

How a swim meet is scored (VBSL 2018)

Swimming truly is a team sport. Ever wondered how it is scored? Wondered whether it still matters if you think you may not come in first place? Read on...

All swimmers in regularly scheduled event heats are eligible to score points

- Points will be awarded to the two (2) fastest swimmers or relays from each team, regardless of where they placed overall. No team shall receive points for more than two places per individual events. (This part is important – it means that if the opposing team has swimmers that come 1st, 2nd, and 3rd – then the swimmer coming 3rd doesn't score anything – if the 4th and 5th place swimmers are on our team then they need to finish so we get points – never give up! Also – just because someone came in ahead of you doesn't mean they won – they may have been disqualified if they didn't swim a legal stroke)

Regular Season Dual Meets:

- Individual events: 1st = 5 points; 2nd = 3 points; 3rd = 2 points; 4th = 1 point
- Relay events: 1st = 5 points, 2nd = 3 points, 3rd = 2 points, 4th = 1 point
- Ties – If a tie exists among 1st place swimmers, the points for the places tied will be added together and divided equally, and then awarded to the swimmers. The next place swimmer will receive the relative 3rd place behind the two tied swimmers. In the case of a 4th place tie between two teams, the points for 4th place would be awarded in full to the team with the remaining scoring eligibility.

Championship Meets: (like Divisionals and All Stars)

- Individual events: 1st = 7 points; 2nd = 5 points; 3rd = 4 points; 4th = 3 points; 5th = 2 points; 6th = 1 point
- Relay events: 1st = 14 points; 2nd = 10 points; 3rd = 8 points; 4th = 6 points; 5th = 4 points; 6th = 2 points
- Ties: If a tie exists among 1st place swimmers, the points for the places will be added together and divided equally, and then awarded to the swimmers. The next place swimmer will receive the relative 3rd place behind the two tied swimmers. If two swimmers tie for 3rd place, points for 3rd and 4th place are added and divided equally, the next swimmer receives the points for 5th place.

(from the VBSL League Handbook 2018 – Section 4 – XIII. SCORING)

[http://www.vbsl.net/Document%20Library/2018_LEAGUE_HANDBOOK_Verision_2018%20%20\(05%2023%2018\).docx](http://www.vbsl.net/Document%20Library/2018_LEAGUE_HANDBOOK_Verision_2018%20%20(05%2023%2018).docx)

- What does the “X” next to my swimmers’ name recorded on the results mean?
Per league rules, (see above) only the first through 4th place finisher earns points for their team. ‘The swimmers’ times still count towards their individual records, they just can’t score for the team. They are therefore marked “X” for exhibition.
- “What does “NT” mean? The computer automatically selects the swimmer’s best time in each entered event. A “NT” means we do not have a time in our computer for that swimmer in that event. These swimmers are placed in a slower heat default. Once they get a time for that event then next time they are placed with swimmers who are roughly the same speed.
- “What does the “DQ” mean? The swimmer was disqualified for doing something wrong on their stroke, start, or turn. Usually, the Referee notifies a coach so they can talk to the swimmer. Sometimes in the fast pace of a meet, it is difficult to get to everyone so please be understanding. Parents and coaches should encourage the swimmer to look at a DQ as a learning experience, and not as a failure. Coach Seanelle has a list of DQ’s for each swimmer so she can work with them on those aspects of the stroke. If you would like to know the reason for the DQ please contact her before practice