



# Hershey's Mill Estates Pool (2025)

## Pool Rules & Regulations

### 1. Pool Use

- A. Use of the pool is reserved to members in good standing of Hershey's Mill Homeowners Association (HMHA/HME). See the HME By-Laws for a description of "member in good standing." Members and guests will sign a designated log book at the main pool gate entrance.
- B. No one is allowed to use the pool unless a lifeguard is present.
- C. Children between the ages of 11 (or finished 5th grade) and 14 will be permitted to enter the pool alone provided:
  - a. They have in the past or present adequately completed a swim test administered by the lifeguard. The test will consist of one non-stop swim along the length of the pool and treading water for 30 seconds following the laps.
  - b. They have read and follow the pool rules.
  - c. The child's parent or guardian has signed and returned a Children Pool Use Permission Form.
  - d. They bring no more than 2 guests that will sign in with their parent contact number.
  - e. They have an adult check in on them every two hours throughout their stay.
- D. Children between the ages of 15 and 17 will be permitted to enter the pool alone provided:
  - a. They have read and follow the pool rules.
  - b. The child's parent or guardian has signed and returned a Children Pool Use Permission Form.
  - c. They bring no more than 4 guests that will sign in with their parent contact number.
- E. Someone 15 years or older must accompany any child under the age of 11. This person must identify themselves and the child they are responsible for to the lifeguard on duty.
- F. An adult or babysitter must be in the pool supervising all children who need flotation devices at all times. Children having completed the swim test described in section 1.C above are allowed in the diving area without adult supervision.
- G. All children who are not potty trained are required to wear proper swim diapers. If a child that is not potty trained has an accident in either pool, management will close the pool for 32 hours.
- H. The wading pool is for the use of children ages 5 and under only. Waders are the sole responsibility of the supervising adult and are not under the supervision of the lifeguard.



- I. Please DO NOT allow the children to block the fountain as this damages the pump mechanism and incurs unnecessary costs for HME.
- J. Chairs are not permitted in the baby pool because they damage the paint and plaster.

## 2. General Pool Regulations

Per the pool company, no residents are to speak to guards who are on the stand. For any problem or concerns please contact a pool committee member.

- A. There is no running, horseplay, abusive or foul language allowed at the pool at any time.
- B. There is no smoking/vaping of any kind allowed within the fenced pool area at any time.
- C. The primary duty of the lifeguards is to provide for pool users' safety. Please do not engage the guards in any conversation that might distract them from their duty. Do not sit near the guards.
- D. No food or drink is allowed in the pool at any time.
- E. The following are not allowed within the pool area at any time:
  - a. Pets
  - b. Scooters, bikes, skateboards
  - c. Radios, speakers or appliances<sup>1</sup>
  - d. Glass containers<sup>2</sup>
- F. Any electronics with sound must be used with headphones.
- G. There is no jumping off the sides of the pool onto a floatation device in the deep end, lap area, or shallow area.
- H. Diving Guidelines:
  - a. There is no diving into any area of the pool except the diving area.
  - b. Only one person is allowed on the diving board at any one time.
  - c. The diver must be at the side of the pool before the next diver may proceed.
  - d. Back flips, inward dives, and gainers are prohibited. Front flips are acceptable if adequate skill is displayed, as determined by the lifeguards.
- I. Group games in any section of the pool will be allowed at the discretion of the lifeguard, and with

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<sup>1</sup> Does not apply to HME social events or private parties. During social events or private parties, music may be played following township noise ordinance.

<sup>2</sup> Does not apply to HME social events or private parties. All glass bottles must be on grass. If glass breaks, HME or private party holder is responsible for paying if pool must be drained.



consideration of other people in the area. If a game is being played in the deep end, the diving board must be blocked off. The time spent for games in the deep end should be limited when there are people waiting to use the diving board.

- J. Big flotation devices may only be used at the lifeguard's discretion.
- K. No flotation devices are allowed in the diving area at any time.
- L. The lifeguard has the right to declare a 15-minute "Adult Swim" during peak usage hours.
- M. The lifeguard may create a dedicated "lap lane" during any time.
- N. An adult must be aware to watch their children that have not passed the swim test.

### 3. Guest Regulations

- A. A Guest is **any person who is not living full time in the home of a resident**. College students are residents.
- B. Adult members of HME may bring a maximum of up to 10 guests per household, with no more than 6 children among those guests, to the pool at any one time. Groups of 11 or more should rent the pool before or after pool hours (See #5).
- C. While at the pool, guests **MUST** be accompanied by the resident at all times. The resident is responsible for advising the guest of pool rules. **Guests are responsible for following all HME Pool Rules & Regulations.**
  - a. Guest fees are \$2.00 per person on weekdays and weekends.
    - i. Payment of the guest fee is not related to the degree of personal usage of the pool by the homeowner.
    - ii. We appreciate your consideration in paying the guest fee for anyone who is not a permanent resident of Hershey's Mill Estates.
    - iii. If you have a "summer guest", a person who will be residing with you for the summer, including baby sitters, relatives, etc., the fee will be \$25 per summer guest for the entire summer. This should be paid to the pool chairs upon the summer guest's first visit to the pool.

### 4. Rain Policies

- A. If heavy rain begins before 1pm, the lifeguard will not open the pool, but will remain on call. The decision to open the pool will be made at the discretion of the Pool Management Company and the Pool Chairperson. The goal is to keep the pool open as weather permits.
- B. At the sound of thunder, all swimmers must leave the pool area and go outside the fence. The lifeguard will determine swimming safety. No one is allowed back in pool area until at least 30 minutes after last thunder.
- C. If heavy rain continues for one hour, the pool will officially close. The lifeguard will remain on call until 5 p.m. If the weather clears before 5 p.m., the pool will reopen.



## 5. Private Parties

- A. ~~Private parties are available for the convenience of HME residents who want to entertain at the pool. However, those wishing to book a private party should remember that the primary purpose of the pool is to provide enjoyment to all residents of HME. Therefore, all party scheduling will be done with an eye toward safety and the comfort and convenience of all HME residents.~~
- B. ~~If you are interested in entertaining more than 10 guests at a time, you must book a private party with party coordinator. Private parties are available for the cost of providing the lifeguard services and are available under the following conditions:~~
  - a. ~~You have requested to reserve your party two weeks ahead to secure date and guards.~~
  - b. ~~You have completed the "Private Party Booking Request" and the "Party Waiver" forms. These forms indicate the hours in which private parties may be held. Parties are to be booked outside of main pool hours. Do NOT consider the party "booked" (or issue invitations) until you have received confirmation from the Pool Committee Chairperson.~~
  - c. ~~When booking a party, at least 2 certified lifeguards must be present and all pool rules must be enforced. The fee amount will depend on the length of time of the event and the number of guards.~~
  - d. ~~You must also provide the Pool Committee Chairperson with proof of liability coverage for this event for a minimum of \$1,000,000.~~
  - e. ~~If the party is of sufficient size, or the guest list includes a number of very young children, so that conditions warrant a third lifeguard, there will be an additional fee. The decision for the necessity of a third guard will depend upon the size of the group and the ages of the participants. (usually more than 30 people unless adult party/graduation parties) Residents are completely responsible for private party set up and clean up and supplies (i.e. paper goods and charcoal). The lifeguards are not responsible for cleaning up after neighbors or guests at any time.~~

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping the pool safe and pleasurable for all neighbors by adhering to the guest policy. Violating this policy can create an undesirable situation for the guards, the Pool Committee Chairperson, and other HME residents. Please note that the HME Board has the right to suspend privileges for the use of HME facilities for any neighbor who knowingly and willfully violates any HME policy.

## 6. Additional Pool Services

- A. The pool furniture is provided for your use and convenience. Please use the furniture with care. If you move pool furniture, please return it to its original position before you leave. If you are not going to be using your furniture for any length of time, please consider placing your towel and belongings on a bench instead of reserving a table. If the pool furniture is not functioning as designed, please notify any member of the HME pool committee. Adults have priority over children for the use of furniture. A new Lounge chair cost over \$200
- B. There is a refrigerator and microwave oven available for your use at the pool. Food is stored in the refrigerator at your own risk. We suggest you mark your container with your name. No alcohol may be stored in the refrigerator. We will clean out the refrigerator every other Friday.
- C. On Friday nights during the main summer season, the pool will be open until 9:30 p.m. for night swims. Many Friday night are theme nights at the pool which HME residents volunteer to host. See emails and newsletter for more information.



- D. A number of games are available including water volleyball, water basketball, and more. Please use these materials with the consideration you would show if they were your personal belongings. Please retrieve all balls and toys from woods and return to toy bin.
- E. Grills are available for your use at the pool. If you use these grills, you are responsible for cleaning them after use and for the charcoal.
- F. Private swim lessons may be available from some HME neighbors for a fee. Please speak to the Pool Chairperson if you are interested.

## 7. Pool Rules Enforcement

Creating a safe and pleasurable environment at the pool is the responsibility of every pool user. The lifeguards' primary responsibility is to create a safe environment. We ask that all neighbors take responsibility for knowing the pool rules, reviewing them with their children, and adhering to them.

Remember, it is your neighbors who oversee the pool. They volunteer their time to create a pleasant environment for HME residents. Please do not put us in the position of having to speak to you or your family member for creating an unsafe or unpleasant condition at the pool. In the event that rules violations occur, these are the procedures that will be followed:

- A. For rules violations that are minor in nature, the lifeguard will first speak to the offender and request compliance.
- B. If a minor violation continues, or if a more significant violation occurs, the lifeguard has the right, at any time, to bench or dismiss from the pool any person who is violating the rules. Notification to a parent upon dismissal.
  - a. First time a child under 18 is asked to leave the pool area they are no longer allowed to have friends at the pool without an adult. If continues the lifeguard and/or HME may require the child to have a parent at all times.
- C. The lifeguard has the right to suspend pool privileges for a child for a determined period of time, with notification to the parent.
- D. If a dispute or disagreement arises from the interpretation of these rules, please speak with the Pool Chairpersons or a Board member only. If you are concerned about the appearance of the pool you may speak to any pool committee members, chair and board members. Do not take these issues up with the pool manager or lifeguard unless there is a matter of urgency pertaining to someone's safety.
- E. The committee is available for you to address any concerns in person or by email. This will be made available to you by posting in office and in the monthly newsletter.

**Please Note: In the case of knowing and willful violation of pool rules, the HME Board has the right to suspend a neighbor's privileges associated with the use of HME facilities. Please do not put HME in the position of having to make that decision.**