2026 HAC CHOCOLATE SPLASH A/BB/C
FRIDAY-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4-6, 2026

MEET HOST	HERSHEY AQUATIC CLUB		
SANCTION	Held under the sanction of USA Swimming and Middle Atlantic Swimming. **Sanction #** MA 2703 A *In granting this sanction, it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming shall be free from any liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of this event.*		
MEET DIRECTOR	KATRINA ARDIRE	**E-MAIL:** hersheymeetdirector@gmail.com	**PHONE:** (717) 644-3142
LOCATION	**Pool name** DERRY TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER COMPETITION POOL **Street address** 605 COCOA AVE. **City, state and zip** HERSHEY, PA. 17033 **Day of meet ONLY emergency phone** (717) 856-3089		
FACILITY DESCRIPTION	This is an ☒ indoor ☐ outdoor pool with 9 lanes for competition, a Colorado Gen7 timing system with a 10 line scoreboard and Competitor non-turbulant lane lines. The meet will be conducted in ☒SCY ☐ SCM ☐ LCM. Deck seating for 160 and spectator seating for 366. Parkingyes Hospitality yes Snack bar yes		
WATER DEPTH	The depth of the water at the start end of the pool is 7' feet and at the turn end is 12' feet.		
EVENTS	This meet will be conducted in accordance with the attached schedule of events.		
ENTRIES OPEN	SEPTEMBER 1, 2026		
ENTRY DEADLINE	NOV. 16, 2026 **at 11:59 PM**		
ENTRY FEES	Individual Events: **$10.00**	Relay Events: **$20.00**	Pre-Paid Spectator Admission Fee **$10.00** per swimmer
ENTRY LIMITs	4 Individual Events per day (excluding relays).	0 Relays per day	**MEET ENTRY LIMIT:** 9
ELIGIBILITY	All entrants must be registered members of USA Swimming. Age ***as of the first day of the meet*** determines eligibility. This meet is open to 9&OVER USA swimming registered swimmers.		
ENTRY PROCEDURES	• The Meet Director reserves the right to limit entries, events or heats in order to conform to MA/USA Swimming rules. Swimmers/teams eliminated from the meet due to time or space constraints will be given a full refund. • Entry times must be submitted in the course in which they were achieved. Nonconforming times will be seeded YLS . NT entries ☒ will ☐ will not be accepted. • Entries must be submitted electronically in a format compatible with Hy-Tek 8.0 meet management software. • All entries should be submitted via e-mail, subject YOUR TEAM NAME – MEET NAME entry. Please include the following information in the body of the e-mail: Meet Name, Team Name, Number of Individual Entries, Number of Relay Entries and Team Meet Entry Person's Contact Information • Electronic entry files (TM / TU or equivalent) are required for all entries. Unattached swimmers are encouraged to use Hytek's TM LIte for entry submission. Manual (paper) entries are subject to a $15 surcharge. Teams with five or more swimmers who submit manual entries are subject to an additional $25/swimmer surcharge. These fees are due at the time of entry submission. A manual entry form can be found here. • **FINAL** entry payments and any necessary reports must be mailed or e-mailed to the entry chair by 10 days prior to the first day of the meet Include Meet Entry Summary with payment.		
MEET ENTRY CHAIR	GREG FASTRICH	**PHONE #:** (717) 856-3089	
E-MAIL ENTRY FILES TO	FASTY4@AOL.COM		
MAIL CHECKS/ REPORTS	HERSHEY AQUATIC CLUB, P.O. BOX 217, HERSHEY, PA. 17033		
CHECKS PAYABLE TO	HERSHEY AQUATIC CLUB		
OPERATIONAL RISK DIRECTOR	KATRINA ARDIRE	**E-MAIL:** hersheymeetdirector@gmail.com	**PHONE:** (717) 644-3142
OFFICIALS CONTACT	TIFFANY EPOCA	**E-MAIL:** tiffanyepoca@gmail.com	**PHONE:** (717) 580-1459

Session 1 - 400IM & 200FR
warmups at 4:00 p.m. - start at 5:15 p.m. - swimmers MUST provide timers!

GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
1	11&over 400 individual medley	2
3	9-12 200 freestyle	4
5	13&over 200 freestyle	6

Session 2 - Saturday a.m. - 9-12 year olds
warmups at 7:00 a.m. - start at 8:15 a.m.

GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
7	9-12 100 butterfly	8
9	9-12 50 backstroke	10
11	9-12 100 breaststroke	12
13	9-12 50 freestyle	14
15	9-12 100 individual medley	16

Session 3 - Saturday p.m. - 13&over
warmups at 2:15 p.m. - start at 3:30 p.m.

GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
17	13&over 100 freestyle	18
19	13&over 200 breaststroke	20
21	13&over 100 backstroke	22
23	13&over 200 butterfly	24

Session 4 - Sunday a.m. - 9-12 year olds
warmups at 7:00 a.m. - start at 8:15 a.m.

GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
25	9-12 200 individual medley	26
27	9-12 100 freestyle	28
29	9-12 50 breaststroke	30
31	9-12 100 backstroke	32
33	9-12 50 butterfly	34

Session 5 - Sunday midday
open warmups at 11:45 a.m. - start at 12:30 p.m.

GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
35	500 freestyle	36

Session 6 - Sunday afternoon - 13&over
warmups at 2:15 p.m. - start at 3:30 p.m.

GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
37	13&over 200 individual medley	38
39	13&over 100 breaststroke	40
41	13&over 100 butterfly	42
43	13&over 200 backstroke	44
45	13&over 50 freestyle	46

DECK ENTRIES	Deck Entries ☐ will not be accepted ☒ will be accepted at this meet subject to space availability, and at the discretion of the Meet Director, deck entries will be accepted on the day of the meet, prior to the start of each session, at the cost of an additional $5 per event. Deck-entered swimmers will compete unofficially; the achieved time is official, but will not score in the meet for points or awards. To enter, please see the Meet Director before or during warm-ups. Swimmers not previously entered in the meet must provide proof of current USA Swimming registration.
PROOF OF TIMES	Entry times must be from a sanctioned, approved or observed meet. Proof of time ☐ is ☒ is not required for this meet. Falsification of any entry time may be subject to penalties/fines set by Middle Atlantic
SEEDING	This meet will be deck-seeded with the exception of the event(s) noted below. The 200 freestyle, 400IM, and 500 freestyle will be swum fastest to slowest, alternating one heat of girls, then one heat of boys.
AWARDS	High Point Winner awards will be given for 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, and 15&over male and female. Points will be earned based on finish place. Please pick up awards at the conclusion of the meet; nothing will be mailed.
SCORING	Points will be awarded by finish place in individual events, to the 9th place, in the following values: 10, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Points will not be deducted for DQ.
PROGRAMS AND ADMISSION	Programs/heat sheets will be sold by ☐ session ☐ entire meet. Meet mobile ☒ will ☐ will not be available. Admission isFREE, but a surcharge of $10/athlete will be charged. Children under all ages admitted free. Volunteers serving in a capacity determined by the Meet Director will be refunded admission cost.
MISCELLANEOUS	Swimmers must provide their own timers for the 400IM, 200FR, and 500FR! Swimmers must also provide their own counters for the 500FR. All swimmers will be seated on the pool deck. Spectators will be seated in the Spectator Gallery. Competition locker rooms are for swimmers, only. Lobby and Leader Center restrooms are for spectators, coaches, officials, and Community Center Patrons, only.

SESSION	WARM-UP TIMES	MEET STARTS
1	4:00 p.m.	5:15 p.m.
2 and 4	7:00 a.m.	8:15 a.m.
3 and 6	2:15 p.m.	3:30 p.m.
5	11:45 a.m.	12:30 p.m.
WARM-UP INFORMATION	USA Swimming and Middle Atlantic Swimming Safety Guidelines and Warm-up Procedures will be in effect for the entire meet. Entry into the pool shall be from the ends, not the sides, and shall be feet first except in designated start/sprint lanes. Warm-up sessions may be divided into periods of equal length depending on the number of swimmers entered into each session. Warm-up schedules will be posted and made available to coaches at the meet. Sprint/ Start lanes will be available at the end of the warm-up period. No diving or backstroke starts will be permitted, except in sprint lanes, when designated. The referee may remove anyone from the warm-up for failure to comply with warm-up rules	
MEDICAL SUPERVISION AVAILABLE	CPR-certified lifeguards will be on duty, per Pennsylvania law, at all times swimmers are on deck. An AED is available at the facility front desk.	
ATHLETE PROTECTION (MAAPP)	All applicable adults participating in or associated with this meet, acknowledge that they are subject to the provisions of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Protection Policy ("MAAPP"), and that they understand that compliance with MAAPP policy is a condition of participation in the conduct of this competition.	
SAFE SPORT MEET 360 REQUIREMENTS	The USA Swimming Safe Sport program is USA Swimming's comprehensive abuse prevention program dedicated to creating a healthy and positive environment free from abuse for all its members. Components of the program include, but are not limited to, providing education and training, enforcing policies (such as the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy), rules and best practice guidelines, promoting healthy boundaries and mandatory reporting of violations. The Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (www.usaswimming.org/maapp) prohibits Adult Participants (as defined) from having one-on-one interactions with minor athletes which are not within an observable and interruptible distance from another adult participant. Adult Participants are required to abide by this policy in full during this meet. Pursuant to USA Swimming Rules and Regulations and federal law, it is every member's responsibility to immediately (i.e., within 24 hours) report any incident of child abuse, including physical or sexual abuse, to law enforcement and the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. A report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport may be made via telephone at 833-5US-SAFE (833-587-7233) or online at www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern. Various state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.	

	For information on how to report other alleged violations, including without limitation, the USA Swimming Code of Conduct and the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, please visit www.usaswimming.org/report.
DECK PRIVILEGES	Only currently credentialed coaches, USA Swimming registered athletes and essential meet personnel will be permitted on deck. A (non-removable) identification band must be provided to and worn by each non-athlete member of USA Swimming, including coaches and officials, that is on-deck at a sanctioned meet; such identification band shall be issued following a review of that individual's membership/certification credentials and personal photo ID. A new identification band shall be issued for each day of such meet, and the credentials/photo ID must be re-checked if a replacement ID is issued. Swimmers must be under the direct supervision of an USA Swimming Member Certified Coach at all times. Unattached swimmers and attached swimmers attending without a coach are responsible for securing a USA Swimming Member coach who will supervise them while on deck during warm-up, warm down, before, during, or after the meet. Additionally, these swimmers must register a contact person with the meet director. This information should be submitted with the entries.
TECH SUIT POLICY	102.8 SWIMWEAR .1 Design F. No Technical Suit may be worn by any 12 & Under USA Swimming athlete member in competition at any Sanctioned, Approved or Observed meet.
RACING START CERTIFICATION	Any swimmer entered in the meet must be certified by a USA Swimming member coach as being proficient in performing a racing start or must start each race from within the water without the use of the backstroke ledge. When unaccompanied by a member coach, it is the responsibility of the swimmer or the swimmer's legal guardian to ensure compliance with this requirement.
QUALIFYING TIMES	Qualifying Times (if applicable) are shown on the attached Meet Structure
MEET/DECK REFEREE	The meet/deck referee shall be in charge of the meet. Any questions regarding the conduct of the meet should be made directly to him/her. The meet/deck referee has final judgment for ***any*** issues that arise that day during the course of the meet.
MEET MARSHALS	Meet Marshals have full authority through the Meet Referee & Operational Risk Director for safety and good order throughout the venue at all times. Swimmers, coaches and spectators may be removed from the deck/venue for non-compliance with procedures or non-cooperation with Marshals' instructions.
RULES:	This meet will be governed by current USA Swimming Rules. Fly-over starts will be used at this meet for all events involving swimmers 9 and over. All swimmers (except for Backstroke starts) should remain in the water at the completion of their race until the next heat has begun. For pools with bulkheads: Any swimmer observed swimming under or through the bulkhead by an Official or Safety Monitor/Marshal at the meet will be disqualified from that swimmer's next individual event or from the remainder of the meet, as determined by the Meet Referee. This policy will be STRICTLY enforced. Smoking and the use of tobacco products are prohibited as is sale and use of alcoholic beverages/ **No unauthorized personnel will be allowed on the pool deck**. Coaches, Officials, and designated Meet personnel will only be permitted on deck if they are wearing their approved and current credentials. All other individuals, except swimmers, will be prevented from entering the deck area
DISABLED SWIMMERS	Swimmers with a disability are welcome to enter this meet. The coach or team entry person must alert the meet director and the meet referee as to the need for any special accommodations or seeding arrangements at the time the entry is submitted.
PROTESTS	A Meet Jury will adjudicate any protests including issues of conduct which may occur in the meet venue. All protests must be in writing to the Meet/Deck Referee. The Meet Jury will consist of the Meet Director, an Athlete and a Coach. Additional members including an official may be added for a jury of five. The Meet Referee will act as a mediator
PHOTOGRAPHY	**Middle Atlantic PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY STATEMENT** In compliance with USA Swimming Rules and Regulations: Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms. Additionally, the use of equipment capable of taking pictures or videos (i.e., cell phones, cameras, PDA's, etc) are banned from behind the starting blocks during the entire meet, including warm up, competition and warm down periods. Unless approved in advance by the MAS Board and stated in the meet announcement, photographers /videographers are not permitted on deck at any time. As an approved exception, USA Swimming-registered and credentialed coaches are permitted to utilize visual recording devices to record their swimmers in the pool for the sole purpose of stroke training subject to the location restrictions of this statement so long as they do not interfere with meet operations. In the event of any disputes regarding video recording, the Referee's decision shall be final and binding. In no case shall coaches be permitted to delegate this role to athletes.

DRONES	Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present. Exceptions may be granted with prior written approval by the Vice President of Program Operations of USA Swimming.
DECK CHANGING	Deck changes are prohibited.
DIRECTIONS	From Harrisburg: Travelling east, on 322, take the 322 East/Ephrata Exit (W Governor Rd), which bears to the right. This will take you passed the Hershey Medical Center. Continue on W Governor Rd for about 2 miles, before turning left on to Cocoa Ave. Travel another 0.3 miles before turning right, in to the facility parking lot. From Lancaster: Travel north on PA-283, toward Harrisburg. Take the PA-743 North exit, to Hershey. Turn right on to PA743/Hershey Rd. Follow 743 for about 6.8 miles, before turning right on to Cocoa Ave. The facility will be on the right in 0.8 miles.
ACCOMMODATIONS	The Hershey Entertainment Company, some national hotel chains, and some local independent businesses offer many options for accommodations.