

Hello,

On behalf of the Upper Valley Aquatic Center and the Upper Valley Aquatic Club, please allow me to take a few minutes of your time to address spectator seating at this weekend's NHSA Champs meet.

The word for this weekend is Tight with capital T. At Phillips Exeter Academy, there is seating in the stands for 550 with lots of additional space in the upper hallways for folding chairs and for spectators to stand and watch. That is not the case at UVAC. Our seating capacity in the stands is less than 400 and there are no areas for chairs or standing. Fortunately there will be far fewer swimmers in any one session than when the meet was at Exeter, so there will be fewer parents at each session as well.

Clearly, for this meet, UVAC is not the venue where you would want to invite both sets of Grandparents, aunts, uncles, and neighbors. If that occurs, many spectators will not get a seat and will be unable to watch the races.

- Due to the seating constraints at this meet, the saving of seats prior to the start of a session and between sessions will not be allowed.
- If you are planning on sitting with a group, arrive together and take your seats together.
- All personal belongings are to be stored under the benches.
- We will have meet volunteers assigned to the observation deck to facilitate orderly and efficient seating of all spectators.
- During the meet, standing on the far stairs or at the railing is not allowed.
- Swimmers will need to sit with their team on the pool deck.

We are totally confident in our ability to provide a top flight competitive experience for all of the swimmers, but without the cooperation of families on the observation deck, the spectator experience will be less than enjoyable. We encourage all to sit down, stow your gear underneath, and cheer like crazy. See you on Friday.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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