

Niagara Swimming

2026 Spring / Summer Bid Calendar

Applying for a Sanction

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

Any weekend not indicated as closed (for a Niagara Meet) is open to apply for starting immediately. If you are bidding on more than one open date meet, please prioritize them. For those meets, the sanction application, sanction fee and preliminary meet announcement must be received by September 21, 2025 at 11:59PM.

Clubs bidding for meets on open dates need to be aware that you may have to change your date if something unforeseen occurs with a Niagara LSC meet. Sanction applications must be submitted through SWIMS (please see the last page for steps). Please note, Meet Announcements for all meets must use the [Niagara LSC Template \(click here\)](#). Sanction applications will only be considered with successful payment of the prescribed sanction fees (see Niagara Policies and Procedures). An invoice will be automatically generated when you submit your sanction through SWIMS.

- If there are multiple bids for a meet, the Executive Committee will review and decide following the guidelines set forth in the Section 202.2 – 202.5 of the Niagara Policies and Procedures
- A meeting may be scheduled between the meet host, tech planning, and any other required people. This will be to review the restrictions involved and make sure a meet can be safely held. If it can, the formats will be finalized at that time and published ASAP. If it cannot, the weekend will be opened for any clubs that might be able to hold a meet (if desired).

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Niagara Meets Available for Bid

Date(s): TBD	Niagara Summer Championship	• Date(s) and format for the Niagara Summer Championship meet will be determined at the coaches meeting prior to the HOD on 10/5/2025
Open Dates May 1, 2026-August 31, 2026	Niagara LC Summer Super Circuit Series	Meet Criteria / Description: • 8-12 events each with 1-3, 3-4-hour sessions • Must adhere to 4-hour rule • Maximum of 6 meets, 2 in each geographic area per meet window • Tech Planning to provide event list
Open Dates September 1, 2025-April 30, 2026	Niagara LC Winter Super Circuit Series	Meet Criteria / Description: • 8-12 events each with 1-3, 3-4-hour sessions • Must adhere to 4-hour rule • Tech Planning to provide event list • Maximum of 3 meets funded during the meet window

2026 Eastern Zone Championship Meets:

- April 1-4, 2026 – Spring SC Age Group Zones – ECC, Buffalo, NY
- May 15-18, 2026 – LC Super Sectional – Collegiate School, Richmond, VA
- June 13, 2026 - June Open Water - Beesley's Point, Mamora, NJ
- July 29-August 1, 2026 - LC Age Group Zone Meet – NOVA Aquatic Center, Richmond, Virginia
- August 6-9, 2026 - LC Senior Zone Meet – ECC, Buffalo, NY

Per Niagara Policies and Procedures 202.2

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

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

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

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

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Meet Applications/Meet Announcements

How To:

Club Admins will start the process in SWIMS (hub.usaswimming.org) through the following menu:

Club --> My Club; then Administrative --> Meets --> Request a Meet Sanction.

If you have questions on who/how to access, please email sanctions@niagarswim.org.

LSC: NI
Club Code: [REDACTED]
Club Name: [REDACTED]

Profile Team Management **Administrative** Registration

Groups Facilities **Meets**

Club Meets

REQUEST MEET SANCTION ← 3

Report Period
2023 (9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023) ▼

1 ↓

↑ 2

MEET NAME ▾	HOST ORGANIZATION ▾	DATES	CLASSIFICATION ▾	TYPE ▾	STATUS ▾
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- 1) Enter the basic Meet Information and upload the meet announcement (it is not optional for the Niagara Application process).
 - Please note that the year and LSC are already appended to the name of the meet. For example, if you enter "2025 Meet Name" in the Meet Name field, it will become "2025 NI 2025 Meet Name."
- 2) Complete all fields on the info page — they are all required. If you do not see your facility, please reach out to sanctions@niagarswim.org for assistance. All host facilities need to be part of the club record.
 - Meet Classification: you will most commonly choose Invitational or Open. If your meet has only one club, you may choose Intra Squad. If it has only two clubs, you may choose Dual Meet. Questions about what to choose should go to sanctions@niagarswim.org.
- 3) Next, enter at least one session. The session information should accurately reflect your expected sessions for the meet. This information ties into the Officials Tracking System (OTS), and the Meet Refs will need this to enter their information accurately.
- 4) Lastly, enter the meet staff. You will need to know the ID of your Meet Director, Meet Ref, and Meet Contact (can be the same as the Meet Director if desired).
 - Niagara strongly encourages you to have all of these roles identified **before starting the application**. If you need an ID, please email sanctions@niagarswim.org (or just ask the person you need to enter)!
- 5) Pay the applicable sanction fees online at: <https://form.jotform.com/232317479692163>