Swim for Charlie FUNdraising Meet
Sunday April 12, 2026
Meet Starts at 8:50 AM

Join us on Sunday April 12 for the 3rd fundraising meet for Swim for Charlie - the non-profit organization created in Charlie van der Horst's memory. This laid-back meet format welcomes and encourages everyone, from the most novice swimmers and triathletes to the most seasoned competitors. Come and have fun, enjoy racing and help raise money for a great cause. Events range from 25s to the 500, and includes 4x25 yard relays.

"Dr Charles Van Der Horst Water Safety Initiative" (SwimForCharlie.org) is a Section 501(c) (3) charitable organization (EIN 84-2837052). If you can't make the meet, but would like to make a donation, you may do so HERE. Thank you!

SANCTIONED BY: North Carolina Masters Swimming for USMS, Inc.

SANCTION #: 136-SXXX

REGISTRATION

- Registration opens January 1, 2026
- Click here to enter!

LOCATION: Orange County Sportsplex
101 Meadowlands Dr
Hillsborough, NC 27278

SCHEDULE on Sunday April 13, 2026

- 7:45 AM: Pool doors open, volunteer check-in begins
- 7:45 AM: Positive check-in for 500 Free BEGINS
- 8 - 8:45 AM: Warm up
- 8:15 AM: Positive check-in for 500 Free ENDS
- 8:50 AM: Competition starts

ENTRY FEE and ENTRY DETAILS

- Entry fee: $50 until March 22, 2026 at 11:59 PM
- Late entry fee: $65 between March 23 and April 5 at 11:59 PM
- A swimmer may enter up to six (6) individual events
- Entry fees are non-refundable unless the meet is canceled

Entry Details

- Online entries only. No paper and no day-of-race/deck entries will be accepted.
- Swimmers must use Club Assistant, the online entry system which streamlines checking USMS registrations, putting your entries into the meet database, and payments.

- If you are not registered with USMS, you will be able to do so at the first step of your meet entry process.
- For swimmers who are not USMS members, a one-meet membership can be purchased for $20.
- Your credit card will be charged by ‘Swim For Charlie’ for this meet.
- Deadline for entries is Sunday April 5, 2026 at 11:59 PM ET.
- Age for entries determined by the swimmer’s age on April 12, 2026.
- 200Y relay teams must consist of all Men or all Women or two Men plus two Women.
- 100Y relay teams are "open".

500 FREE - POSITIVE CHECK-IN

- Positive check-in is REQUIRED if you are planning to swim the 500 Free
- Day-of-meet, in-person only (we are not using online check-in)
- Positive check-in opens at 7:45 and at 8:15 AM
- *Failure to check in will result in the swimmer being scratched from the event*
- You may contact us via email if you know ahead of time you'd like to be pulled from this event.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
11 lane, 25 yard, 6 foot deep, indoor heated pool will be in use. 8 lanes will be used for competition, other than the 500 Free. The length of the competition course without a bulkhead is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with USMS articles 105.1.7 and 106.2.1. You can expect pool temperatures to be between 79-81 degrees.

Warm-up/cool-down space: Swimmers will have access to all lanes in the competition pool for warm-up. The recreation pool (3 lanes, 25M) will be available throughout the meet for warm up and cool down between events. One lane in the competition pool will be available for warm up/cool down as well.

RULES
Current USMS rules will govern the meet. All participants must be age 18 or older as of the last day of the meet and be currently registered members of U.S. Masters Swimming. Foreign swimmers must provide proof of current membership in their country’s Masters Swimming governing body.

When warming up, you must enter the pool feet first except in designated sprint lanes. NO DIVING will be allowed during any breaks. No paddles or kickboards are allowed.

"One-event registration" is strictly for insurance coverage on the day of this meet and will be available for non-USMS swimmers for a flat fee of $20. OEVT swimmers are not eligible for any Event Rankings, Top 10, USMS records, or other honors achieved in that event. Per Article 301.3.1 of the USMS Rule Book.

Per Article 102.12.1 Design, Item C: "Only swimsuits complying with World Aquatics swimsuit specifications may be worn in any USMS sanctioned or recognized competition. Note: World Aquatics specifications prohibit any zippers, ties, or any other fastener systems with the exception of a waist tie."

SEEDING and LIMITS
All events will be seeded slowest to fastest with mixed gender. A swimmer with no seed time may indicate “No Time” or “NT” in the time slot and will be seeded as the slowest time in the event. The Meet Director reserves the right to limit the number of entries in any event to run the meet within the time allocated. The 500 Free will be capped at 20 swimmers (2 heats of 10).

RELAYS ARE FUN!
There are both 100Y and 200Y relays. 200Y Relay teams will consist of all Men or all Women or if "Mixed", two Men plus two Women. 100Y relays are "open". If you wish to swim in relays, be sure to opt in for the relays you wish to swim when registering.

Those who wish to swim a relay together with friends or teammates may submit their 4-person relay to the entry chair. Those who wish to swim on a relay but do not have a 4-person team will be placed on a relay by the meet director.

TIMING SYSTEM and RESULTS
The primary timing system will be automatic timing. Times from this competition will be eligible for USMS records and Top 10 consideration, but not for world records. The times recorded from the 25's are NOT eligible for USMS records. 200Y "mixed" relays will only be recognized if they have 2 men and 2 women.

Results will be tabulated by gender and age group, as defined by USMS guidelines.

VOLUNTEERS
Sign up here

OFFICIALS
- Meet Director: Jonathan Klein
- Entry Chair: Robin Robinson, Lynn Klauer, Liz Rosen
- Volunteer Coordinators: Jane Satter, Lynn Garrett
- Meet Referee: TBD

MERCHANDISE
- T-shirt $30
- Silicone Cap $20 (regular and long hair)
- Latex Cap $7

FUNDRAISING DETAILS

During checkout, you will be asked to make an additional donation to Swim for Charlie. The purpose of this meet is to have fun and enjoy racing, but it's also to raise money for a great cause. Swim for Charlie is teaching second-graders in North Carolina life-saving water safety skills. Learn more here.

“Dr Charles Van Der Horst Water Safety Initiative" (SwimForCharlie.org) is a Section 501(c) (3) charitable organization (EIN 84-2837052). The donation you make during check out will be deemed tax-deductible absent any limitations on deductibility applicable to a particular taxpayer. No goods or services will be provided in exchange for your additional contribution. THANK YOU!