



This is information for pools that will host championship type meets. These comments are not meant to be “rule interpretations” but rather general information (guidelines) that may help in facility planning.

Also please note:

- There are different levels of “CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS” ranging from LSC championships to Olympic Trials. Each meet has different needs.
- Pools must be sustainable and design has to be compatible with daily programming. Meets take up less than 5% of the pool use when looking at the annual calendar.

Pool length:

Short course yards = 25.02 yards long inside pool wall to inside pool wall measured without touchpads. 25.00 yards measured with touchpads installed.

Short course meters = 25.02 meters inside pool wall to inside pool wall measured without touchpads. 25.00 meters measured with touchpads installed.

Long course meters = 50.02 meters inside pool wall to inside pool wall measured without touchpads. 50.00 meters measured with touchpads installed both ends.

Ideal – National Championship meets and above:

Main Competition Pool – Ideal 10-lane 50 meter with 2.5 meters wide lanes all minimum 3 meters deep

Secondary Competition Pool – Same

Warm-up Pool (Diving Well) – 8-lane or 10-lane, 25 meters with 2.5 meters wide lanes

Decks – 20’ on sides of Main and Secondary pools, 15’ on all sides of warm-up pool

Seating – Spectator seating for 3,000 on each side of Main pool

- Spectator seating for 1,000 on each side of Secondary pool
- Athlete seating for 500 on each side of Main and Secondary pools
- Athlete seating for 100 on each side of Warm-up pool
- Media seating with tables for 200 along Main pool near the finish end.
- VIP seating for 200 along one side of Main pool.

Equipment

Timing – Primary and backup timing for Main and Secondary pools, with above and below water video backup on Main pool. Minimum of two pace clocks on each side of the Warm-up pool, and three pace clocks on each side of Main and Secondary pools. FINA-size touchpads at both ends of all lanes.

Scoreboard – Large video boards for Main and Secondary pools, plus adjacent data boards to display a minimum of 12 lines of information. Two small video boards and two small data boards to display duplicate information in the Warm-up pool.

Lanelines – 6” diameter lanelines for all pools.

Starting Blocks – “Quick Blocks” or equivalent with built-in starting strobe, at both ends of all lanes for all pools.

Sound System – wireless microphone system with minimum of three frequencies and separate zone coverage for each pool, and the ability to tie-in start systems with the public address systems. Portable CD and MP3 players for each pool with multiple outlets for flexibility in positioning. Entire facility should be equipped for maximum acoustic efficiency (acoustic blocks on the walls, panels on the ceiling and ribbons throughout; carpeted grandstands, entryways and stairs; high-quality speakers and amplifiers).

Lighting – minimum 150-foot candles over all pools, with instant-on capability over the Main pool, and minimum of three spotlights over the main pool.

Communications – Wireless communication system with minimum five frequencies and 15 headsets for each frequency.

Administrative Rooms

Hospitality – near the pool deck to accommodate 300 at round banquet tables

VIP Suite – Room overlooking the Main pool with bar, lounge seating, and video monitors.

General Meeting – nearby room to accommodate 600 in theatre seating

Officials – near the pool deck to accommodate 125 in theatre seating

Meet Administration – Windowed room at the finish-end of the Main and Secondary pools with three desks/computers for meet administration

Audio/Lighting – Windowed room at the turning-end of the Main and Secondary pools with all controls for sound and lighting

Drug Testing – near the pool deck with three desks and seating for 20, adjacent to private men’s and women’s restrooms.

Staff – Nearby room with a minimum of six desks with computer connections.

Media Workroom – Near the pool with a minimum workspace for 50 with computer connections, phones, fax copiers, etc.

Interview Room – Head table for 6 people with microphones and theatre seating for 150

Private Interview Rooms – Six small rooms for monitors for interviews or race analysis

Registration – Near the entrance to the facility to accommodate team check-in (three tables), times verification (two tables), and goody bags (two tables)

Sales – Tickets, heat sheets, results, etc.

Concessions and spectator social areas

Locker Rooms

Athletes – Minimum of 400 full lockers, 12 showers, and 8 toilets for each gender.

Officials – Minimum of 50 half lockers, 4 showers, and 2 toilets for each gender.

Minimum– National Championship caliber meets:

Main Competition Pool – Eight or Ten-lane 50 meter with 2.5m minimum wide lanes, all minimum 2m deep
Warm-up Pool – Minimum Eight-lane 25 meter with 2.5m wide lanes

Decks – 20' on sides of Main pool, 15' on all sides of warm-up pool

Seating – Spectator seating for 1,500 on each side of Main pool

- Athlete seating for 1500
- Media seating with tables for 50 along Main pool near the finish end.
- VIP seating for 50 along one side of Main pool.

Equipment

Timing – Primary and backup timing for Main. Minimum of two pace clocks on each side of the Warm-up pool, and three pace clocks on each side of Main pool. FINA-size touchpads at both ends of all lanes.

Scoreboard – Large video boards for Main, plus adjacent data board to display a minimum of 12 lines of information. Smaller video and data boards to display duplicate information in the Warm-up pool.

Lanelines – 6" diameter lanelines for all pools.

Starting Blocks – “Quick Blocks” or equivalent with built-in starting strobe, at both ends of all lanes for all pools.

Sound System – wireless microphone system with minimum of three frequencies and separate zone coverage for each pool, and the ability to tie-in start systems with the public address systems. Portable CD and MP3 player for main pool with multiple outlets for flexibility in positioning. Entire facility should be equipped for maximum acoustic efficiency (acoustic blocks on the walls, panels on the ceiling and ribbons throughout; carpeted grandstands, entryways and stairs; high-quality speakers and amplifiers).

Lighting – minimum 150 foot candles over competition pools, with instant-on capability.

Communications – Wireless communication system with minimum five frequencies and 15 headsets for each frequency.

Administrative Rooms

Hospitality – near the pool deck to accommodate 300 at round banquet tables

General Meeting – nearby room to accommodate 400 in theatre seating

Officials – near the pool deck to accommodate 60 in theatre seating

Meet Administration – Windowed room at the finish-end of the Main pool with three desks/computers for meet administration

Drug Testing – near the pool deck with three desks and seating for 10, adjacent to private men's and women's restrooms.

Media Workroom – Near the pool with a minimum workspace for 30 with computer connections, phones, fax copiers, etc.

Interview Room – Head table for 4 people with microphones and theatre seating for 100

Registration – Near the entrance to the facility to accommodate team check-in (three tables), times verification (two tables), and goody bags (two tables)

Sales – Tickets, heat sheets, results, etc.

Concessions

Locker Rooms

Athletes – Minimum of 400 full lockers, 12 showers, and 8 toilets for each gender.

Officials – Minimum of 50 half lockers, 4 showers, and 2 toilets for each gender.

Other Championship style meets

Lane width:

Minimum 8' wide – Ideal 2.5 meters wide

Number of lanes:

Minimum 8 lanes – Better 10 lanes

Lane lines = 6" diameter lanelines for all pools.

Timing – Primary and backup timing for Main and Secondary pools. Minimum of two pace clocks on each side of the Warm-up pool and Main and pool. Regulation touchpads at both ends of all long course lanes and finish end of short course lanes.

Scoreboard – Large video board for Main pool plus adjacent data boards to display a minimum of 8 or 10 lines of information.

Water Depth:

Minimum 4 shallow end 2 meters deep end' – Better 2 meters throughout course – Best 3 meters (or any combination of these depths) Note* Most pools are not just used for competitions but 95% of the time are used for aquatic programming. A variety of depths will need to be available to match programming needs.

Seating:

Spectator = Minimum 700 to 1,000 - Better 1,200 to 2,000 – Best 3,000 or more

Athlete (on deck) = Minimum 500 – Better 800 – Best 1,200 or more

Note* Onsite parking is recommended to match the spectator capacity.

Deck Space:

Main Pool = Minimum 20' on 3 sides of pool with 25' behind starting end(s) The more the better.

Elevated timing table/podium/stage. All lanes continuous scoreboard and video board

Starter's station.

Classrooms or meeting rooms:

Classroom = One preferred but more are fine. At least capable of seating 70 people with chairs. .

Other meeting rooms = (4) Total

Hospitality – large enough to sit about 200 at round tables

Officials briefing – large enough for 70 people with chairs.

TV if applicable - truck parking, interview room, space for elevated camera platforms on deck.
Media work room, media seating, wireless internet.

Technical Meeting – can be 75 coaches or more

Locker rooms = meeting state and ADA codes. The more and larger the better.

Athletes staging area. Comfortable room for 24 athletes and chairs.

Main entrance and vendor and spectator social areas need to be considered.

Warm-up / warm down pool(s): required

Needs to be in close proximity to championship pool. Needs to be the same length as the competition course.

Starting Blocks – “Quick Blocks” or equivalent with built-in starting strobe, at both ends of all lanes for all long course pools and starting end of short course pools.

Sound System – wireless microphone system with minimum of three frequencies and separate zone coverage for each pool, and the ability to tie-in start systems with the public address systems. Portable CD and MP3 players for each pool with multiple outlets for flexibility in positioning. Entire facility should be equipped for maximum acoustic efficiency (acoustic blocks on the walls, panels on the ceiling and ribbons throughout; carpeted grandstands, entryways and stairs; high-quality speakers and amplifiers).

Lighting – minimum 100-foot candles over all pools, with instant-on capability over the Main pool.