

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

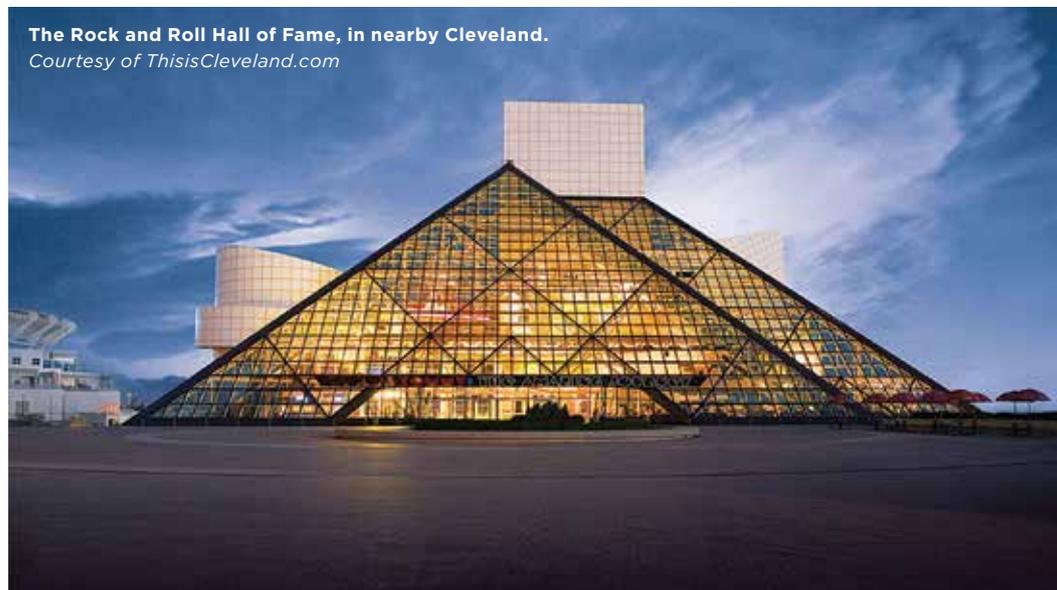
5660 Emerald Court
Mentor, OH 44060
440-392-0800

»» 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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216-363-1109

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
Championship 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 adja-
cent 6-lane, 25-yard warm up
pool boasts a scoreboard that
shows the action taking place in
the competition pool.

Eligibility

Participants must be regis-
tered 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 Commit-
tee. If there are questions about
affiliation, the swimmer will
be entered with the affiliation
"UC." (See Paper Entries). In-
ternational entries must in-
clude 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, ex-
cept 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 neces-
sary). The aggregate age of the
four relay team members shall
determine the age group.

Registration

Prior to warm-ups or competi-
tion, all participants must register
at the meet by signing an emer-
gency 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 wom-
en'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-m-
eter 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, slow-
est 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 includ-
ing name, age, gender, and club
will be available on the meet in-
formation 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 avail-
able online around July 24,
2015. Heat sheets for deck-
seeded events will be posted
at various places around the
pool deck and on Meet Mo-
bile for swimmers after the
check-in deadlines.

Meet Start Times

The competition will start at 8
a.m. every day unless it is deter-
mined that the timeline will go
too late into the day; then com-
petition 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 neces-
sary 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 com-
petition 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 min-
utes following the last heat of
the 400 IM and 400 freestyle
events on Friday, Saturday, and
Sunday, respectively. The com-
petition pool will be open for at
least 30 minutes following the
last event each day. On Thurs-
day, August 6, 2015, the com-
petition pool will remain open
until 5 p.m. or 30 minutes fol-
lowing the last heat of the 1500
freestyle, whichever is later.

Warm-up Procedures

Swimmers must enter the pool
feet first in a cautious and con-
trolled manner. No diving or
backstroke starts will be al-
lowed, 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 com-
petition pools only. Any swimmer
who acts in an unsportsmanlike
or unsafe manner within the
swimming venue may be consid-
ered for appropriate action or
penalty by the referee (rule
102.13.3). Pull buoys, kick-
boards, 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 of-
ficials are encouraged to attend or
be represented at a general meet-
ing in SPIRE Fuel (located next
to the aquatics center) on
Wednesday, August 5, at 5 p.m.
Matters pertinent to the opera-
tion and conduct of the meet
will be discussed.

Gold Medal Sponsorship

Gold Medal Sponsors will be
recognized in the official pro-
gram 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 or-
dered on the meet entry form.

Online Entries

Online entry is encouraged and
provides immediate entry con-
firmation. 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 Dead-
line/Variable Surcharge/Mail
Entry** for dates applying to both
online and paper registration).

Paper Entries

Paper entry forms can be down-
loaded at usms.org/comp/
lcnats15 or will be mailed upon
request by calling 1-800-550-
SWIM (7946). Read all instruc-
tions and fill out the form com-
pletely. 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 be-
fore 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 for-
eign swimmer's Masters regis-
tration 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 regis-
tration 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 re-
ceived in writing (USPS or email)
by July 13, 2015. No refunds
will be given for events not
swum. The surcharge also ap-
plies to relay swimmers not en-
tered in an individual event. Re-
lay-only swimmers must submit
an entry form with payment by
the entry deadline. All fees
should be payable to "U.S. Mas-
ters Swimming."

Entry Deadline/ Variable Surcharge/ Mail Entry

Online entries are encouraged
and will be accepted until mid-
night 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. En-
tries received after July 6, 2015,
will be returned to sender. No
telephone or email entries will be
accepted. Mail paper entries ear-
ly (include a self-addressed
stamped envelope with entry for
proof of receipt). Do not send
certified or overnight mail re-
quiring a signature. Photocopy

completed entry forms and per-
sonal checks for your records
and verification. Mail paper en-
tries to: USMS Summer Nation-
als, 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, indi-
cate 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 swim-
mer's recorded time in the pre-
vious 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 swim-
mers (i.e., not entered in an in-
dividual 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 med-
ley relay, one mixed freestyle re-
lay and one mixed medley re-
lay. The entry fee for each relay, is
\$12. Relay entries may be sub-
mitted at the relay desk in the
registration area. Each of the four
members of any relay team must
be registered with the same Mas-
ters club. Relay entry fee is in ad-
dition 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 data-
base) must complete a form at
the meet prior to the swim.
Contact the administrative ref-
eree at the meet.

Service Animals

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