



Cherry Blossom Champs Meet

February 27-March 1, 2026 (Fri-Sat-Sun)

Sanction # PVC-26-84

Hosted by:



MEET DIRECTOR John Venit, 301-254-7946, patuxentswim@gmail.com	MEET REFEREE Bill McMahon(updated 1/28/26) wjmcmahon@verizon.net	CLUB OFFICIALS CHAIR Cherlynn Venit patuxentswim@gmail.com
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SANCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held under the sanction of USA Swimming through Potomac Valley Swimming: PVC-26-84. In granting this sanction it is understood and agreed that USA Swimming, Potomac Valley Swimming, Patuxent Aquatic Club, and Fairland Aquatics Center shall be held free and harmless from any and all liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of this event. 		
FACILITY	<p style="text-align: center;">Fairland Aquatics Center 13820 Old Gunpowder Rd., Laurel, MD 20707 301-362-6060</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pool at Fairland Aquatics Center is a 50m x 25yd pool with two moveable bulkheads. Competition will be held in 10 lanes, 25 yards, running from wall to wall for the girls' pool and 8 lanes, 25 yards, running from wall to wall for the boys' pool. Eighteen (18) lanes will be used for warm-ups. Water depth range of 5' – 13' at the starting end and 5' – 13' at the turning end. The meet hosts will ensure the required course dimensions. 		
ENTRY DEADLINE	<p style="text-align: center;">February 18, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.</p> <p>IMPORTANT: The above date is the deadline for clubs to submit their entries to the Meet Director. Therefore, clubs usually set an earlier deadline to receive entries from their swimmers. Check with your club for this information.</p>		
SCHEDULE	<p>Friday, February 27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 & Over – Timed Finals</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Warm-Up</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:30 -5:20 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Events</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:30 PM</p>
	<p>Saturday and Sunday, February 28 - March 1</p> <p>13 & Over Prelim Session</p> <p>11-12 Prelim Session</p> <p>9-10 Prelim Session</p> <p>9 & Over Finals Session</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6:00 – 6:50 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:30 – 11:20 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:30 –2:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:30 - 5:15 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7:00 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:30 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:10 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:20 PM</p>
ELIGIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Director reserves the right to adjust times/sessions after entries are received. Meet Director reserves the right to combine the two courses. Open to all USA Swimming registered swimmers from invited teams. Teams wishing to receive an invitation should contact the meet director. No swimmer will be permitted to compete in the meet unless the swimmer is registered as an athlete member of USA Swimming as provided in <i>USA Swimming Rules and Regulations</i>, Article 302. 		

SWIMMERS with a DISABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PVS and host clubs along with their meet directors are committed to the Inclusion Policy as adopted by the PVS BOD. Athletes with a disability are welcomed and are asked to provide advance notice of desired accommodations to the Meet Director. The athlete (or athlete's coach) is also responsible for notifying the session referee of any requested accommodations or modifications prior to competition. ● NECESSARY ACCOMMODATIONS FORM
TIMING SYSTEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Automatic timing (touchpads primary) will be used.
RULES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current USA Swimming rules shall govern this meet. ● All applicable 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 the MAAPP policy is a condition of participation in the conduct of this competition. ● No on-deck USA Swimming registration is permitted. ● In compliance with <i>USA Swimming Rules and Regulations</i>, the use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone is not permitted in the changing areas, rest rooms, or locker rooms. Per PVS policy, the use of equipment capable of taking pictures (e.g., cell phones, cameras, etc.) is banned from behind the starting blocks during the entire meet, including warm up, competition and cool down periods. ● Deck changes are prohibited. ● 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. ● Operation of a drone or any other flying devices 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. ● Dive-over starts will be used during the preliminary sessions and Friday timed finals. ● The Meet Director and the PVS Technical Committee reserve the right to limit events, heats, swimmers or adjust the format to conform with the 4-hour provision for sessions that include 12 & U events per Rule 205.3.1F.
EVENT RULES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Swimmers shall compete at the age attained on the first day of the meet. ● Times achieved prior to February 27, 2024 will not be permitted. All times must have been achieved in USA Swimming sanctioned, observed or approved meets. ● Entry times will be verified through SWIMS. Coaches will be asked to provide proof of times when asked by the Meet Director for any time not found in SWIMS. Failure to prove such a time before the event, will result in the swimmer being scratched from that event. ● All events are prelims and finals except the events offered during the Friday session and ALL Relays, which are timed finals. ● A swimmer may enter and compete in a maximum of 8 individual events and no more than three (3) individual events per day and one (1) relay per day. ● A club may enter up to 3 relay teams per relay event, but only one relay team per club per event may score. All relay swimmers must be entered in individual events for the meet. ● Preliminary events will be swum combined for the 13 & Over session. There will be one (1) heat at finals for 9-10. If a preliminary event has more than 24 swimmers in an age group (11-12, 13-14, or 15 & over), then the top 16 swimmers for that age group will qualify for finals and will swim in the order of "B" final and then "A" final, 8 swimmers in each heat. If a preliminary event has 24 or fewer swimmers in an age group (11-12, 13-14, or 15 & over), then only 8 swimmers for that age group will qualify for finals and will swim in a single heat. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exceptions: There will be only one (1) heat for finals for the 11-12 200 Breaststroke and 11-12 200 Backstroke. There will also be only one (1) heat for the 13 & Over 200 Fly

	<p>with ages 13 & Over combined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 400 IM, 1000 Free and 500 Free events will be swum FASTEST to SLOWEST. The 1000 Free will be swum alternating women and men. • Swimmers are responsible for providing their own lap counter (if desired) for the 500 and 1000 Free. • All relays are timed finals and will be swum during the preliminary session. • No Time (NT) Entries will NOT be accepted for this meet. • Entries for the 400IM, 500 Free & 1000 Free may need to be limited due to time constraints. If necessary, it will be done based on the verifiable proof of entry time. If a swimmer is removed from an event because of time constraints, they will be provided the opportunity to enter another event in the meet. • Deck entries will ONLY be accepted for relays. No individual event deck entries will be accepted. Deck entries for relays will be accepted with payment (\$24.00 per Relay) no later than 30 minutes prior to the first event.
WITHDRAWING FROM FINALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimmers who do not wish to swim in the Final, may "Scratch" from the event by following the proper procedure. Swimmers must fill out and sign a Finals Scratch Sheet within 30 minutes of the announcement of qualifiers for "A" or "B" finals, if scheduled. • Swimmers may declare an "intent to scratch" by marking the appropriate space for "intent" On the Finals Scratch Sheet. • Swimmers must confirm that "intent to scratch" on the Finals Scratch Sheet within 30 minutes after the conclusion of their last preliminary individual event of the day or they will be automatically seeded into the Final. • If an athlete fails to properly scratch from a final event and does not appear for the event Final, they will be scratched from their next preliminary swim as a penalty.
POSITIVE CHECK IN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 500, 1000 Freestyle, and 400 IM will be positive check-in events. Any swimmer that fails to check-in will be removed from the event. Positive Check in times for Friday evening: 500 Free closes at 5:00 p.m. 400 IM closes at 5:30 p.m. 1000 Free closes at 6:00 p.m. • Athletes who have checked in, have been seeded, and fail to swim the event will be barred from their next scheduled individual event, unless excused by the Meet Referee. • If the size of the Cherry Blossom Championships warrants, positive check-in for individual events 200 yd and shorter may be announced. Otherwise, all events will be pre-seeded.
WARM-UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prescribed PVS warm-up procedures and safety policies will be followed. The Meet Director will determine the structure of warm-up, including times/lane assignments. • During the meet there may be an area available for warm-up/cool-down. If at any time conditions become unsafe, the area will be closed for the remainder of the meet.
SUPERVISION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their swimmers and cleaning up for their team areas.
SEEDING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday events will be seeded Fastest to Slowest. Standard seeding will be used for all other events.
SCORING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual: 20, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 • Relays: 40, 34, 32, 30, 28, 26, 24, 22, 18, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 • Teams will score points for only one relay per event. • No more than two athletes per team can score.
AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medals will be awarded for 1st – 9th place for Individual Events and 1st – 3rd place for Relays. Team Awards will be presented for 1st - 3rd place teams.
PROGRAMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet programs will be emailed to teams and available on Meet Mobile.
CREDENTIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents not working the meet as a deck official, volunteer timer or other position are not

	permitted on deck. Only athletes, USA Swimming certified coaches, and deck officials will be permitted on the deck. Coaches and Officials should have proof of active USA Swimming membership with them at all times.	
PUBLICATION OF RESULTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By entering this meet, participants (and their parents or guardians, if applicable) acknowledge and consent to the posting of official meet results on the Potomac Valley Swimming (PVS) website. Athlete birthdates will not be included in any posted results. Meet results may be accessed by third-party organizations or applications that use publicly available swimming data for purposes such as rankings, recruitment, or goal tracking 	
SPECTATOR ENTRY FEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None. ● No personal chairs will be allowed in the facility lobby or viewing area. 	
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Medical assistance will be provided by the facility staff. If you require medical assistance, please notify a facility lifeguard or a member of the meet staff. 	
OFFICIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each participating club is requested to provide at least one table worker or official (Referee, Starter, Chief Judge or Stroke & Turn Judge) per session if entering 25 or more splashes. ● Officials interested in volunteering should signup at https://formsmarts.com/form/27pc ● Officials volunteering for this meet should sign in at the recording table prior to the start of warm-ups. Certified officials who have not previously volunteered should contact the referee upon arrival to make their services available. ● A comprehensive officials' briefing will precede each session during warm-ups. 	
TIMERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participating clubs are requested to provide timers in proportion to their entries. One timer is requested for each 25 entries. ● Two timers per lane. There will be two Head Timers. ● An online Timer's Signup will be emailed to participating clubs. 	
ENTRY PROCEDURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Entries should be submitted by email to the Meet Director at patuxentswim@gmail.com. ● Include in the subject of the email, "2026 Cherry Blossom Champs - *****" with the club's initials in place of the asterisks. If your club submits multiple entry files include training site in the subject of the email. ● Include in entry email: entry file, report of entries by name, report of entries by event. ● In the body of your email provide entry numbers (girls, boys, totals), contact information (email, phone, officials contact). ● Entry email must include a coach's cell phone number at which they can be contacted between prelims and finals, in case a swimmer scratches into finals and needs to be notified. ● Entries directly from individual team members will not be accepted. ● Entries by postal service, phone or fax will not be accepted. ● The Meet Director will acknowledge receipt by return email within 24 hours. If acknowledgement is not received in a timely manner, please contact the Meet Director. ● Any club that enters an unregistered or improperly registered athlete, falsifies an entry in any way, or permits an unregistered coach to represent them will be fined the sum of \$100 by PVS and no further entries will be accepted from that club until the said fine is paid. ● ** All Relay swimmers must be entered in individual events. 	
ENTRY FEES	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>Per Swimmer Surcharge: \$10.00</p> <p>Individual event fee: \$8.00</p> </div> <div> <p>Relay event fee: \$12.00</p> <p>Deck entries: \$24.00 (Relay only)</p> </div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make checks payable to PAC. Checks may be mailed to: Patuxent Aquatics Club 414 Forest Bridge Ct. Laurel, MD 20724 	

- Entry fees are due with meet entry. Unpaid fees will be reported to the PVS Administrative Office at the conclusion of the meet.

Cherry Blossom Champs Meet

Friday, February 27, 2026

Session 1 - Distance Events

Warm-up: 4:30-5:20 PM, Events: 5:30 PM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
1	6:22.97	9-10 year old 500 yd Freestyle	6:14.05	2
	5:50.65	11-12 year old 500 yd Freestyle	5:49.93	
3	5:27.60	13-14 year old 500 yd Freestyle	5:06.13	4
	5:32.23	15 & Over 500 yd Freestyle	5:06.75	
5	2:41.66	9-10 year old 200 yd Individual Medley	2:41.80	6
	2:25.61	11-12 year old 200 yd Individual Medley	2:21.86	
7	4:58.57	13-14 year old 400 yd Individual Medley	4:33.39	8
	5:06.06	15 & Over 400 yd Individual Medley	4:37.06	
9	*	9-12 year old 400 yd Freestyle Relay	*	10
11	*	13 & Over 400 yd Freestyle Relay	*	12
13	2:34.77	11-12 year old 200 yd Butterfly	2:32.75	14
15	11:56.11	13 & Over 1000 yd Freestyle	10:35.26	16
<p>NOTE: 500 Free, 400 IM and 1000 Free will be swum FASTEST to SLOWEST with the 1000 Free Alternating Girls and Boys Heats</p>				

***Note: All relay swimmers must be entered in individual events in the meet.**

Saturday, February 28, 2026**Session 2 - 13 & Over Prelim Events**

Warm-up: 6:00-6:50 AM, Events: 7:00 AM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
19	28.05	13-14 50 yd Butterfly	25.58	20
	29.12	15 & Over 50 yd Butterfly	26.51	
25	1:11.18	13-14 100 yd Breaststroke	1:04.62	26
	1:14.16	15 & Over 100 yd Breaststroke	1:05.05	
31	2:14.65	13-14 200 yd Backstroke	2:05.89	32
	2:18.27	15 & Over 200 yd Backstroke	2:06.54	
37	55.36	13-14 100 yd Freestyle	50.44	38
	56.17	15 & Over 100 yd Freestyle	50.79	
39	29.64	13-14 50 yd Backstroke	27.19	40
	30.26	15 & Over 50 yd Backstroke	27.68	
45	2:21.82	13-14 200 yd Butterfly	2:10.30	46
	2:25.55	15 & Over 200 yd Butterfly	2:12.84	
51	2:16.82	13-14 200 yd Individual Medley	2:07.27	52
	2:23.61	15 & Over 200 yd Individual Medley	2:09.93	
57	*	13 & Over 200 yd Medley Relay	*	58

Saturday, February 28, 2026**Session 3 - 11-12 Prelim Events**

Warm-up: 10:30-11:20 AM, Events: 11:30 AM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
17	2:28.17	11-12 200 yd Backstroke	2:23.78	18
23	1:16.51	11-12 100 yd Breaststroke	1:15.41	24
29	30.37	11-12 50 yd Backstroke	30.09	30
35	59.93	11-12 100 yd Freestyle	57.71	36
43	29.13	11-12 50 yd Butterfly	29.46	44
49	1:08.43	11-12 100 yd Individual Medley	1:05.35	50
55	*	11-12 200 yd Medley Relay	*	56

Saturday, February 28, 2026

Session 4 - 9-10 Prelim Events

Warm-up: 1:30-2:00 PM, Events: 2:10 PM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
21	1:24.01	9-10 100 yd Breaststroke	1:22.56	22
27	33.80	9-10 50 yd Backstroke	33.74	28
33	1:06.19	9-10 100 yd Freestyle	1:03.56	34
41	33.02	9-10 50 yd Butterfly	31.74	42
47	1:14.67	9-10 100 yd Individual Medley	1:11.87	48
53	*	9-10 200 yd Medley Relay	*	54

Session 5 - FINALS

Warm-up: 4:30-5:15 PM, Events: 5:20 PM

Girl's Event #	Event	Boy's Event #
17	11-12 200 yd Backstroke	18
19	13-14 50 yd Butterfly	20
	15 & Over 50 yd Butterfly	
21	9-10 100 yd Breaststroke	22
23	11-12 100 yd Breaststroke	24
25	13-14 100 yd Breaststroke	26
	15 & Over 100 yd Breaststroke	
27	9-10 50 yd Backstroke	28
29	11-12 50 yd Backstroke	30
31	13-14 200 yd Backstroke	32
	15 & Over 200 yd Backstroke	
33	9-10 100 yd Freestyle	34
35	11-12 100 yd Freestyle	36
37	13-14 100 yd Freestyle	38
	15 & Over 100 yd Freestyle	
39	13-14 50 yd Backstroke	40
	15 & Over 50 yd Backstroke	
41	9-10 50 yd Butterfly	42
43	11-12 50 yd Butterfly	44
45	13-14 200 yd Butterfly	46
	15 & Over 200 yd Butterfly	
47	9-10 100 yd Individual Medley	48
49	11-12 100 yd Individual Medley	50
51	13-14 200 yd Individual Medley	52
	15 & Over 200 yd Individual Medley	

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Session 6 - 13 & Over Prelim Events

Warm-up: 6:00-6:50 AM, Events: 7:00 AM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
61	33.22	13-14 50 yd Breaststroke	30.32	62
	34.71	15 & Over 50 yd Breaststroke	30.68	
67	1:01.35	13-14 100 yd Backstroke	57.20	68
	1:03.53	15 & Over 100 yd Backstroke	100.10	
73	25.47	13-14 50 yd Freestyle	23.00	74
	25.86	15 & Over 50 yd Freestyle	23.31	
79	1:01.70	13-14 100 yd Butterfly	56.56	80
	1:03.83	15 & Over 100 yd Butterfly	56.56	
85	2:35.15	13-14 200 yd Breaststroke	2:26.93	86
	2:39.01	15 & Over 200 yd Breaststroke	2:20.63	
91	1:59.92	13-14 200 yd Freestyle	1:55.14	92
	2:04.83	15 & Over 200 yd Freestyle	1:51.65	
93	1:04.29	13-14 100 yd Individual Medley	59.89	94
	1:05.49	15 & Over 100 yd Individual Medley	59.94	
99	*	13 & Over 200 yd Freestyle Relay	*	100

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Session 7 - 11-12 Prelim Events

Warm-up: 10:30-11:20 AM, Events: 11:30 AM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
59	2:45.67	11-12 200 yd Breaststroke	2:42.49	60
65	1:06.04	11-12 100 yd Backstroke	1:06.31	66
71	27.13	11-12 50 yd Freestyle	25.93	72
77	1:06.66	11-12 100 yd Butterfly	1:04.97	78
83	35.02	11-12 50 yd Breaststroke	33.71	84
89	2:10.90	11-12 200 yd Freestyle	2:08.08	90
97	*	11-12 200 yd Freestyle Relay	*	98

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Session 8 – 9-10 Prelim Events

Warm-up: 1:30-2:00 PM, Events: 2:10 PM

Girl's Event #	No Faster Than (SCY)	Event	No Faster Than (SCY)	Boy's Event #
63	1:14.45	9-10 100 yd Backstroke	1:12.41	64
69	30.31	9-10 50 yd Freestyle	29.17	70
75	1:17.47	9-10 100 yd Butterfly	1:13.37	76
81	39.19	9-10 50 yd Breaststroke	37.77	82
87	2:23.47	9-10 200 yd Freestyle	2:20.84	88
95	*	9-10 200 yd Freestyle Relay	*	96

Session 9 - FINALS

Warm-up: 5:15-6:05 PM, Events: 6:15 PM

Girl's Event #	Event	Boy's Event #
59	11-12 200 yd Breaststroke	60
61	13-14 50 yd Breaststroke	62
	15 & Over 50 yd Breaststroke	
63	9-10 100 yd Backstroke	64
65	11-12 100 yd Backstroke	66
67	13-14 100 yd Backstroke	68
	15 & Over 100 yd Backstroke	
69	9-10 50 yd Freestyle	70
71	11-12 50 yd Freestyle	72
73	13-14 50 yd Freestyle	74
	15 & Over 50 yd Freestyle	
75	9-10 100 yd Butterfly	76
77	11-12 100 yd Butterfly	78
79	13-14 100 yd Butterfly	80
	15 & Over 100 yd Butterfly	
81	9-10 50 yd Breaststroke	82
83	11-12 50 yd Breaststroke	84
85	13-14 200 yd Breaststroke	86
	15 & Over 200 yd Breaststroke	
87	9-10 200 yd Freestyle	88
89	11-12 200 yd Freestyle	90
91	13-14 200 yd Freestyle	92
	15 & Over 200 yd Freestyle	
93	13-14 100 yd Individual Medley	94
	15 & Over 100 yd Individual Medley	