

Nationals Travel Town Hall



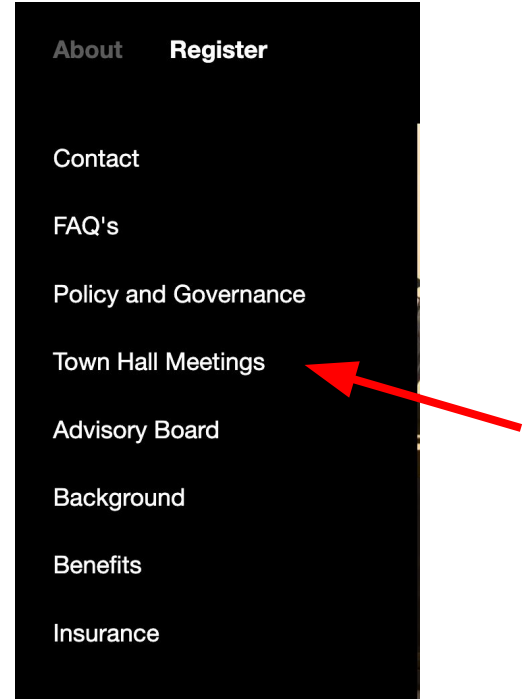
Questions

Enter questions* in the chat throughout today's
Town Hall presentation!

***Will be answered at the end**

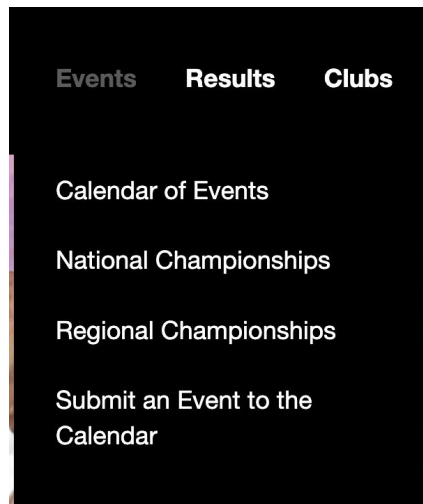
Town Hall Recordings

- Access to **all** Town Halls and recordings
- Go to www.collegeclubswimming.com
- About → Town Hall Meetings
- Scroll to bottom



Nationals Information

- All Nationals information can be found on the CCS website under Events → National Championships
- The meet information packet, national qualifying times, **hotel information**, and application to officiate can be found here.
- The arrival logistics packet will also be posted here next semester!



Link: <https://www.collegeclubswimming.com/Events/National%20Championships/2026%20National%20Championship>

Topics

- **Introductions**
- **Nationals location overview**
- **Flight Advice**
- **Getting Around in Greensboro**
- **Rental Cars**
- **Lodging**
- **Planning**
- **Other Advice / Common Questions**
- **Q&A**

Advisory Board Presenters



Emily Hsu
Central Rep



Kendall Rowe
Central Rep



Jeffrey Zhang
Eastern Rep



2026 TYR CCS Nationals



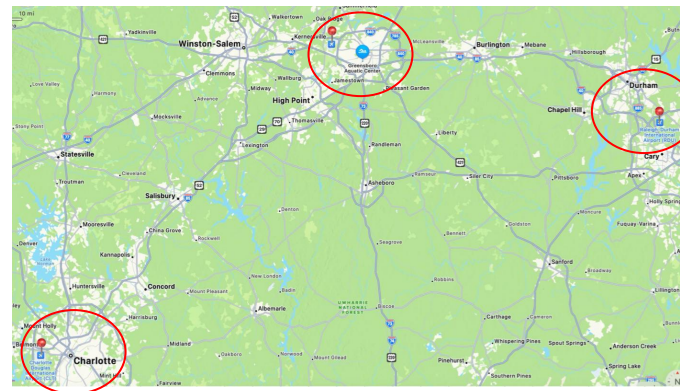
- **Location:** Greensboro Aquatic Center in Greensboro, NC

- **Airports:**

- Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO) – 15 minutes
 - American, Delta, United
- Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) - 60 minutes
- Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) - 90 minutes

- **Hotels:** Room Blocks on Nationals Site

1. Holiday Inn Greensboro Coliseum
2. Hampton Inn & Suites Greensboro Coliseum Area
3. Doubletree by Hilton Greensboro
4. Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons



Flight Advice: Booking

Booking Timing

- Booking flights on **Tuesdays** is the cheapest day to purchase
- Typically, booking **6-8 weeks in advance** guarantees best price
 - However, keep an eye on prices for your flights after you purchase - if you see the price drop, most airlines will honor it and issue you a credit

Group Bookings

- Usually for groups of 10+; but doesn't necessarily guarantee special pricing
- Assures everyone in your group will be on the same flight and guarantee the same fare for the entire group
- Gives you time to make changes
 - Different with every carrier
 - Usually allowed to add or remove 10% of the passengers up to a month beforehand
 - Don't have to give names at the time of booking
- Book flights ASAP with flexible change/cancellation deadlines to accommodate new qualifiers in the Spring

Flight Advice: Group Booking

United Airlines

- Groups
 - 10 or more
 - Guaranteed fare
 - Flexibility on name changes
- Sports Teams
 - 6 or more
 - Change fee waived during travel window
 - 1 free name change per passenger up to 1 day prior to departure
 - Guaranteed fare

American Airlines

- 10 or more
- Special group pricing
- Flexible ticketing schedule
- 1 free name change per ticket
- Flexible commitment timeline

Southwest

- 25 or more
- Name change requests up to 24 hours prior to departure
- Incentives and discounted fares

Delta

- 10 or more
- Competitive fares
- Flexible ticketing options
- Support managing travel

Flight Advice: Luggage

Consider airline baggage policies:

- American
 - Free carry on and personal item, first checked bag \$40, second checked bag \$45
- Delta
 - Free carry on and personal item, first checked bag \$35
- United
 - Free carry-on (not basic economy) and personal item, first checked bag \$40, second \$50
- Southwest - Basic
 - Free carry on and personal item, first checked bag \$35, second checked bag \$45
- Frontier/Allegiant
 - Free Personal item

Note: check your carry-on bag and personal item size, sometimes swim bags will be considered too large for some airlines, especially if packed really full...

- Low-cost carriers are cheaper but no free luggage
 - Get “communal” checked bags for bulky/heavy stuff (towels, parkas, etc.)
 - Cheaper than everyone bringing a carry-on!

Getting Around in Greensboro

- When deciding on transportation in Greensboro, consider:
 - Pool's proximity to lodging
 - Need for Flexibility
 - Team Size
- Note: not a lot of public transportation.
- Rental Cars vs Uber
 - If the drive to the poll <10 min, Uber may be worthwhile
 - For longer drives or if the team needs to travel for meals/groceries, rental cars are recommended.
- **Small Groups (6-10):** Renting two sedan/SUV rental cars can be cheaper and offer more flexibility than renting one passenger van
- **Large Groups (40+):** Consider rental vans, charter buses, or Greyhound Buses

Rental Car Tips/Advice

Rental Car Restrictions:

- Minimum age may be 25
- Avis, Budget, Alamo, Enterprise minimum age of 21 and Hertz minimum age of 20 – underage surcharge fee
- Teams should check with their university to verify permission to rent cars and confirm insured drivers

University Resources

- University Rental Car Discounts
- Enterprise CarShare (min age of 18)
- Some teams rent passenger vans through their school's Motorpool for cheaper rates
- Consider if parents driving as an option for your team

Lodging: Hotel vs Airbnb

	Best Suited For	Key Benefits/Considerations
Hotel	Large teams; general attendance	Hotel blocks can be secured on the Nationals site Book ASAP with flexible change/cancellation deadlines Sometimes has hotel breakfast which is a plus
Airbnb	Smaller teams; separating gender groups	Offers a great experience, kitchens, cheaper rates (on average), and more space to hang out Costco is a great resource for team meals!

Planning Process

1. Establish budget and research
 - a. Consider every possible expense: parking*, food, travel/transportation, lodging
 - b. Research flight prices, hotel options, and estimate additional considerations
 - c. Call every airline and hotel being considered – can maybe get group discounts
2. Assemble financial planning model
 - a. What funding do you have?
 - b. How can you raise funds? How much do you need to raise?
3. Set expectations and deposits
 - a. Can be helpful to set firm deadlines and expectations for swimmers
 - b. Can make committed swimmers pay a deposit
4. Booking
 - a. Book ASAP, prioritize flexible change/cancellation deadlines

Other Advice/Tips

- **Fundraising**
 - Many teams have swimmers pay a portion of the cost to attend Nationals
 - Fundraising options: percentage nights, swim-a-thons, parent booster group
- **Food Planning**
 - Consider hotel breakfasts – we have early morning prelims sessions
 - Wholesale stores for bulk food purchases – Sam's Club/Costco

FAQs

How do I book flights if I don't know what swimmers are going?

What if no one on my team is old enough to rent a car?

What days are best to travel?

Should my team book hotel rooms or an Airbnb?

Can I use the CCS Nationals info to excuse my athletes from classes?

Important Dates

Qualification / Meet Submission

- **March 15, 2026:** Nationals Athlete Qualification Period Ends & Meet Submission Deadline
 - Meets held after this date will not count towards Nationals qualification; Meets with results not submitted to CCS by this date will not count towards Nationals qualification

Meet Registration Timeline

- **March 2-March 17, 2026:** Athlete Registration
- **March 18-25, 2026:** President/Coach Confirmation Period
- **March 27, 2026:** Final Changes Deadline & USA/USMS ID Submission Deadline
- **April 9:** Warm up Session at Greensboro Aquatic Center (Greensboro, NC)
- **April 10-12, 2026:** TYR CCS Nationals at Greensboro Aquatic Center (Greensboro, NC)

Open for Questions!

**Enter any remaining questions in
the chat to be answered!**