

## Pyramid Seeding - SW Conference Meet Explained

The **Southwest Missouri Conference** Meet is the big meet the weekend before state. It's held at the Natatorium and Kickapoo is the host team. The meet is large - about 300 swimmers attend. It is a Championship style meet with preliminaries and finals.

Basically, everyone entered in the meet swims on Friday, the **PRELIMS**. Each team is only allowed 4 swimmers per event and only 1 relay team. The swimmers are assigned heats and lanes based on their times. **PYRAMID SEEDING** is used to place the final three heats. The fastest swimmer goes in lane 3 of the last heat. The next fastest swimmer is placed in the next to the last heat in lane 3 and the 3rd fastest swimmer is placed in lane 3 of the heat before that.

The 4th-18th swimmers are placed in the same way, rotating them through the final 3 heats (lane 4 for 4th-6th, lane 2 for 7th-9th, and so on until 16th-18th are placed in lane 6).

Pyramid seeding only affects the top 18 swimmers. Anyone who swims and places in the top 18 will swim in the **FINALS** on Saturday.

If a swimmer finishes 13th-18th in the prelims, the highest a swimmer can place is 13th, regardless of their time. The same rule applies for 7th-12th place finishers - 7th is the highest a swimmer can place. Finishing in the top 6 in the prelims guarantees a medal, regardless of time, unless there is a DQ (disqualification).

The finals are scored using the following breakdown:

1st place - 16 pts.	7th place - 7 pts.
2nd place - 13 pts.	8th place - 5 pts.
3rd place - 12 pts.	9th place - 4 pts.
4th place - 11 pts.	10th place - 3 pts.
5th place - 10 pts.	11th place - 2 pts.
6th place - 9 pts.	12th place - 1 pt.

Relay points are doubled, but only the top 12 relay teams score points. The top 3 relay teams receive medals.

The relays finishing 13th-18th get to swim again in a **BONUS HEAT** in order to allow as many swimmers to swim as possible.

Diving is different. There are no prelims, only finals. There are 11 dives and the top 12 divers score points.