

**2015 Big Sky State Games Swim Meet**

Hosted by Billings Aquatic Club

July 17, 18, 19, 2015

**Held under the Sanction of USA Swimming, Inc., issued by Montana Swimming, Inc. Sanction #0979.** If the meet is dual sanctioned with Masters include -- This meet is dual sanctioned with Montana Masters sanction #\_\_\_\_\_.

Meet Referee Meet Director Meet Registrar

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| **FACILITY** | -The meet will be held at the Fortin Center on the campus of Rocky Mountain College, 1511 Poly Drive, Billings, Montana, 59102. The elevation of the facility is 3,123 ft.  -The pool is a six lane, 25 yard regulation short course pool with 5 non -turbulent lane lines. There is no separate warm-up pool. Continuous warm-up/cool-down lanes are not available.  -The start end of the pool has a depth of 12 feet and the turn end of the pool has a depth of 4 feet. The competition course has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4).  -Timing will be by an automatic Colorado Timing System with pads at both ends of the pool or three manual times.  -Directions/Parking: Main parking for the pool is off 17th Street West between Poly Drive and Rimrock Road. Take the 27th Street exit into Billings then turn north onto 27th Street. Continue north (straight) on 27th Street until you reach Poly Drive (approx. 2.5 miles) and turn left onto Poly Drive (traveling west). Continue west along Poly Drive to Rocky Mountain College on the Right (North). Take the second entrance into Rocky Mountain College off Poly Drive and follow the entrance road into the parking lot. Fortin Center is the large blonde brick building to the northwest of the parking lot (directly north of the football field). To find additional parking, turn west onto Rimrock Road off 27th Street and follow Rimrock Road to Rocky Mountain College and use the parking lot directly north of Fortin Center off Rimrock Road. |
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| **MEET FORMAT** | This will be an open invitational swim meet. All events will be timed finals for all age groups.  Individual events will be swum as noted on the event list. Events will be scored and awarded 8&U, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, 19-24, and for Masters (25+) by typical Masters Age Groups. Relays will be seeded and swum as mixed by age and gender within the specified age groups and will be awarded as such. Relay teams of any mix of age and gender within the specified age groups are allowed.  Swimmers in the 1000 Free and the 500 Free must provide their own timers, and swimmers in the 1000 and 500 Free must also provide their own counters. The 500 and 1000 free will be seeded and swum mixed fastest to slowest; the 400 IM will be seeded and swum mixed slowest to fastest, but all will be scored and awarded by age group for both girls and boys. If only a few swimmers are entered into an event, other events may be combined, seeded and swum as a mixed event at the meet referee’s discretion, but will be scored and awarded by sex and age group.  Swimmers who are USAS, FINA, or USA Masters registered athlete members are welcome and encouraged to compete. |
| **SAFETY** | The Montana Swimming Safety guidelines are in effect for this meet and will be enforced. For circle swimming during warm-ups and cool downs, swimmers must enter the pool using a three point entry. Coaches are advised to closely supervise their swimmers at all times. No running or horseplay will be tolerated. A safety marshal will be on deck. |
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| **RACING STARTS** | Any swimmer entered in the meet, unaccompanied by an USA Swimming member coach, must be certified by an USA Swimming member coach as being proficient in performing a racing start or must start each race from within the water. It is the responsibility of the swimmer or the swimmer’s legal guardian to ensure compliance with this requirement. Any swimmers who must start in the water shall be listed in a separate document returned with the entries. |
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| **RULES** | This meet will be conducted in accordance with the current USA Swimming and Montana Swimming Rules and Regulations, except where rules therein are optional and exceptions are stated related to USA Masters rules.  -Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone, is not permitted behind the starting blocks, in changing areas, rest rooms, or locker rooms.  -Changing into or out of swimsuits other than in locker rooms or other designated areas is not appropriate and is prohibited. Violations of this policy will result in the offending swimmer being removed from the meet.  -No glass containers, tobacco, or alcoholic beverages are allowed in the swimming venue.  -The USA Swimming Code of Conduct and athlete protection provisions will be enforced.  -All persons acting in any coaching capacity on deck must be currently registered coach members of USA Swimming and will display their current credentials at all times during the meet.  -Swimmer, official, and coach registration will be confirmed with Montana Swimming Registration Chairperson prior to the start of the meet.  -This meet may be covered by the media, including photographs, video, web casting and other forms of obtaining images of athletes participating in the meet. Entry into the meet is acknowledgement and consent to this fact. |
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| **ELIGIBILITY** | Swimmers registered with USA Swimming, Inc. must provide their USA Swimming ID# to ensure times are recorded. Those swimmers registered with USMS should also submit their ID # with entry.  Age as of the first day of the meet shall determine the age group in which the swimmer must compete.  **All swimmers 24 years of age and under must have qualifying times at or below the following: 400IM – 6:06.18; 500 freestyle – 10:00.00; 1000 freestyle – 16:00.00.** |
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| **SWIMMERS WITH DISABILITIES** | The Big Sky State Games and Billings Aquatic Club **welcome all swimmers with disabilities as described in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Article 106, to compete at the meet.** Disabled swimmers or their coaches are required to provide advance notice in writing to the meet referee and meet director to arrange for any needed accommodations including personal assistants required and/or registered service animals by the meet entry date. It is at the discretion of the meet referee to determine whether the needed accommodations can be met by the meet resources. Failure to provide advance notice may limit the Billings Aquatic Club’s ability to accommodate all requests. |
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| **ENTRIES** | Individuals must submit entries by accessing the Big Sky State Games online registration at https://bigskygames.org by July 10, 2015. |
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| **BIG SKY STATE GAMES WAIVER/RELEASE FORM** | The entry fees and waiver/release forms are available on the Big Sky State Games website and must be completed by each individual athlete attending the event. |
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| **ENTRY LIMITS** | Each swimmer may compete in a maximum of eleven (11) individual events and two (2) relays with a maximum of five(5) individual events and one (1) relay on Saturday and five individual events (5) and one (1) relay on Sunday. |
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| **ENTRY VERIFICATION** | Contact Big Sky State Games if you are unsure whether your registration has been processed. |
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| **ENTRY DEADLINES** | The Meet Registrar must receive entries by the date and time listed in the Deadline and Meeting Summary. No late entries will be accepted. There will be no deck entries.  Entries must be received by: July 10, 2015  Mail fees to: Online payment of fees to Big Sky State Games at https://bigskygames.org.  No text messages will be accepted for entries or entry questions. |

**ENTRY FEES**

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| Online payment to: Big Sky State Games in US dollars; All fees are non-refundable | |
| Individual Event | $33 total for 1 to 13 events ($38 after July 6, 2015) |
| Relays | Maximum of 1 relay per day included |
| Late Entry Fee | N/A |

An entry fee of $33.00 ($38 after July 6) will be charged for each swimmer competing in the meet. Entry fees must accompany the entries in US dollars. Entries will not be accepted without payment of entry fees and proper paperwork. There will be no refunds.

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| **SEEDING** | The conforming time standard for this meet is yards. Swimmers will be seeded from slowest to fastest unless otherwise indicated. Events will alternate girls and boys for all races unless otherwise noted.  Swimmers should enter with their fastest officially recorded time in yards. No time (NT) entries will be accepted. All non-conforming times will be seeded last in rank order. |
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| **CHECK-IN** | A positive check-in, located at the start end of the pool at the timing console table, will be required for the following events:   * 400 IM * 500 Free * 1000 Free * All Relays   Check in for event will be as stated in the Deadline and Meeting Summary  Swimmers or teams who fail to check in will be scratched from the event and not seeded.  Swimmers in the 400, 500, and 1000, and all relay teams, must positive check-in at the timing table in accordance with the following schedule:  500 Free—2:30 pm Friday July 18  Saturday Morning Session 400 IM—8:30 am July 18  Saturday Morning Session Relays—9:00 am July 18  Saturday Afternoon Session 400 IM—12:00 pm (noon) July 18  Saturday Afternoon Session Relays—1:00 pm July 18  Sunday Morning Session Relays—8:45 am July 19  Sunday Morning Session 1000 Free—9:45 am July 19  Sunday Afternoon Session Relays—12:45 pm July 19 |
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| **SCRATCHES** | There will be no clerk of course. Heat and lane assignments will appear in the program. Swimmers are responsible for taking their position behind the blocks. Coaches should report scratches on the scratch sheet or to the meet referee 30 minutes prior to the start of each session of the meet each day. There will be no penalty for swimmers who fail to scratch from an event. |
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| **SCORING** | No team or individual scoring will be kept. |
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| **AWARDS** | Medals will be awarded to the top three (3) individual event finishers for all age groups, 8 & Under, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, 19-24. Masters will be awarded in age brackets of 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90+.  There will be awards ceremonies during the event each day. Individuals are responsible for picking up their awards. |
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| **RESULTS** | Results for USA Swimming registered athletes will be posted to the Montana Swimming web site at <http://www.mtswimming.com>.  USMS swimmers will not be eligible for USMS Top 10 at this meet due to pool length not meeting requirements. |
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| **WARM-UPS** | **In accordance with USA Swimming guidelines, there will be a published warm-up procedure for all swimmers and coaches attending the meet. The Marshal will ensure all teams, coaches, and swimmers follow all warm-up procedures. Meet Management reserves the right to change warm-up times according to the number of entries.**  On Friday, warm-ups will begin at 2:30 pm. On Saturday, warm-ups for the morning session begin at 7:30 am. On Sunday, warm-ups for the morning session begin at 7:15 am. Warm-ups for the afternoon sessions on Saturday and Sunday will begin after the conclusion of the morning session, but no earlier than 11:15 am on Saturday and 11:00 am on Sunday.  Swimmers should enter the pool using a three point entry for warm-ups.  Warm-up times are subject to change depending upon the number of entries. Any changes will be posted at the pool and general announcements will be conducted over the public address system. |
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| **OFFICIALS/TIMERS** | **To the extent possible, certified meet officials are encouraged to participate and spectators are encouraged to serve as timers for the meet.** On-deck training time will be available for those wishing to train as an official. E-mail the meet referee prior to the meet if you plan to officiate and sign in at the officials meeting each day in the hospitality room. **Trainees should attend the pre-meet officials meetings daily and sign in. All officials on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming and registrations will be verified by the MT Swimming Registration Chair. Any official’s assistance will be greatly appreciated and will help to ensure a great meet for the swimmers.**  The officials’ meeting will be held Friday at 2:45 pm in the lifeguard room; Saturday at 8:00 am in the hospitality room; and Sunday at 7:30 am in the hospitality room. |
| **COACHES** | **All coaches on deck must be registered and certified with USA Swimming.** Coach registration will be verified with the MT Swimming Registration Chair. There will be a coaches meeting 15 minutes before the start of each session in the hospitality room. Other meetings may be held at the meet referee’s discretion. |
| **PROTESTS:**  **HOSPITALITY**  **CONCESSIONS/**  **SWIM SHOP** | All protests should be given to the meet referee. The meet referee will have the final authority on all the protest decisions.  There will be a hospitality area open to all coaches and officials.  -The BAC parents will be operating a concession stand during the meet serving a variety of nutritious foods for breakfast, lunch, and snacks. The concession stand will be located outside the venue on the lawn south of the main entrance of the Fortin center.  -The BAC parents will be operating a swim shop offering a variety of personal swimwear and equipment, as well as other souvenir merchandise. The Swim Shop will be located in the lower lobby of the Fortin Center. |
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| **SPECTATORS** | Spectators are encouraged to “camp” in the lawn area immediately south of the swimming venue and enter the venue to cheer for their swimmer during their swimmers’ events. There is limited seating available in the pool area and spectators are encouraged to share the seating with other spectators for the enjoyment of the event for all. No spectators will be allowed along the west wall or behind the blocks. |
| **Other Information** | Big Sky State Games Swimming Competition is sponsored by KOA, First Interstate Bank, BlueCross BlueShield of Montana, Scheels, and Tire-Rama.  If you need information about hotels, restaurants, or other activities in Billings, please visit the Billings Convention and Visitors Bureau website: [www.visitbillings.com](file:///C:\Users\M%20H\Documents\BAC%20Board\2014%20BSSG\www.visitbillings.com). We look forward to hosting you and your athletes! |

