

Summer Nationals Preview

A-SPIRE to 2015 Summer Nationals

The Olympic Village-style sports complex at the SPIRE Institute is a winner



The 2015 U.S. Masters Swimming Summer National Championship will be held August 6 – 9 at the SPIRE Institute Aquatic Center in Geneva, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. Swimmers need not be top seeds or record-breakers to attend; Masters Nationals are as much about camaraderie and team spirit as they are about competition.

Dozens of major competitions have been held at the state-of-the-art SPIRE swimming facility, which opened its doors in fall 2011. In addition to the 2014 NCAA Division II National Championships, at which 23 national records were broken, SPIRE has also hosted other notable events including the YMCA Divisional Championships (2011, 2014), the Speedo Champions Series Sectional Championships (2013, 2014), the Mid-American Conference Women's Swimming and Diving Championships (2014), and the Atlantic 10 Swimming and Diving Championships (2013, 2014).

Two pools in the 293,000-square-foot facility constitute the aquatic part of the Olympic Village-style setting established for athletes competing and training in multiple sports at the Michael Johnson Performance Center.

The competition pool, a 10-lane, 50-meter Myrtha pool featuring Track-Start blocks, was designed with input from USA Swimming. Two moveable bulkheads allow for 11 different course configurations.

At 14 feet deep at the starting end and 8 feet, 2 inches deep at the turn end, the competition pool will be maintained at a

temperature of 79 to 80 degrees. Meet director and SPIRE aquatic facility director Joshua Ptak says the 36-by-9-foot full video Colorado Display System will display names, team affiliations, subtractive and cumulative splits, and final times.

A six-lane, 25-yard training pool in an adjacent room behind the scoreboard will be available for warm-up and cool-down throughout the meet and will be maintained at a comfortable 80 to 82 degrees. Ptak says a second scoreboard in this area will enable swimmers to stay abreast of what's happening in the competition pool.

Seating for 1,100 spectators is available in the stands. Abundant deck space can accommodate up to 1,500 additional swimmers and spectators. Two sets of locker rooms are available; one is located near the competition pool and the other is accessible from the recreation pool.

A food court with abundant à la carte eating options is located just outside the main competition pool area and the ever-popular Vendor Village will be set up on the second floor. Fee-based parking will be available just outside the facility.

I LOVE ROCK 'N' ROLL

Beyond the amazing facility and the meet, there are lots of fun things to see and do in and around the Cleveland area. First up, you can finally get the scoop on the artist who performed your favorite prerace song during a visit to the

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Ground Transportation and Airport

Most major airlines serve Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The airport is located 60 miles from the SPIRE Aquatic Center. Car rental is available at the airport.

RV Options

»» Willow Lake Campground (5 miles)

3935 North Broadway, Geneva, OH 44041
440-466-0150

»» Kenisee Grand River Campground (1.25 miles)

4680 State Route 307, Geneva, OH 44041
440-466-2320
www.keniseegr.com

Social

This year's social will feature a wine tasting and buffet-style dinner hosted at the SPIRE Institute Banquet Center. Geneva is Northeast Ohio's wine country, and we'll showcase the unique local flavors by offering tastings from several local wineries.

Hotel & Shuttle Information

Here are some of the hotel options in Cleveland and Geneva for your stay. We will not be running a shuttle service for this event.

Parking will be \$10 per car per day with in-and-out privileges. Parking is located immediately south of the pool area, with additional overflow parking on the east end of the aquatics building. Passes will be issued each day.

For more information on accommodations and tourist attractions, visit spireinstitute.org and select visitor hotels for more information. When making reservations, mention "SPIRE Institute" to get special rates. Special rates are available through the home page.

Hotel rates do not include taxes.

»» Sleep Inn (6 miles) \$99

9350 Center Road
Austinburg, OH 44010
440-275-6800

»» Ramada Inn (6 miles) \$89

1860 Austinburg Road
Austinburg, OH 44010
440-275-2711

»» Quail Hollow Resort (18 miles) \$99-\$109

11080 Concord Hambden Road
Painesville, OH 44077
440-497-1100

»» Residence Inn (23 miles) \$109-\$149

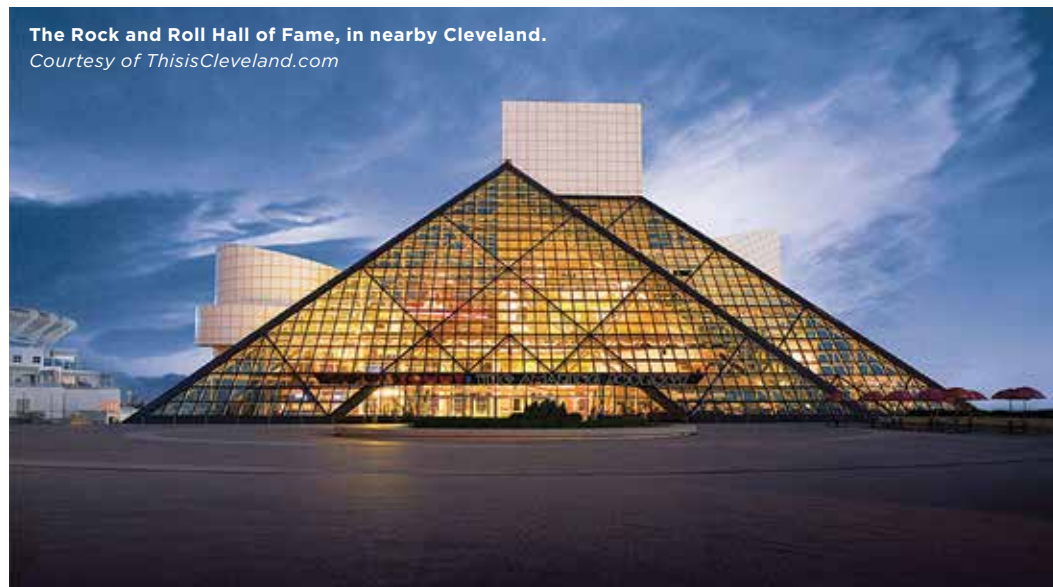
5660 Emerald Court
Mentor, OH 44060
440-392-0800

»» Red Roof Inn (25 miles) \$60

4166 State Route 306
Willoughby, OH 44094
440-946-9872

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. Learn about the people and events that shaped rock and roll history and admire the largest collection of rock and roll artifacts in the world. Janis Joplin's Porsche and Michael Jackson's glittering

glove are just two of the more than 50 exhibits on display in the 150,000-square-foot museum. Traveling exhibits, concerts, and a variety of educational activities are also hosted here.



The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, in nearby Cleveland.

Courtesy of ThisisCleveland.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

- usms.org
- [facebook.com/usmastersswimmingfanpage](https://www.facebook.com/usmastersswimmingfanpage)

Meet Directors

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USMS National Office

info@usms.org
1-800-550-SWIM (7946)

Summer Nationals Preview

ADRENALINE FIX AT THE PARK

Seeking an adrenaline rush on dry land? Then Cedar Point, located on a Lake Erie peninsula about 109 miles from Geneva, is the place to go. Known as the roller coaster capital of the world for its assortment of record-breaking rides, Cedar Point is home to the giga-coaster Millennium Force, which accelerates to 93 mph. You can also zoom upside down six times on the Raptor or scream your lungs out on the wing coaster GateKeeper. If lunch still happens to remain in your stomach after those rides, hop on the 13 other roller coasters in the park. Located in Sandusky about an hour from downtown Cleveland, Cedar Point offers a total of 72 rides, water attractions, and children's areas along with the hot dogs, ice cream, and a lakeside beach that first made the park popular.



HOME RUN

Major League Baseball fans can embark on a Cleveland tradition by heading to Progressive Field for a Cleveland Indians game. The Indians will play the Minnesota Twins on August 7, 8, and 9.

Professional baseball plays an important role in Cleveland's history, beginning in 1869 when the Cleveland Forest Citys met the Cincinnati Red Stockings. Cleveland was represented in baseball's first professional league, the National Association of 1871. By the turn of the century, Cleveland was an established major league city and the team became known as the Cleveland Indians in 1914. Tickets can be purchased at cleveland.indians.mlb.com

OPPORTUNITY AWAITS

The 2015 U.S. Masters Swimming Summer National Championship is sure to be a winner at the spectacular SPIRE sports complex. Don't miss out on this opportunity to achieve a personal best, fell a record, or make new friends at this state-of-the-art facility.—*SUSAN DAWSON-COOK*

MEET ENTRY

Online Entry

usms.org/comp/lcnats15

Paper Entry Forms

Available by calling 1-800-550-SWIM (7946)

ORDER OF EVENTS

Thursday, August 6

800 freestyle*

1500 freestyle*

Friday, August 7

400 IM

100 butterfly

50 freestyle

200 backstroke

100 breaststroke

200 freestyle relay

Saturday, August 8

400 freestyle (men's)

100 freestyle

200 breaststroke

50 backstroke

200 butterfly

200 mixed free relay

200 medley relay

Sunday, August 9

400 freestyle (women's)

200 mixed medley relay

50 breaststroke

100 backstroke

200 freestyle

50 butterfly

200 IM

* You may enter either the 800 freestyle or the 1500 freestyle, but not both. Swimmers entering the 1500 freestyle must meet the NQT.

CHECK-IN DEADLINES

Positive check-in is required for all events 200 meters and longer. Check-in may be done in person at the registration area or online at usms.org according to the following schedule:

Date	Event	In-Person Check-in*	Online Check-in*
Thursday, August 6	800 freestyle 1500 freestyle	Tues. 3-7 p.m.- Thur. by 7 a.m. Tues. 3-7 p.m.- Thur. by 9 a.m.	Tues. 7 a.m.- Thurs. by 7 a.m. Tues. 7 a.m.- Thurs. by 9 a.m.
Friday, August 7	400 IM 200 backstroke	Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Fri. by 7 a.m. Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Fri. by 9 a.m.	Tues. 7 a.m.-Fri. by 7 a.m. Tues. 7 a.m.-Fri. by 9 a.m.
Saturday, August 8	400 freestyle (men) 200 breaststroke 200 butterfly	Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Sat. by 7 a.m. Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Sat. by 9 a.m. Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Sat. by 11 a.m.	Tues. 7 a.m.-Sat. by 7 a.m. Tues. 7 a.m.-Sat. by 9 a.m. Tues. 7 a.m.-Sat. by 11 a.m.
Sunday, August 9	400 freestyle (women) 200 freestyle 200 IM	Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Sun. by 7 a.m. Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Sun. by 9 a.m. Tues. 3-7 p.m.-Sun. by 11 a.m.	Tues. 7 a.m.-Sun. by 7 a.m. Tues. 7 a.m.-Sun. by 9 a.m. Tues. 7 a.m.-Sun. by 11 a.m.

*All times are Eastern Daylight.

MEET INFORMATION

2015 U.S. Masters Swimming
Summer National
Championship



Sanctioned by the Lake Erie
LMSC for USMS Inc. Sanction
Number [185-S004]

Location

SPIRE Aquatic Center
5201 SPIRE Circle
Geneva, OH 44041
440-466-1002

Facilities

The SPIRE Institute Aquatics Center is a championship-caliber facility with a 54-meter by 25-meter Myrtha Pool and two movable bulkheads. The 10-lane, 50-meter competition course has 9-foot-wide racing lanes and depth varying from 8 feet 2 inches to 14 feet. The adjacent 6-lane, 25-yard warm up pool boasts a scoreboard that shows the action taking place in the competition pool.

Eligibility

Participants must be registered Masters swimmers and at least 18 years of age as of August 5, 2015. Swimmers turning 18 after the meet entry deadline and by August 5, 2015, must enter the meet by the meet entry deadline and register for USMS at the venue on August 5, 2015. If a swimmer wishes to affiliate with a Masters club, the club and swimmer must both be registered with the same Local Masters Swimming Committee. If there are questions about affiliation, the swimmer will be entered with the affiliation "UC." (See Paper Entries). International entries must include a copy of the swimmer's Masters swimming registration card and fees in U.S. dollars.

Age Groups

Age for the meet is determined as of December 31, 2015, except for 18-year-olds, who must be 18 by August 5, 2015. Age groups for individual events: 18-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39 ... (five-year increments as high as necessary). Relay events: 72-99, 100-119, 120-159, 160-199, 200-239, 240-279, 280-319, 320-359, 360-399 ... (40-year increments as high as necessary). The aggregate age of the four relay team members shall determine the age group.

Registration

Prior to warm-ups or competition, all participants must register at the meet by signing an emergency card, safety information statement, and liability release.

Registration will be held at the SPIRE Fuel (Located next to the aquatics center) on August 5, 2015, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., and on all other days from 6:30 a.m. through the end of competition.

Seeding

Men's heats will precede women's heats for each event, except that men's and women's heats may be seeded together for the 400, 800, and 1500 freestyles. A decision regarding this will be announced at usms.org by July 20, 2015. The 800 and 1500 freestyles will be seeded slowest to fastest by entry time, regardless of age. The 400 free and 400 IM may be seeded slowest to fastest by entry time, regardless of age. The 200-meter events will be deck-seeded and may be seeded by entry time, regardless of age, for each gender, if the timeline is too long. All 50 and 100 events will be preceded by age group, with the oldest age groups first, slowest to fastest within each group.

Event Check-in

Coaches or teammates may check in online or in person for those swimmers whose travel plans do not permit check-in by the deadlines. Failure to check in will result in the swimmer being scratched from the event and the swimmer shall not be permitted to swim that event at another time.

Meet Roster

A real-time meet roster including name, age, gender, and club will be available on the meet information page, usms.org/comp/lcnats15. Please verify your information and contact meetentry@usms.org with any concerns by July 6, 2015.

Heat and Psych Sheets

Psych sheets for all individual events will be available on the usms.org website on or about July 11, 2015. Heat sheets for preseeded events will be available online around July 24, 2015. Heat sheets for deck-seeded events will be posted at various places around the pool deck and on Meet Mobile for swimmers after the check-in deadlines.

Meet Start Times

The competition will start at 8 a.m. every day unless it is determined that the timeline will go too late into the day; then competition may start as early as 7:30 a.m. on any day. Meet start times will be announced at usms.org by July 20, 2015. Warm-ups in the competition pool will be shortened if necessary to accommodate an earlier start time.

Warm-up Times

The competition pool will be open for warm-up on

Wednesday, August 5, 2015, from noon to 7 p.m. On competition days, the competition pool will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:50 a.m. and the warm-up pools will be available from 7 a.m. until the conclusion of the final event each day. The competition pool will also be open for warm-up for 30 minutes following the last heat of the 400 IM and 400 freestyle events on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, respectively. The competition pool will be open for at least 30 minutes following the last event each day. On Thursday, August 6, 2015, the competition pool will remain open until 5 p.m. or 30 minutes following the last heat of the 1500 freestyle, whichever is later.

Warm-up Procedures

Swimmers must enter the pool feet first in a cautious and controlled manner. No diving or backstroke starts will be allowed, except in designated sprint lanes. One or two lanes shall be designated as one-way sprint lanes during the pre-meet warm-up sessions in the competition pools only. Any swimmer who acts in an unsportsmanlike or unsafe manner within the swimming venue may be considered for appropriate action or penalty by the referee (rule 102.13.3). Pull buoys, kickboards, fins, hand paddles, and snorkels are not allowed in the competition or warm-up pools.

Scratches

Any swimmer failing to report to the proper lane in the correct heat of an event shall be scratched from that event and shall not be permitted to swim that event at another time.

General Meeting

All swimmers, coaches, and officials are encouraged to attend or be represented at a general meeting in SPIRE Fuel (located next to the aquatics center) on Wednesday, August 5, at 5 p.m. Matters pertinent to the operation and conduct of the meet will be discussed.

Gold Medal Sponsorship

Gold Medal Sponsors will be recognized in the official program as supporters of Masters swimming. They will receive a commemorative gift and will be entitled to VIP hospitality, which will include breakfast, lunch, snacks, and drinks. Cost is \$90 and the pass can be ordered on the meet entry form.

Online Entries

Online entry is encouraged and provides immediate entry confirmation. Visit usms.org/comp/lcnats15. Online registration will open no later than May 15, 2015, and will close at midnight Eastern Daylight Time on July 6, 2015. The meet surcharge

increases from \$50 to \$60 on June 16, 2015 (see **Entry Deadline/Variable Surcharge/Mail Entry** for dates applying to both online and paper registration).

Paper Entries

Paper entry forms can be downloaded at usms.org/comp/lcnats15 or will be mailed upon request by calling 1-800-550-SWIM (7946). Read all instructions and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms or forms with "pending" in place of a USMS registration number will be rejected (except for 18-year-olds who turn 18 after the meet entry deadline, but before the first day of the meet, who must enter the meet by the meet entry deadline, but may register at the venue on August 5, 2015). A legible copy of a foreign swimmer's Masters registration card must accompany the entry form. A swimmer whose club affiliation differs from what is listed on his or her USMS registration card must send either a new USMS registration card or a letter from the local registrar with the new club affiliation and effective date.

Fees

Fees are \$4 per individual event plus a surcharge per swimmer. The surcharge varies according to date of entry. (See **Entry Deadline/Variable Surcharge**.) Fees must accompany the entry form and must be paid in U.S. dollars by check or money order. Do not mail cash. The entry is not complete until the check has cleared the bank. If there are questions about an entrant's check, full cash payment in U.S. dollars will be required before the entrant is allowed to swim. Refund requests must be received in writing (USPS or email) by July 13, 2015. No refunds will be given for events not swum. The surcharge also applies to relay swimmers not entered in an individual event. Relay-only swimmers must submit an entry form with payment by the entry deadline. All fees should be payable to "U.S. Masters Swimming."

Entry Deadline/ Variable Surcharge/ Mail Entry

Online entries are encouraged and will be accepted until midnight Eastern Daylight Time on July 6, 2015. If entry is received by June 15, 2015, the surcharge is \$50. If entry is received after June 15, 2015 and by July 6, 2015, the surcharge is \$60. Entries received after July 6, 2015, will be returned to sender. No telephone or email entries will be accepted. Mail paper entries early (include a self-addressed stamped envelope with entry for proof of receipt). Do not send certified or overnight mail requiring a signature. Photocopy

completed entry forms and personal checks for your records and verification. Mail paper entries to: USMS Summer Nationals, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185.

National Qualifying Times/ Number of Events/ Sixth Event

Competitors may enter up to three individual events without meeting the national qualifying time, or a maximum of six events if they meet the NQTs; i.e., have swum a time equal to or better than the NQTs during the past two years. Exception: Competitors entering the 1500 free must meet the NQT. All swimmers are limited to three individual events per day. All events must include an entry time. If the meet is deemed too large, an athlete's sixth event will be dropped. On the entry form, indicate this event with a "6" in the designated column. No refunds will be given if the sixth event is dropped. If a swimmer enters an event with a time significantly slower or faster than that swimmer's recorded time in the previous two years, the meet director may, after a discussion with the swimmer, change the seed time to a realistic time.

Distance Events (800/1500)

Swimmers may enter either the 800 or the 1500 free, but not both. Swimmers entering the 1500 free must meet the NQT.

Relay Information

Swimmers can enter relays until 3 p.m. on the day before the relay is scheduled. Relay only swimmers (i.e., not entered in an individual event) must have entered the meet and paid the surcharge by the meet entry deadline. Each competitor is allowed to swim only one freestyle relay, one medley relay, one mixed freestyle relay and one mixed medley relay. The entry fee for each relay, is \$12. Relay entries may be submitted at the relay desk in the registration area. Each of the four members of any relay team must be registered with the same Masters club. Relay entry fee is in addition to individual entry fees. Relay entry forms are available for download at usms.org.

Time Verification (formerly OVCs)

Swimmers wishing to have times entered into SWIMS (USA Swimming times database) must complete a form at the meet prior to the swim. Contact the administrative referee at the meet.

Service Animals

Please contact the meet director by July 6, 2015, if you require the use of a service animal. Animals other than service animals will not be permitted on deck at the venue.