button in SwimMeetMaker, that athlete is now entered in that event. There is no additional step required to submit your entries.
- 4) For divers, you must enter the diving score and the corresponding degree of difficulty (add all 11 degrees of difficulty from the 11-dive list to obtain the total). **UPLOAD THE DIVE SHEET REFLECTING THE SCORE/DD ENTERED.** This sheet should be signed by the coach and meet official.
- 5) Once you have finished, click on the “Email my entries” link at the bottom of the page to receive an EMAIL confirmation.
- 6) You may make changes to your swimming entries as often as you wish until the entry deadline (**9 AM on Saturday, MAY 2nd**).
  - **Don’t forget to enter your divers into SwimMeetMaker no later than April 27<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.**
  - Make sure the swimming times entered MATCH the verified times on your Green or Yellow CIF Verification Card (**which you must present to Check-In officials at prelims**).
  - As soon as you get this information, login to your account to familiarize yourself with the entry process. Do not wait until the day before the entry deadline!

**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION DIVING ENTRY DEADLINE IS MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:00 P.M.**

**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION SWIMMING ENTRY DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> @ 9:00 A.M.**

CIF-SS Office Contact: Tamara Towgood phone (562)493-9500 email [tamarat@cifss.org](mailto:tamarat@cifss.org).

TO: BOYS' AND GIRLS' SWIMMING & DIVING COACHES  
FROM: KRISTINE PALLE, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER  
SUBJECT: 2026 CIF-SS SWIMMING & DIVING PRELIMS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

This bulletin provides information on procedures and other details of the 2026 CIF Southern Section Swimming & Diving Championships. The Swimming and Diving Championships will be conducted at Mt. San Antonio College, 1100 N Grand Ave., Walnut, CA 91789.

### FORMAT

This year's swimming and diving competitions will be held in four divisions (1, 2, 3, and 4) for both boys and girls. Freelance schools must have requested placement prior to this time.

Individuals and relay teams with the 36 fastest or automatic time standard times will compete in the preliminary event.

## SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

May 5 – 9, 2026

Mt. San Antonio College – 1100 N Grand Ave., Walnut, CA 91789

**NOTE: Athletes and coaches will be admitted to all sessions two hours prior to competition.  
Spectators will be admitted 1 hour prior to competition.**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Prelims</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Finals</u>
1	Thur., May 7 <sup>th</sup> ; 9:00 a.m.	1	Sat., May 9 <sup>th</sup> ; 10:00 a.m.
2	Wed., May 6 <sup>th</sup> ; 4:00 p.m.	2	Fri., May 8 <sup>th</sup> ; 3:00 p.m.
3	Wed., May 6 <sup>th</sup> ; 9:00 a.m.	3	Fri., May 8 <sup>th</sup> ; 9:00 a.m.
4	Tues., May 5 <sup>th</sup> ; 9:00 a.m.	4	Thur., May 7 <sup>th</sup> ; 4:00 p.m.

## DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

April 29 – 30, 2026

Marguerite Aquatic Complex, 27474 Casta Del Sol, Mission Viejo, CA 92692

**NOTE: Athletes and coaches will be admitted to all sessions an hour and a half prior to competition,  
spectators will be permitted 30 minutes prior to competition.**

Athletes and HS coaches must confirm and initial the submitted dive lists before being allowed to enter warm up.  
Changes are permitted until 30 minutes prior to the start of competition.

- WED., April 29:** Session 1: Division 1 Girls  
**Warm up at 8:00 am. Competition Begins at 9:00 am.**  
Session 2: Division 1 Boys, Division 4 Boys and Girls  
**Warm up immediately following conclusion of Session 1.**
- THUR., April 30:** Session 1: Division 2 Boys and Girls  
**Warm up at 8:00 am. Competition Begins at 9:00 am.**  
Session 2: Division 3 Boys and Girls  
**Warm up immediately following conclusion of Session 1.**

### DIVING STATE QUALIFIER (TOP 12 REGARDLESS OF DIVISION)

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. at Mt. San Antonio College, 1100 N Grand Ave., Walnut, CA 91789.

The top 12 divers (12 boys and 12 girls), overall (regardless of division), will come to the state qualifier on Tuesday, May 5th, for a 6-dive, 1-meter qualifying event. From there, the top 6 scores will move on to the state. After the section championships, results will be posted at the Polytechnic site <http://faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss>. If you're one of the top 12, your AD and Swim/Dive coach will receive an email with a link to complete, asking for your intent for the state event.



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## SWIMMING -- QUALIFYING

- (1) A swimmer may qualify for the swimming prelims in any interscholastic dual, triangular, invitational, or league championship meet during the 2026 CIF-SS swimming season. The swimmer may NOT qualify in any competition designated as a time trial or in any meet other than scholastic competition (e.g., USA SWIMMING, YMCA).
- (2) It will be the responsibility of each coach to make sure that their completed online entries are submitted **PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE – Diving MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>; 7:00 p.m. and Swimming SATURDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>; 9:00 a.m.** **IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ACCEPT ANY LATE ENTRIES. THE ONLINE ENTRY PROCEDURE IS FOR BOTH SWIMMING AND DIVING. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. FAILURE TO HAVE THE ONLINE ENTRY PROCESS COMPLETED BY THE DEADLINE, REGARDLESS OF THE REASON, WILL RESULT IN DENIAL OF ENTRANCE INTO THE MEET.**
- (3) **Verification Cards will be submitted AT CHECK IN FOR PRELIMS for the events the athletes are entered in. Time verification cards for all swimmers, including relay teams, must be brought to Prelims and presented at Coaches Check-In.**
- (4) Before a qualifying time from a dual meet is official, it must be signed by the starter and the coach, attesting to the fact that the qualifying time was made in compliance with all the rules. NOTE: There must be automatic timing for entries to qualify as an official time.
- (5) In submitting entries for qualifying times recorded in league championships or invitational meets, it is necessary to have only the signature of the Meet Manager to verify the official time.
- (7) **ALL SWIMMING QUALIFICATION INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE [faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss](http://faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss) ON SATURDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> by 3 P.M.**

## MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EVENTS

- (1) Each athlete will be permitted to enter a **maximum** of 4 events, no more than 2 of which may be individual events (including entries for consideration). Being designated as an alternate on a relay does not count as an event until the swimmer actually competes in the relay. You may enter a swimmer in three relays and two individual events with the notion that the swimmer will not exceed four events. Relay determinations can be made at the meet.
- (2) Each team shall be permitted a maximum of 4 entries per individual event and 1 team per relay event.
1. After the deadline for receiving entries has passed, no athlete may be entered into additional events, (including relays). In relay events, eight individuals may be listed as entries, any four of which shall be assigned to swim, providing the rule of maximum number of events is not violated. Swimmers **MUST BE LISTED** as entrants in the relay events to be eligible to swim in that relay. Swimmers cannot be added after the entry deadline.

## QUALIFYING GUIDELINES

When competition is conducted in 8 lanes or more (open lanes count towards the 8), 2 officials will be required for CIF time standard verification. If 2 officials cannot be obtained, qualification will only be recognized within the first 6 lanes (open lanes count towards the 6) from the starter.

## CONSIDERATION TIMES

Information regarding entrance into the meet via a consideration time will be available on the website [faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss](http://faculty.polytechnic.org/cifss) on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> by 3:00 p.m. **Any questions, corrections, or concerns can be emailed to Tamara Towgood of the CIF Southern Section at [tamarat@cifss.org](mailto:tamarat@cifss.org).**

## SEEDING

Seeding for all divisions will follow National Federation rules and will be based upon the qualifying times submitted for each athlete.

## **SCORING**

Varsity (18 places)

(1) Relays: 44-38-36-34-32-28-26-24-20-16-14-12-10-8-6-4-2

(2) Individual Events: 22-19-18-17-16-14-13-12-10-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

## **ADMISSION TO SWIMMING**

2. **PARTICIPANTS** – Qualifiers will be allowed to enter the warm up pool (1.5) hours prior to competition with their coach.
- (1) **COACHES** – Teams will be given one (1) coaches deck pass. If a school has 12 or more entries (same gender) the school may have two deck passes.
- (2) **PARTICIPANT SEATING** - Participant seating areas will be located inside the swimming stadium. Designated areas are participant seating only.
- (3) **SPECTATORS** – Will be admitted 30 minutes prior to meet start. There will be designated spectator areas. Spectators may not be behind the blocks, in the coaches’ area or on deck.
- (4) **TRAINERS** - Training tables may be set up in designated team areas. Schools are encouraged to have medical personnel or school trainers available for injuries and emergencies.
- (5) **SHAVING** - For health reasons, shaving may not be done at any competition site. (Per Rule 3-6-1, page 32, 2023-2024 NFHS Swimming Rule Book)

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **SWIM SUITS**

**SPECIAL NOTE:** A competitor shall not be permitted to participate wearing a suit that is not of **decent appearance**. Boys’ suits will cover the **buttocks**. Girls shall wear suits that cover the buttocks and chest. (Per NFHS Rule 3-3-1) **Any competitor found in violation of this rule will not be permitted to participate.** In addition, all suits **MUST** comply with National Federation specifications.

### **STARTING AND TIMING SYSTEM**

An electronic timing system with a tone starter will be used.

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# 2026 BOYS' AND GIRLS' VARSITY DIVING STANDARDS

## DIVING POINTS FOR QUALIFYING FOR THE CIF SOUTHERN SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS

**“CIFSS qualifying diving scores must be achieved in a meet where electronic software containing a “dive verifying program” and 5 judges are used. Some examples are eDive and [divemeets.com](http://divemeets.com).”**

A diver MAY qualify for the championships by any one of the following methods:

1. Perform a list with the “Automatic D.D.” in their respective division and achieve the Qualifying score. This may be done in an 11- dive invitational meet or an 11-dive league championship contest.
2. Perform a list with the “Consideration D.D.” AND earn a qualifying score in their respective division. This may be done in an 11- dive invitational meet or an 11-dive league championship contest.
3. Rank within the top 36 divers of the division based on the “Consideration D.D.” with the “Consideration Score”.

NOTE: Any failed or incorrect dive on the qualifying scoresheet will have a 0.0 D.D. when calculating the total D.D. for an entry list. This will eliminate the possibility of listing a high D.D. dive that a diver cannot complete just to achieve the qualifying standard.

TO ENTER AS CONSIDERATION...Diver can submit one 11-DIVE Contest Sheet for CONSIDERATION which meets both the D.D. and Score requirement from an 11-dive contest. Divers in the consideration category will be ranked based on the total D.D. of the submitted list. Total score will only be used to break any ties for the final qualification spots.

For invitational meets, 3-meter diving will no longer be allowed for those schools which have diving pools with a water depth of 12 feet or less. **League Championship meets must be conducted on 1m boards ONLY.** 1-meter and/or 3-meter diving will continue to be an event in our CIF Southern Section Championship meet. Attached are the Diving Tables for both 1-meter and 3-meter diving.

**REMINDER:** 3-meter diving will be permitted at CIF sanctioned Invitational and CIF-SS Championships only.

### 2026 DIVING -- GIRLS Varsity Cut-off points

GIRLS	QUALIFYING SCORE	AUTOMATIC D.D. for all 11 dives	CONSIDERATION D.D. for all 11 dives
<b>11 DIVE COMPETITION</b>			
DIVISION 1	300	21.5	20.1
DIVISION 2	275	20.5	19.0
DIVISION 3	250	19.4	18.0
DIVISION 4	275	19.4	18.0

**“CIFSS qualifying diving scores must be achieved in a meet where electronic software containing a “dive verifying program” and 5 judges are used. Some examples are eDive and [divemeets.com](http://divemeets.com).”**

### 2026 DIVING -- BOYS Varsity Cut-off points

BOYS	QUALIFYING SCORE	AUTOMATIC D.D. for all 11 dives	CONSIDERATION D.D. for all 11 dives
<b>11 DIVE COMPETITION</b>			
DIVISION 1	300	21.5	19.5
DIVISION 2	275	20.5	18.9
DIVISION 3	250	19.4	18.0
DIVISION 4	250	19.4	18.0

# DIVING ENTRY PROCEDURE FOR 2026

## TO REGISTER FOR THE 2026 DIVING COMPETITION – THREE THINGS MUST HAPPEN

1. Coach will register divers name, qualifying score, total degree of difficulty and upload qualifying dive sheet in SwimMeetMaker, along with listing the name of the High School Certified supervisor that will be accompanying the athlete to the CIF competition.
2. BOTH THE COACH & DIVER **MUST REGISTER** at <https://scoresandmore.live/>. This will be the site used to manage all dive lists for championships. Follow the specific directions on the site to proceed. **ENTRIES ARE DUE BY MONDAY APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00PM. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
3. You must upload your signed qualifying dive sheet to Swim Meet Maker. (also mentioned in step 1)

Although changes can still be made up to 30 minutes before the contest, (Rule 9, Section 3, Article 5), all divers must have their verified list confirmed and initialed by the diver and high school coach before being allowed entry for warm-ups.

## SUPERVISION OF ATHLETES

The Southern Section Office has experienced a problem which has perpetuated itself over the past few years as it pertains to proper supervision and entry of student-athletes in the post-season playoffs.

The situation relates mostly to individual sports, i.e. CROSS COUNTRY, INDIVIDUAL TENNIS, TRACK, SWIMMING/DIVING, etc. and the official recognition and registration of entrants at the respective playoff sites.

State and Southern Section Rule 503E states:

No CIF team (i.e., individual) shall participate in inter-scholastic or approved competition with any other team unless the CIF team is under supervision as required by the California Administrative Code Title V and CIF By-Law #506A and #506B. (Additionally, refer to Rule 123.)

Those persons APPROVED FOR SUPERVISION PURPOSES are limited to:

- A. Certificated personnel
- B. Certified Coaches (certified credentialed coaches)
- C. Non-certificated temporary coaches (certified walk-on coaches.)

(It should be noted that schools representing the same DISTRICT may send one credentialed or certified supervisor for multiple athletes. These individuals have been recognized and are to continue to be recognized for registration and participation purposes in that the district has assigned the supervisory role for all students from its member schools to this one individual.)

However, the concern is for those students who ARE NOT accompanied by a faculty representative and report to the playoff site by themselves or with a parent. ***GIVING PARENTS THE SUPERVISION AUTHORITY, WHETHER IN WRITING OR NOT, DOES NOT MEET THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THE ABOVE REGULATIONS. This also applies to parents who are the student's private coach but are not under contract to the member school.***

PLEASE NOTE, THIS RULE WAS REVIEWED BY BOTH THE STATE CIF OFFICE, ITS GENERAL COUNSEL AND THE SOUTHERN SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. IT HAS BEEN REAFFIRMED THAT THE INTERPRETATION STANDS AS ABOVE AND THAT ANY STUDENT REPORTING FOR COMPETITION WHO IS NOT UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND SOUTHERN SECTION RULE 308, IS TO BE DENIED ENTRY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION.

As pointed out by the Southern Section and State CIF attorney, there are inherent liability problems when an individual competes in violation of said rule. Please review this rule with your staff in that it will be strictly enforced as per the above application.



# CIFSS UNIFIED SPORTS®



## Vision of Unified Sports®

The vision of Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC) and the CIF Southern Section is to allow high school students with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to represent their high school in CIF Southern Section-sanctioned activities while participating **together** on a Unified Sports® team, providing students with a quality experience of sports training and competition.

## Unified Sports® Team Philosophy

As a Unified Team, Unified Athletes and Partners train together to learn the basic skills of a given sport. ***The primary objective of the Unified Sports® program is for athletes and their partners to make meaningful, personal connections throughout their season of sport and beyond.*** The CIF Southern Section and Special Olympics California trust that administrators and coaches will use proper judgment in determining who will participate in Unified competition and in what capacity. The CIF Southern Section wishes to promote the inclusion of all students in education-based athletics as part of the school community. When establishing Unified Sports® teams and partnerships, there should be an emphasis on fostering healthy competition and quality experiences for Unified Athletes.

## Definition of a Unified Athlete

For the purposes of CIF Southern Section competition, a Unified Athlete is an individual who meets **one** of the following criteria:

1. Receives special education services under the eligibility of intellectual or developmental disability (ID or DD) or Autism. Must be indicated on the athlete's Individualized Education Program (IEP).
2. Receives special education services and is on a non-diploma track or alternative pathway as indicated on the athlete's IEP.
3. Receives special education services in a moderate/severe program as indicated on the athlete's IEP.

Note: A person whose functional limitations are based solely on a physical, behavioral, or emotional disability or a specific learning or sensory disability is not eligible to participate as a Special Olympics athlete but may be eligible to participate as a Unified Partner.

Note: To qualify as a Unified Athlete, the student must not compete at the varsity level in their sport or event during the season of sport.

## Definition of a Unified Partner

A Unified Partner is an individual that meets all the following criteria:

1. A student at the same school who does not qualify as a Unified Sport Athlete.
2. A student who practices regularly with a Unified Athlete throughout the season in the sport in which they both participate.
3. A student who does not participate at the varsity level in the same sport or event as their Unified Athlete partner.

Neither a Unified Athlete nor Partner, at a school with more than one level of competition, may participate at the varsity level at any time during the season of sport. All Unified Athletes and Partners **MUST** be eligible by all CIF rules and regulations if they wish to participate in a school-sponsored Unified Sports® Program. The school administrator overseeing special education, and the athletic director must verify the criteria above before competition.

## Practice

All Unified Sports® participants must complete a minimum of eight (8) practices before competing in an interscholastic contest or tournament.

# CIFSS Paralympic Athlete Description



## GENERAL GUIDELINES:

The 100 yard Freestyle and the 50 yard Freestyle Para-Athlete Events are scheduled for the Ford CIF Southern Section Swimming Championships.

- Para-Athlete events will be incorporated into the state meet by the CIF Southern Section staff.
- Para-Athletes will compete in separate races from traditional athletes.
- The top eight (8) athletes in each event will receive medals.

## ELIGIBILITY:

- All applicable CIF rules and regulations will apply.
- Any high school student may be eligible to participate in the Para-Athlete Division with a documented permanent physical disability. Each athlete's physical disability must be verified by a licensed physician and maintained on permanent file at the school (i.e. IEP, 504).
- Schools and athletes are responsible for all aspects of participation in the events. (See Bylaw 503).

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Entries will be accepted through the CIF Southern Section provided link, no later than the meet entry deadline for all athletes.

- If more than nine (9) participants submit eligible entries in any event, we will create an additional heat.
- All qualifiers will be posted on the CIF Southern Section website at the time they become available.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### **Where can athletes compete?**

Swim Para-Athletes can compete at any CIF sanctioned meet.

### **How does an athlete participate for their high school swim team?**

The athlete must follow the same procedure at their school that has been established for traditional athletes competing in swim.

### **Can athletes in different classifications compete against one another in the same heat?**

Yes, Boys and Girls heats may be combined for competition and separated at the conclusion to determine places for each gender and/or division.

### **Can a parent represent a Para-Athlete at the State Championships?**

Athletes must be represented by their high school swim coach. The coach must be hired/appointed by the school. Coaches must meet all coaching certification requirements.

### **Are the NFHS uniform rules in place for Para-Athletes?**

Yes, all uniform rules and regulations are in effect just as with traditional athletes. Any exceptions/modification may need to be considered and presented to meet officials for clarification.



# CIF Southern Section Ford Championships

## Order of Swimming Events

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Unified Girls 2 x 50 Freestyle Relay

Unified Boys 2 x 50 Freestyle Relay

Girls 200 Medley Relay

Boys 200 Medley Relay

Girls 200 Freestyle

Boys 200 Freestyle

Girls 200 IM

Boys 200 IM

Girls 50 Freestyle

Boys 50 Freestyle

Paralympic Girls 50 Freestyle

Paralympic Boys 50 Freestyle

Diving (completed on previous date)

Girls 100 Butterfly

Boys 100 Butterfly

Girls 100 Freestyle

Boys 100 Freestyle

Paralympic Girls 100 Freestyle

Paralympic Boys 100 Freestyle

Girls 500 Freestyle

Boys 500 Freestyle

Girls 200 Freestyle Relay

Boys 200 Freestyle Relay

Unified Mixed 4 x 25 Free Relay (may be co-ed but swam in the boys' finals only)

Girls 100 Backstroke

Boys 100 Backstroke

Girls 100 Breaststroke

Boys 100 Breaststroke

Girls 400 Freestyle Relay

Boys 400 Freestyle Relay



## CIF SOUTHERN SECTION PLAYOFF/CHAMPIONSHIP REQUIREMENTS - ALL TEAMS AND HOST SITES 2025-2026



### Rosters & Scores:

- Complete schedules are to be submitted to CIFSSHOME prior to each season.
  - Update scores following every contest direct to CIFSSHOME
- Additional directions on accessing CIFSSHOME are included in this document.

### TV/Web/Radio Rights:

Any TV or streaming webcast (video or audio) or radio transmission of a CIF-SS playoff or championship event requires a contract and rights fees through the CIF-SS office prior to the contest. The only ‘exceptions’ are: Games broadcast via The NFHS Network, Spectrum Sports Net, Spectrum.

### ‘Official’ Championship Souvenirs:

The exclusive vendor for CIF Southern Section Championship souvenirs (t-shirts, scarfs, pins, beanies, hats, etc...) is our long-time partner *CIF T-shirts*. These are the official items sold each year per sport. You are likely familiar with their annual shirts at the finals. You can order team and individual items through them at [www.ciftshirts.com](http://www.ciftshirts.com).

### Official Ball Required:

Only the approved official ball in each ball sport may be played by either school during CIF-SS playoff contests. Violation of this rule will result in loss of your next home playoff game. The current Official Ball list for each sport is included and available at [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org) in the “Resources” drop down. This policy has been in effect since 2002.

### Gatorade Only:

Only Gatorade jugs, cups, bottles, ice chests may be used or visible during any CIF-SS playoff contest. (No Powerade, Body Armor, etc). The only acceptable alternative is a plain-wrap or Igloo labeled products. This rule does not apply to the actual liquid distributed to athletes. This policy has been in effect since 1995.

### CIF-SS on Souvenirs:

The ‘CIF Southern Section’, ‘CIF-SS’, ‘Southern Section’ and ‘CIF’ marks and logos are registered trademarks with the State of California. Schools may only use the CIF Southern Section marks on rings, patches and banners, by doing business with a CIF-SS licensed vendor. **Schools may only use the CIF Southern Section marks on apparel and other souvenir items exclusively through [ciftshirts.com](http://ciftshirts.com). Schools creating items with CIF-SS registered marks from a non-licensed vendor will face sanction and/or will be required to purchase any unsold shirts/items at the Championship Final.** A list of the currently licensed vendors for these products is included and regularly updated on [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org).

Please note: The use of only “CIF” is strictly prohibited per the State CIF registered trademark. The “CIF”, is not just the CIF Southern Section. Only those teams in State regionals, bowl games and individual sport finals actually qualify to use CIF without Southern Section attached. Any such use must be approved in advance by the CIF State office.

## **Host Site Requirements:**

- Playoff Tickets:** (This pertains to revenue sports of basketball, football and volleyball): It is mandatory to sell tickets for admission to all CIF-SS playoffs and championship contests. Through the CIF-SS partnership with GoFan, all playoff tickets will be made available online for digital purchase and presented electronically at the event gate for entry. Patrons can purchase in advance via [gofan.co](http://gofan.co), via private links made available by the participating schools or via QR code at the entry gate of the playoff event. All playoff revenue will be sent directly to CIF-SS. Both the host and visiting schools will be required to submit a financial/expense report following each playoff game in an effort to receive reimbursement for game expenses and revenue share split in the case of a profit game.
- CIF-SS/FORD Banner:** It is a requirement of each host school (including off-site) that the CIF-SS/Ford Championship banner be displayed at every playoff home game in football and the gymnasium sports post football season (or on the electronic signage where schools/venues do not display banners). If you need a banner please contact [jackieg@cifss.org](mailto:jackieg@cifss.org)
- Gatorade:** It is a requirement of each school use only Gatorade product/jugs/cups/squeeze bottles during CIF-SS championship events. No other competitive product shall be used. Water can be placed in Gatorade merchandise.
- PA Announcements:** As a host of a CIF-SS playoff contest, the CIF-SS announcements take precedence over the host school's messaging and must be read in entirety at each playoff contest. Home schools are the host of a CIF-SS event in the playoffs. For contractual requirements, please read all the provided PA's each contest. PA's for each sport can be found on [cifss.org](http://cifss.org) under the designated sports page.
- Media Credential Access:** Accredited working media should be given admission to all playoff games by showing their CIF-SS Media credential.



**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION PLAYOFF/CHAMPIONSHIP  
ADDITIONAL/CUSTOM POST SEASON AWARDS  
2025-2026**



**PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES:** Each member of a team participating in the CIF-SS playoffs can receive a Participation Certificate. These certificates will be downloaded and printed solely by your school. The certificate is in a ‘Type-In’ format and may be downloaded from the CIFSSHOME website under **AWARDS**.

**NEED ADDITIONAL AWARDS:** Feel free to order directly.

**Plaques:** If your team won or was a finalist in a CIF-SS championship and you need to purchase any additional champion/finalist plaques contact **All American Trophy by contacting at (323) 725-1962**.

**“Champion”, “Finalist”  
“ALL-CIF” Patches** Champion, Finalist and ALL-CIF patches must be exclusively ordered through **JL Custom Jackets and Patches at [www.jlcustomjackets.com](http://www.jlcustomjackets.com), (951) 867-3200**

**CUSTOM AWARDS/ RINGS/BANNERS/APPAREL SOUVENIRS USING CIF-SS:**

Schools often seek to create custom patches, gym banners and championship rings that include both the school and CIF-SS marks/logos/names. Example: ‘ACME BOYS BASKETBALL 2022 CIF-SS CHAMPIONS’. Schools may create these items using CIF-SS marks only through a CIF-SS licensed vendor.

*CIF-SS ‘registered’ trademark:* The “CIF Southern Section”, “CIF-SS”, “Southern Section” and “CIF” marks and logos are registered trademarks with the State of California. Schools may only use the CIF Southern Section marks on rings, patches and banners by doing business with a CIF-SS licensed vendor. Schools creating items with CIF-SS registered marks from a non-licensed vendor will face sanction and/or will be required to purchase any unsold shirts/items at the Championship final if similar non-licensed items appear at the contest. A list of the currently licensed vendors for these products is included and regularly updated on [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org).

Please note: The use of only “CIF” is strictly prohibited per the State CIF registered trademarks. Only those teams in State regionals, bowl games and individual sport finals actually qualify to use CIF without Southern Section attached. Any such use must be approved in advance by the CIF State office.

**CIF-SS vendors who are licensed to create custom items for schools that include CIF-SS:**

Championship Patches (circle shape) Playoffs or Prelims, Finals Patches (shape of a shield) for participation in Cross Country, Track & Field or Swimming Finals, Masters Patches (oval shaped) for participation in a Masters Track & Field or Wrestling event and Wrestling Dual Meet (rectangle shaped) are sold “ON-SITE” by the CIF-SS vendor. Additional patches post event can be ordered through any of the licensed CIF-SS patch vendors:

## •Chenille Patches

JL Varsity Jackets & Patches	<a href="http://www.jlcustomjackets.com">www.jlcustomjackets.com</a>	(951) 867-3200
CIF Tshirts	<a href="http://www.cifsstshirts.com">www.cifsstshirts.com</a>	(951) 789-5858
C&L Custom Jackets	<a href="http://www.cljackets.com">www.cljackets.com</a>	(714) 828-6900
Embroidery & More	<a href="http://www.embroideryandmoredesign.com">www.embroideryandmoredesign.com</a>	(951) 471-5200
PC & C Embroidery	<a href="https://pccembroidery.com/">https://pccembroidery.com/</a>	(909) 403-4558
The Advertising Specialists	<a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider</a>	(626) 966-4770
We Got Em Tees	<a href="https://wegotemtees.com/">https://wegotemtees.com/</a>	<a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">760-983-6087</a>   <a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">909-727-7699</a>

- **Custom Banners/Souvenirs** Your school may now create custom items that include the CIF-SS mark or logo (championship banner, banners for your gym, etc...) through a licensed CIF-SS vendor (and their specialty).

Integrity Design	<a href="http://www.IntegrityDesignUSA.com">www.IntegrityDesignUSA.com</a>	(855) 341-8817
C&L Custom Jackets	<a href="http://www.cljackets.com">www.cljackets.com</a>	(714) 828-6900
The Advertising Specialists	<a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider</a>	(626) 966-4770

- **Rings**

Herff Jones	<a href="https://highschool.herffjones.com/">https://highschool.herffjones.com/</a>
J. Lewis Small	<a href="http://www.jlewissmall.com">www.jlewissmall.com</a>
Jostens	<a href="http://www.jostens.com">www.jostens.com</a>
Signature Style Jewelry	<a href="http://www.signaturestylejewelry.com">www.signaturestylejewelry.com</a>
Baron Championship Rings	<a href="https://baronrings.com/">https://baronrings.com/</a>

**PROTECT YOUR SCHOOL TRADEMARKS:** The CIF Southern Section strongly suggests you double-check the status of *your school* licensed/registered marks and logos now. Some schools have permanently lost control of others selling their merchandise with no royalty or approvals because the proper State of California licensing/registering process had not previously occurred or been enforced.

For additional vendors licensing information, please contact CIF Southern Section, Director of Marketing & Corporate Partnerships, Jacquelyn Gibson at [jackieg@cifss.org](mailto:jackieg@cifss.org) or 562-493-9500.

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