

How to qualify for Divisionals and AllStars

There are two parts to getting through to Divisionals then AllStars

First – you have to be eligible to compete. Second – coach must pick you. Coach picks from the pool of swimmers based on who is eligible, who is available, and who will win the team the most points at Divisionals. The Divisional meet is still a team event.

In order to get through to AllStars – you need to come in the top 12 in your event at Divisionals – but this means the top 12 of all swimmers swimming that event in all Divisions. All Divisional meets are held the same day – **the VBSL has 3 Divisions**. We swim in the slowest Division. So just because a swimmer comes first in their race at our Divisional meet doesn't necessarily mean that they will necessarily qualify for AllStars. Divisional results are posted on the VBSL.net website as soon as possible after all three Divisionals meets have finished.

Here are what the rules say about who is eligible...

II. SWIMMER ELIGIBILITY AND LIMITATIONS (D, modified 6/2016)

- D. All VBSL swimmers must participate in a majority of regularly scheduled dual meets to be eligible for Divisional and/or All-Star Championship meets. If the swimmer's division has only 5 teams they must swim in two (2) regular swim meets during the year (intersquad meets, time trials, etc. do not count towards the two (2) meet requirement).

(there are 6 teams in our division – so you have to swim in 3 regular meets)

XI. DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEET (C. Updated May 2014)

- C. Seeding will be according to times achieved in meters from a regularly scheduled summer dual meet during the current season. "No-Time" (NT) entries shall be accepted for individual events provided all remaining meet requirements have been met (has swam in minimum number of meets, times were achieved for other events during that meet) and all swimmers with a qualifying time that are available to participate in the Divisional Championship Meet have been utilized prior to utilizing a swimmer with No Time (NT). No Time (NT) entries shall be reviewed by the division chair for acceptance. If a No Time (NT) is used that swimmer will be seeded last. The fastest six (6) swimmers, regardless of team, will be seeded in the fastest heat. Times achieved in non-scoring heats are considered times achieved in a regularly scheduled summer dual meet.
- D. At least two (2) members of a relay team must have swum together at the submitted qualifying time in that event in order to be seeded in the Divisional Championship meet. If at least two (2) members of a relay team have not swum together, that shall constitute a "No-Time" and will be seeded in the slowest position.
- E. Meet entries become final at the time of divisional seeding. A swimmer may not change individual entries by scratching from one event and entering another under any condition. After the divisional seeding is completed, any swimmer who fails to compete in an individual event in which they have been entered for the Divisional Championship meet will be barred from all subsequent individual and relay events for the remainder of the Divisional Championship meet. A swimmer will, however, be eligible to qualify for the All-Star meet in those individual events in which he/she has already competed.
- F. If a swimmer scratches from an individual event at the Divisional Championship meet, a substitution may be made by the Coach up to fifteen minutes before the event is called to start. Swimmers eligible for substitution in an individual event will include all swimmers on the official team roster, *both those entered and those not entered in the Divisional Championship meet*, who have been verified at the seeding meetings as having participated in a majority of the regularly scheduled dual meets, and who have achieved a legal time for that event from a regularly scheduled dual meet during the current season, and who have not already met the limit of being entered in three (3) individual events.
- G. If a substitute is required for a relay at the Divisional Championship meet, *swimmers eligible for substitution will include all swimmers on the official team roster, both those entered and those not entered in the Divisional Championship meet, who have been verified at the seeding meetings as having participated in a majority of the regularly scheduled dual meets and who have not already met the limit of being entered in two (2) relay events. Listing of alternates on relay cards is not required.* Once a swimmer has scratched from a relay event at the Divisional Championship meet, they are not eligible to participate in

- that relay event at the All-Star meet.
- H. The same procedures as in Sections X.O. and X.P. for placing swimmers by official times shall be used at Divisional Championship meets.
 - I. Points will be awarded for the six (6) fastest times in each event regardless of the heat in which the swimmer participates. Team points will be awarded and totaled in the meet.
 - J. The Division Champion will be the team with the best won/loss record within its division during the dual-meet season. If a tie between two or more teams exists, the following criteria, in descending order, will be used until a Division Champion has been determined:
 - 1. The winning team in head-to-head competition(s);
 - 2. The team with the largest total margin of victory in head-to-head competitions;
 - 3. The team with the highest number of total points scored in head-to-head competitions;
 - 4. The winner of a 25-meter freestyle "swim-off" between the competing teams' Head Coaches.

XII. ALL-STAR CHAMPIONSHIP MEET

- A. Individual entrants for the meet will be the 12 fastest swimmers, plus the next two (2) fastest swimmers as alternates only, from all divisions based on times achieved during the divisional championship meets.
- B. Once the primary swimmers have been identified, an alternate swimmer may compete only if a scheduled swimmer becomes ill or is not physically present at the All-Star meet.
- C. There will be no additions to the primary or alternate list. Should a primary swimmer scratch, and the alternates for that event are not present, the lane will not be filled.
- D. Any swimmer who fails to compete in an individual event in which they have been entered for the All-Star meet will be barred from all subsequent individual and relay events for the remainder of the All-Star meet.
- E. Relay entrants for the meet will be the Twelve (12) fastest relay teams from all divisions based on times achieved during the Divisional Championship meets. No alternates will be selected. If host team cannot accommodate the number of swimmers then the governing board may decide to limit the relays to one heat.
- F. *For a relay team at the All-Star meet, the four (4) primary swimmers listed shall be the same four (4) primary swimmers who actually swam at the Divisional Championship meet. Substitutions are permissible if a primary swimmer becomes ill or injured, or is not physically present at the All-Star meet. Swimmers eligible for substitution will include all swimmers on the official team roster, both those entered and those not entered in the All-Star meet, who have been verified at the seeding meetings as having participated in a majority of the regularly scheduled dual meets and who have not already met the limit of being entered in two (2) relay events. For a relay to remain eligible to participate in the All-Star meet, a minimum of two (2) primary swimmers from the Divisional Championship meet must also swim on the relay at the All-Star meet. Listing of alternates on relay cards is not required.*
- G. Swimmers qualifying for the All-Star meet will be notified as soon as possible following comparison of times accomplished in the Divisional Championships meet.
- H. All known or anticipated scratches for relays and individual events must be reported to the All-Star Meet Director (VBSL 1st Vice-President) by team Coaches. Scratches submitted by 9:00 PM on the Tuesday following the Divisional Championship meets will be listed in the meet program for All-Stars and alternates will be notified by the VBSL. Scratches submitted Wednesday through 9:00 PM Friday before All-Stars may not be correctly listed in the meet program, but alternates will be eligible to participate and will be notified by the VBSL. For scratches received after 9:00 PM Friday before the All-Star meet, the VBSL will not be responsible for notifying the alternates, and it will be the sole responsibility of the alternate to check the posted scratch listing at the meet and report to the Clerk-of-Course accordingly.
- I. The same procedures as in Sections X.O. and X.P. for placing swimmers by official times shall be used at the All-Star Championship meet.

These excerpts are from the [VBSL rule book](#)