There are a number of sanctioning organizations for national and international amateur competition. Included here are the facility standards of FINA (the Federation Internationale de Natation) and two of its U.S. affiliates, USA Swimming and USA Diving, as well as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

**FINA STANDARDS**
- **Length**—50m. When touch panels or electronic timing devices are used, the pool must be of such length that ensures the required distance between the panels.
- **Width**—25m preferred.
- **Depth**—A minimum depth of 1.35 meters, extending from 1.0 meter to at least 6.0 meters from the end wall is required for pools with starting blocks. A minimum depth of 1.0 meter is required elsewhere.
- **Number of lanes**—8. For Olympic Games and World Championships, 10 lanes are required.
- **Width of lanes**—2.5m minimum with spaces of 0.2m outside first and last lanes. A lane rope must separate these spaces from the first and last lanes.

**USA SWIMMING STANDARDS**
- **Length**—Long course, 164'1/2" (50m); short course, 82'2" (25m) or 25 yds.
- **Width**—Eight lanes, 8'2" (2.5m) minimum (centerline to centerline), with approximately 1'6" (0.45m) of open water outside first and last lanes.
- **Water depth**—For national championships and international competition, 6'7" (2m) throughout the course. Minimum water depth for racing starts during competition and practice shall be measured for a distance 3'3 1/2" (1m) to 16'5" (5m) from the end wall. Starting requirements and height of starting blocks shall be as follows: Long Course and Short Course meters: (A) In pools with water depth less than 4' (1.22m) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from within the water; (B) In pools with water depth 4' (1.22m) or more at the starting end, starting platforms shall be no less than 20" (0.5m) nor more than 25" (0.75m) above the water surface. Short Course yards: The front edge of the starting platforms shall be no higher than 2'6" (0.762m) above the surface of the water.
- **Note:** Minimum water depth for teaching racing starts in any setting from any height starting blocks or the deck shall be 6' (1.84m) measured for a distance of 3'3 1/2" (1m) to 16'5" (5m) from the end wall.

---

**FINA AND USA DIVING DIMENSIONS FOR DIVING FACILITIES**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**USA Swimming**
(719) 866-4578
www.usaswimming.org

**USA Diving**
(317) 237-5252
www.usadiving.org
LONG-COURSE SWIMMING

- Preferred—For facilities dated after Sept. 1, 1996, it is preferred that the racing course be 50m (164' 1/2") in length by 75' (22.86m) in width, providing for eight 9' (2.74m) lanes with additional width outside lanes 1 and 8. A minimum water depth of 7' (2.13m) is desirable for competition. Optional markings: nine 8' (2.44m) lanes or ten 7' (2.13m) lanes.
- Acceptable—For existing facilities, it is acceptable that the racing course be 50m (164' 1/2") in length by 60' (18.29m) in width, providing for eight 7' (2.13m) lanes with additional width outside lanes 1 and 8. The water depth may be no less than 4' (1.22m) at the starting end of the racing course and no less than 3'6" (1.07m) at the opposite end. However, a water depth of no less than 7' (2.13m) is recommended throughout the entire length of the racing course.

SHORT-COURSE SWIMMING

- Preferred yards—The racing course should be 75' (22.86m) in length by at least 60' (18.29m) in width, providing for not less than eight 7' (2.13m) lanes with additional width outside lanes 1 and 8. A minimum water depth of 7' (2.13m) is desirable for optimal competition conditions.
- Preferred meters—The racing course should be 25m (82' 1/4") in length by at least 60' (18.29m) in width, providing for eight 7' (2.13m) lanes with additional width outside lanes 1 and 8. A minimum water depth of 7' (2.13m) is desirable for optimal competition conditions.
- Acceptable yards—The racing course may be 75' (22.86m) in length by 30' (9.15m) in width, providing for at least five 6' (1.83m) lanes. The water depth may be no less than 4' (1.22m) at the starting end of the racing course and no less than 3'6" (1.07m) at the opposite end. However, a water depth of no less than 4' (1.22m) is recommended throughout the entire length of the racing course.
- Acceptable meters—The racing course may be 25m (82' 1/4") in length by at least 30' (9.15m) in width, providing for at least five 6' (1.83m) lanes. The water depth may be no less than 4' (1.22m) at the starting end of the racing course and no less than 3'6" (1.07m) at the opposite end. However, a water depth of no less than 4' (1.22m) is recommended throughout the entire length of the racing course.

NUMBER OF LANES

All championship swimming competitions shall be conducted in racing courses having a minimum of six, 6-foot lanes. It is recommended that the racing course have a minimum of eight, 6-foot lanes.

STANDARD LENGTH

All championship swimming competitions shall be conducted in racing courses of standard length (75 feet 1 inch; 25 meters 2.54 centimeters; or 50 meters 2.54 centimeters).

Note: Length of pool is measured from inside walls or from tile or timing devices attached to the wall. New construction should account for pads being added when calculating length.

DIVING POOL

- Preferred—The diving facility should be 60' (18.29m) in length by 75' (22.86m) in width. It should be equipped with two 1-meter and two 3-meter springboards and a diving tower, providing takeoff platforms at 5, 7.5 and 10 meters. Recommended dimensions for diving facilities are specified in the table on the left.
- Acceptable—The diving facility may be separated from or incorporated with the swimming pool. Recommended dimensions for diving facilities are specified in the table on the left.

PLUMMET DEPTH

For all championship and nonchampionship springboard and platform diving competitions, the water depths at the plummet may be no less than the minimum standards as specified in the table at left.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
National Collegiate Athletic Association
(317) 917-6222
www.ncaa.org

256 ATHLETIC BUSINESS MARCH 2017 WWW.ATHLETICBUSINESS.COM
Example: If the pool is 12’ deep (3.658m), as required for pools constructed after January 1, 1987, the depth at 16.5’ ahead of the springboard must be a minimum of 11’ 3” (3.429m). If the pool is 10’ deep (3.048m), as permitted in pools constructed prior to January, 1987, the depth at 16.5’ ahead of the springboard must be a minimum of 9’ 4 ½” (2.857m).