

# 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Time Trials

## Big Sky! Big Dreams! Big Success!

February 27 - March 1, 2026, in Butte, MT

Held under the sanction of USA Swimming, Inc., issued by Montana Swimming, Inc. Sanction No. 2621.

### Meet Referee & Meet Registrar

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### Time Trial Meet Information:

- Time trials will be offered on a time and demand available basis at the Meet Referee's discretion at the conclusion of the preliminary competition on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the meet or as otherwise determined appropriate by the Meet Referee.
- Only swimmers who are entered in at least one (1) individual event in the 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Championships may enter time trials.
- Relay only swimmers in the 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Championships may not enter time trials.
- Swimmers ages 10&U-21 may compete in a maximum of seven (7) individual events -- **including time trials** -- with no more than three (3) individual events per day at the 2026 MT Swimming Short Course Championships. Swimmers ages 8&U may compete in no more than six (6) individual events total at SC State, no more than 3 per day **including time trials**.
- Qualified swimmers at the 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Championships must properly scratch from one individual event to compete in one time trial event if entered in the maximum daily and/or meet entry count.
- Swimmers may enter no more than **two (2) time trial individual events per day**. Swimmers may not exceed the daily limit or the meet limit for combined entries in the MT Swim SC State Championships and the MT Swim Short Course Time Trials.
- All individual events 50 yards or longer may be offered during time trials depending on time available.
- Distance events may be offered if time is available.
- No 25-yard events will be offered.
- All time trials will be deck entered at the admin table. If proof of time is required, the swimmer's team will provide any necessary proof. The swimmer may also provide proof of time if available. The coach, swimmer, or parent/guardian may enter the swimmer into the time trials.
- The time trial entry fee is \$3.00 per event payable by check to Montana Swimming or in exact cash in US dollars. No refunds.
- No time (NT) entries will not be accepted.
- At the meet referee's discretion events may be combined by age, gender, distance and/or stroke with the requirement to leave an empty lane between combined events waived.
- There will be no minimum waiting period between events. Please consider this when entering swimmers in consecutive events.

- Each swimmer entered in any event in time trials must provide two timers. Swimmers in any distance freestyle events offered must also provide a counter.
- Further information regarding the time trials will be announced during the meet.

### **Facility:**

The meet will be held at the Butte Family YMCA, 2975 Washoe Street, Butte, MT 59701. **This is a NUT FREE facility.** The elevation of the facility is 5500'. The pool is an eight lane, 25-yard regulation short course pool with nine 6" non-turbulent lane lines and Kiefer starting platforms. There is a separate warm-up cool down pool that will be available throughout the meet for coach supervised warm-ups.

Timing will be by an automatic Colorado Timing System with pads at both ends of the pool or three manual watches. The pool is 8 feet deep at the start end and 4 feet deep at the turn end. The competition course has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4).

### **Directions:**

Take the Montana Street exit into Butte then turn south onto Montana Street. Continue south (straight) on Montana Street past the Town Pump on the left and the cemeteries on the right. Veer left at the end of the cemeteries onto Hansen Road. Continue south along Hansen Road to the YMCA (copper and gray building on left). You can also drive to the pool from Harrison Avenue. Take the Harrison Avenue (south) exit. From Harrison Avenue, turn west onto Dewey Boulevard and continue past Rowe Road crossing the railroad tracks until reaching Washoe Street. Turn left onto Washoe Street and continue to the YMCA.

### **Meet Format:**

The 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Time Trials is an age group meet and will be conducted in accordance with the current policies and procedures of Montana Swimming. Time trials will be held after preliminaries for 11–21-year-old swimmers, possibly before the distance events that day, and prior to the 10&U session, or as otherwise determined appropriate by the Meet Referee.

Over-the-top starts will be used during time trials where appropriate. Swimmers in the backstroke should clear the pool immediately upon completion of the race. Swimmers in all other races should remain in the pool motionless next to the end wall and the lane ropes until the next race starts. Do not hang on the lane ropes.

### **Safety:**

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and prevention, senior citizens and individuals with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. USA Swimming, Inc., cannot prevent you (or your child(ren)) from becoming exposed to, contracting, or spreading COVID-19 while participating in USA Swimming sanctioned events. It is not possible to prevent the presence of the disease. Therefore, if you choose to participate in a USA Swimming sanctioned event, you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19. By attending or participating in this competition, you voluntarily assume all risks associated with exposure to COVID- 19 and forever release and hold harmless USA Swimming and the Montana Swimming LSC, BYSC, and Butte Family YMCA and each of their officers, directors, agents, employees, officials, meet management, or other representatives from any liability or claims including for personal injuries, death, disease or property loss, or any other loss, including but not limited to claims of negligence and give up any claims you may have to see damages, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, in connection therewith.

Montana Swimming, the Butte Family YMCA, and BYSC agree to comply and to enforce all health and safety mandates and guidelines of USA Swimming, Montana Swimming, the State of Montana, and Silver Bow County. The Montana Swimming safety guidelines are in effect for this meet and will be enforced. Each coach is responsible for informing swimmers of the provisions of the safety code before attending the meet.

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. No diving is allowed from the turn end of the pool.

The warm-up pool will be open and available for coach supervised warm-ups throughout the meet. No diving and no horseplay in the warm-up pool. Enter using a three-point entry. The hot tub and play pool will be closed.

### **Racing Starts:**

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.

#### **Rules:**

This meet is sanctioned by Montana Swimming and USA Swimming. The current USA Swimming rules and current Montana Swimming rules will govern the conduct of the meet, except where rules therein are optional, and exceptions are stated.

All athletes entered in the competition must comply with current USA Swimming rules regarding swimwear. 12 and under athletes may NOT compete wearing a tech suit.

Therapeutic elastic tape is not allowed. As a consequence of injury, it is permissible to tape not more than two fingers or two toes. Any other kind of tape on the body is not permitted unless approved by the meet referee. Swimmers may not wear any type of pacing device. Swimmers are encouraged not to wear watches.

Safe Sport and MAAPP: The USA Swimming Code of Conduct, 2026 MAAPP athlete protection provisions and Safe Sport provisions will be enforced at this meet. [www.usaswimming.org/maapp](http://www.usaswimming.org/maapp) All adults participating in or associated with this meet acknowledge that they are subject to the provisions of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy ("MAAPP"), and that they understand that compliance with MAAPP is a condition of participation in the conduct of this competition. Adult participants as defined are prohibited for having one-on-one interactions with minor athletes which are not within an observable and interruptible distance from another adult. Adult participants must abide by this policy in full during this meet,

Meet registration will be verified through SWIMS, OME, and by the meet registrar prior to the meet to ensure that individuals who are ineligible for participation are unable to participate in this competition. This includes, without limitation, individuals listed on the U.S. Center for SafeSport's Centralized Disciplinary Database, USA Swimming's list of Individuals suspended or ineligible for membership, and as of February 12, 2026, all adult members (defined by SafeSport Code for Olympic and Paralympic Movement as 18 years and over) of USA Swimming who have not completed athlete protection education as required by the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

All athletes 18 and over must complete Athlete Protection Training prior to the entry deadline of the MT SC State Championship meet (Feb. 17, 2026). The training can be accessed at [www.usaswimming.org/apt](http://www.usaswimming.org/apt). Any athlete 18 or older who has not completed the Athlete Protection Training prior to the first day of competition will be prohibited from participating in the competition until such time as all membership requirements are completed.

All persons acting in any coaching capacity on deck must be currently registered coach members of USA Swimming. Coaches and officials must present their USA Swimming credentials to the meet referee or designee to officiate or coach on deck at this meet. Swimmer registration will be confirmed with Montana Swimming Registration Chairperson prior to the start of the meet.

**Use of audio or visual recording devices, including cell phones and/ or drones, is not permitted in changing areas, restrooms, locker rooms, or behind the blocks including on the balcony behind the blocks.**

Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/ coach area, spectator areas, and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials, and / or spectators are present.

No glass containers, tobacco, or alcoholic beverages are allowed in the swimming venue.

This meet may be covered by the media, including photographs, video, webcasting, and other forms or obtaining images of athletes participating in the meet. Entry into the meet is acknowledgement and consent to this fact.

**Deck changing is prohibited. Athletes may not change in or out of swimsuits other than in locker rooms or other designated areas.** Deck changing is defined by USA Swimming as changing in whole or in part, into or out of a swimsuit (excluding a drag suit) in an area other than a permanent or temporary locker room, bathroom, changing room or other space designated for changing purposes while at a practice, competitions, or other pool-related activity.

Swimmers may change into and out of swimsuits in the appropriate men's or women's locker rooms. Swimmers may NOT change in the restroom located on the deck by the hot tub. Swimmers with disabilities may change in the family locker rooms.

Spectators, coaches, officials, and adults 18 and older may use the restroom located on the deck by the hot tub and the family changing rooms/restrooms. Do not use the restrooms in the men's and women's locker rooms as these are for athletes' use only.

All swimmers entered in the meet must be under the supervision of a USA Swimming member coach during warm-up, competition, and warm down. Any swimmer without a coach in attendance must designate a supervising coach when entering the meet. The meet director or meet referee may assist a swimmer in making supervision arrangements, but it is the swimmer's responsibility to arrange for coach supervision prior to the meet and to notify the meet referee.

No area of the building should be considered secure. USA Swimming, Montana Swimming, BYSC, the Butte Family YMCA, officials, and facility owners shall be free from liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of the event and are not responsible for loss or damage of any items.

**Medical supervision:** A first aid station is available for athletes participating in the meet. An AED is available in the lobby. Lifeguards are on duty during the meet. Emergency medical services can be activated by a phone call.

### **Eligibility:**

All swimmers entering time trials must also be entered in at least one (1) individual event in the 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Championship meet. Relay only swimmers entered the 2026 Montana Swimming Short Course Championships may not complete in time trials.

All swimmers must be currently registered athlete members of USA Swimming Inc. and Montana Swimming with a year-round premium, outreach, or current individual season USA Swimming membership to enter. Swimmers with flex memberships must upgrade their membership to a year-round premium membership to enter this meet. Teams entering swimmers who are not currently registered USA Swimming athlete members will be fined \$25 per swimmer by the Montana Swimming Registration Chair.

The entry qualifying period is January 1, 2025, through the entry deadline. Age as of February 27, 2026, shall determine the age group in which the swimmer must compete.

No time (NT) entries will not be accepted for any event.

Only times achieved in USA Swimming or World Aquatic sanctioned or approved meets or sanctioned time trial or swims requested to be observed under authorization of USA Swimming rules at other meets (such as MHSA High School State) can be used to enter this meet. Times earned at other non-sanctioned, non-approved, non-observed meets or time trials cannot be used to enter this meet. Times from Block Party meets may not be used to enter this meet.

### **Swimmers with Disabilities:**

Montana Swimming currently registered athletes with disabilities, as described in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Article 105, ages 10 and under (10&U) through age 21 who are entered in at least one (1) individual event in the Montana Swimming Short Course Championships may enter time trials. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Swimmers with a disability or their coaches are required to provide advance notice in writing to the meet referee and meet director to arrange for any needed accommodations or modifications 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 ability to accommodate all requests. An external strobe is available for hearing impaired athletes.

**Age Groups:** Events in the time trials will be swum as mixed and open.

**Entry Format:** Time trials will be deck entered at the admin table each day offered during the meet.

- Complete a time trial entry form at the admin table.

- Entries may be submitted in short course yards, long course meters, or short course meters.
- **Converted times will not be accepted.**

**Entry Limits:**

- Each swimmer aged 10&U through age 21 may compete in a maximum of **seven (7)** individual events for the Montana Swimming Short Course Championships, **including these time trials**, with a maximum of three (3) individual events per day and one (1) relay per day.
- 8&U swimmers may compete in a maximum of **six (6)** individual events for the entire state meet, **including time trials**, with a maximum of three (3) individual events per day and one (1) relay per day.
- Swimmers may enter no more than two **(2)** time trial individual events per day.
- No 25 yard events will be offered at time trials.
- Distance events may be offered if time and space is available.

**There will be no minimum waiting period between events. Please consider this when entering swimmers in consecutive events.**

**Entry Deadline:** Time trial entries will be accepted at the timing table each day time trials are offered at the meet. The opening and closing time for time trial entries will be announced each day.

**Entry Fees:** \$3 per individual event.

**Entry Fee Payment:** Entry fees must be paid by check payable to Montana Swimming or by cash in US dollars in the exact amount when entering time trials. Payment is due when entering time trials. No refunds.

**Seeding:** Seeding will be performed in accordance with USA Swimming rules based on entry data submitted. Seeding will be in Y-L-S order.

**Scratches:** There will be no penalty if a swimmer fails to show for a time trial event.

**Scoring:** Time trials will not be scored.

**Awards:** There will be no awards for time trials.

**Final Results:** Meet result will be posted to the Montana Swimming website past meet results page at [www.mtswimming.com](http://www.mtswimming.com)

**Warm-ups:** Warm-ups will be open. The warm-up pool will be available for coach supervised warm-up and cool down.

**Officials:** We would appreciate the assistance of all officials during time trials.

**Timers:** Each swimmer must provide two timers.

**Coaches:** All coaches on deck must be currently registered and certified with USA Swimming.

**Clerk of Course:** 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 during time trials.

**Protests:** All protests are required to be given to the deck referee for that event in a timely manner. Appeals may be made to the meet referee.

**Hospitality:** A hospitality room will be available for all coaches, officials, and administrative meet personnel.

**Concessions:** The concession area will provide nutritious snacks, drinks, and meal options. Absolutely no glass containers are allowed in the locker rooms or deck areas.

**Coach Seating:** Coach seating will be provided along the lane one side of the pool and on the balcony. Swimmers may talk with their coaches briefly at the coach tables on the pool deck and then must leave the area.

**Spectators:**

Spectators may be seated in the spectator areas on the bleachers on the pool deck and on the balcony above the start end of the pool. Spectators may bring chairs to sit on the balcony or other areas in the facility. No seating will be available along the windows in the upstairs workout room. No spectators will be allowed along the west wall in the coach seating area. In the coach seating area only meet management, officials, and coaches may be in this area except athletes who are talking briefly with their coaches and then leave the area. The upstairs weight room is off limits during the meet to swim meet participants and spectators.

Spectators are expected to refrain from any behavior and or gestures that are rude and unsportsmanlike directed towards MT Swimming board members, coaches, officials, athletes, and volunteers. Failure to comply may result in removal from the meet and facility for the duration of the meet. The meet director, meet referee and the safe sport chair will work together on any issues brought to their attention.

**Meet Programs:** Time trials meet programs will be available for free on Meet Mobile.

**Parking** is available next to the facility and across the street.

**Banners**, posters, and flags may be hung in the pool area. Use only blue painters masking tape on walls. No helium balloons are allowed in the facility. Artificial noisemakers will be allowed only at the meet referee's discretion and may be removed by the meet referee or safety marshal. No laser pointers are allowed.

**Event List**

**Events:** All individual events 50 yards or longer may be offered during time trials depending on demand and time available. All events will be swum mixed and open. Distance events will only be offered if time permits.

Events may be combined with no lane between different events, if necessary.