

Mason Municipal Aquatic Center | Capital Campaign

A MATTER OF 50 METERS





What's a few hundredths of a second?

It's the difference between winning and losing.

**It's the difference between a swimmer who trains
in a 50-meter pool and one who doesn't.**



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The City of Mason is primed for a redevelopment to support their swim team the Mason Manta Rays, to upgrade their 25-meter facility to a 50-meter complex. This is a huge deal for the city, the surrounding area, and all who are interested in competitive swimming and aquatic sports.

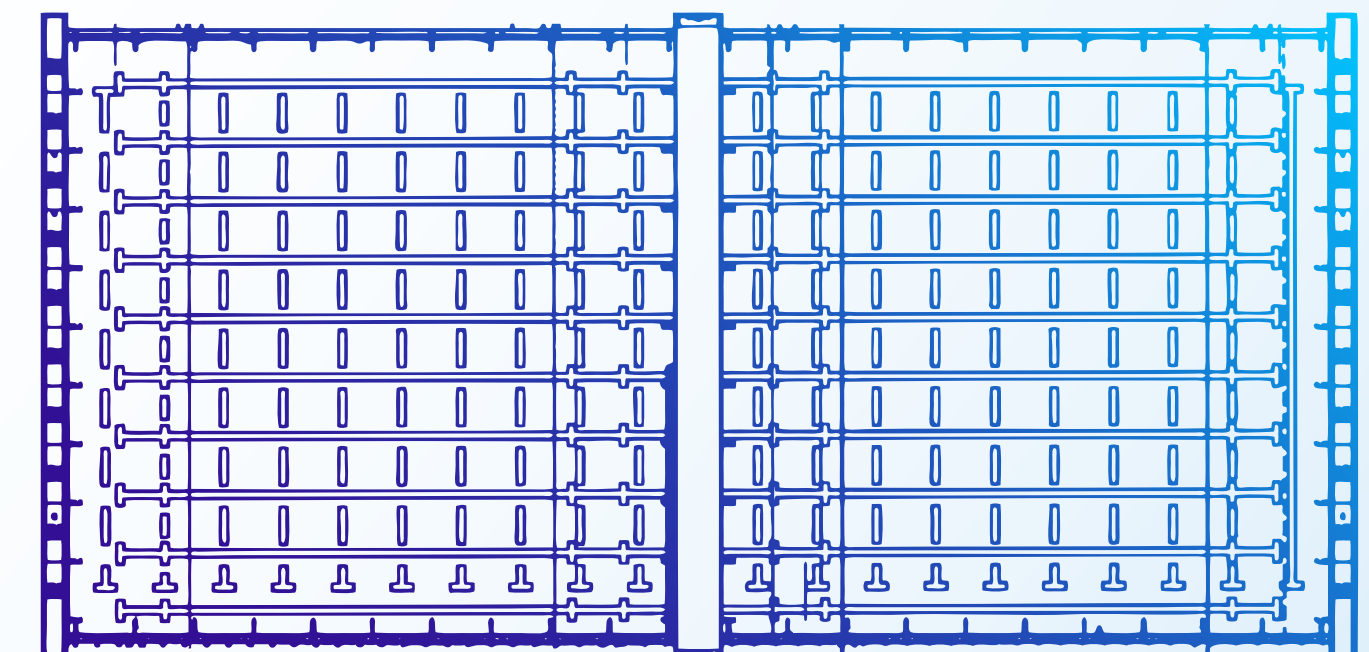
The new aquatic center is designed for versatility and elite achievement. This year-round facility with movable bulkhead will be highly reconfigurable. For swimming, it can be a 10-lane, Olympic-sized venue or a 20-lane, short-course venue. For water polo, two full competition pools with warm-up areas are possible. Subdividing the space finally opens up opportunities for programs like Masters and Triathlon training, as well as swim lessons, that have previously wilted from lack of usable area.

All we need is \$5 million in private contributions to close the public-funding gap for the entire center. There are a host of opportunities for corporate, group, and individual participation, so don't think too hard about stepping up.

Kick in now!

Project opportunities include:

- ✦ 10 long-course lanes / 20 short-course lanes
- ✦ Olympic starting blocks
- ✦ Omega timing system
- ✦ Full-color video scoreboard
- ✦ High-quality sound system
- ✦ Spectator seating for up to 1,000
- ✦ Repositionable, bulkhead system
- ✦ Fast pool – eight feet deep



A Matter of **EXCELLENCE**

**Training in a 50-meter pool is what the world's best swimmers do.
Let's give the Mason Manta Rays that advantage.**

While the Mason Manta Rays have impressive accomplishments without the availability of a long-course pool, almost every Olympic swimmer has trained in a 50-meter pool to develop the endurance and stroke rhythm needed to compete at national and world events.

The Mason Municipal Aquatic Center development offers the best opportunity to reach the goal of seeing a Mason Manta Ray on the U.S. Olympic Team — and benefit all City of Mason Manta Rays.

An enclosed, 50-meter aquatic venue will allow:

- + **Year-round training to enhance achievement outcomes**
- + **Recruitment and expansion of club by over 200 members**
- + **Athletes to train in one location, strengthening team culture**
- + **Long-term coaching excellence and growth**
- + **Mason Manta Rays to exemplify USA Swimming at all levels**
- + **Competitions and meets attracting 800-1,200 swimmers**





A Matter of **ACHEIVEMENT**

In the last 10 years, the Mason Manta Rays sent 100 swimmers to 50 different universities on scholarships. Let's achieve even more in the next five years.

The Mason Manta Rays have a well-earned history of leveraging excellence in the pool to gain scholarships and admission to some of the best colleges and universities around the country – the majority on NCAA athletic scholarships worth over \$10 million.

Team members have had the privilege to compete on the collegiate level at Stanford, Texas, Tennessee, Harvard, Princeton, Pitt, Michigan, Ohio State, Naval Academy, USC, Georgia Tech, Washington & Lee, Indiana, Denver, Notre Dame, Tufts, and Kentucky, among others.

A pool expansion will help more Mason swimmers gain academic leverage, while offering training facilities at the NCAA level. This will give competitive swimmers the experience they need to reach the heights they dream to achieve.

A Matter of COMMUNITY

A competition pool expands room for swimmers of all ages and abilities — and provides the foundation for an even stronger competitive program.

The Manta Rays originated from a unique approach found at the Mason Community Center and throughout the Mason community. At its foundation is Mason's vision for building a culture of wellness and inclusivity. Mason has a track record for willingness to leverage City assets to strengthen opportunities for Mason's residents and businesses. A creative partnership to grow the Mason Manta Rays has tremendous potential to grow the community.

A year-round, world class aquatic facility with a 50-meter pool has the potential to attract the region's best competitors, regardless of background. The addition of 20 short-course lanes could significantly expand water time

and capacity for a wide range of activities, from USA and Masters Swimming to water polo, synchronized swimming, kayaking, scuba, water aerobics, learn-to-swim lessons, and triathlons. Integrating an inflatable obstacle course is even a possibility.

Additionally, Mason can become a regional hub and a national venue for Special Olympics and Paralympics events.

A 50-meter pool says we take swimming seriously. It's a badge of honor for any place that has one, and the benefits can extend throughout the community for generations.





A Matter of **URGENCY**

This initiative is happening right now! Let's join the City of Mason in its commitment to build a year-round, 50-meter facility.

Integration of this 50-meter pool is timely because the Mason Manta Rays are competing on the world stage. The clock is running, and it's time to secure private funding to close the budget gap on development of the entire Mason Municipal Aquatic Center.

There are only a handful of long-course pools in Southwestern Ohio. Most are at universities and unavailable for youth and high school training. None are within a 30-minute drive of Mason. The City of Mason offers a prime, drivable location between Cincinnati and Dayton with plenty of hotels, restaurants, and amenities.

This complex will not only immediately address the region's high demand for aquatic sports but enhance Southwestern Ohio's reputation nationally as a hot-spot for competitive swimming.

It all translates into significant Manta Ray membership growth, as well as large, recurring, revenue-producing events and facilities leasing.

Swimming was a way for me to escape the categorizations that plagued my childhood. I was able to find my identity, my best friends, and self-confidence through swimming. I owe it all to the Mason Manta Rays and the amazing coaching staff for being there for me every step of the way.



Eric Chen
Ohio Northern University
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2013

It wasn't until I was an adult that I could fully appreciate how much the Manta Rays and swimming meant to me. Swimming gave me a community of people I would carry with me wherever I went, inspired me to constantly strive for bigger and more ambitious goals, and taught me the value of never giving up – even in the face of a bad day, or race. I'll always be grateful to the Manta Rays for pushing me to be my best self.



Simonne Dubois
Tufts University
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2010

Swimming has taught me countless lessons that I continue to carry with me through life every day. Though my career ended seven years ago, I still explain a large part of who I am by how swimming, and more specifically the Manta Rays, positively impacted and molded my life. Swimming and the Manta Rays empowered me by teaching that if I believe in myself 100%, and pour myself into my goals, great things can and will happen.



Margaret (Fish) Musser, Ph.D
Harvard University
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2008

Swimming has taught me dedication, perseverance, hard work, and discipline. Most importantly, it has taught me GRIT!



Dr. Ashlee (Edgell) Barker
University of Notre Dame
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2009

It's been over 10 years since I've become a Manta Ray alum. I still look back and consider the years and memories of being a Manta Ray my favorite of adolescence. I attribute my academic and professional achievements to the habits and foundation that I developed while being a part of the Manta Rays under a wonderful coaching staff, a supportive athletic community, and motivational peers. While I'm no longer competing in the water, many of my life long-skills and habits were formed there.



Morgan (Parker) Sparenborg, CRNA
George Mason University
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2009

I can't imagine where I would be in life without having swimming play such a large role. It taught me that discipline, dedication, and hard work can pay off in big ways. Swimming gave me a community that felt like a second home, lifelong friendships, and nostalgia that will follow me forever – whenever I get a whiff of chlorine.



Ashley Sojda
University of Cincinnati
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2010

I attribute much of my life success to my younger years of swimming with the Manta Rays. Not only did swimming teach me lessons in hard work, perseverance, and time management, it also gave me friends for life.



Mary Wunderle
The Ohio State University
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2009

Having moved around the world, home has always been something recondite. Being fortunate enough to call the Manta Rays, a team that has supported me, my goals, and my potential, my home is more than I could have ever asked. Returning every school break from Denison, witnessing the immense growth, grit, and relentlessness from the younger swimmers is truly inspirational. The Rays are not just my team, but my family that helped me fall in love with swimming and showed me what it meant to be a swimmer.



Tim Hagemeister
Denison University
City of Mason Manta Rays Alum - 2017

BUILDING ON THE CITY OF MASON MANTA RAYS' HISTORY OF SUCCESS

RANKED
TOP
1%
NATIONALLY

(Highest Rated – without a 50-meter Pool)

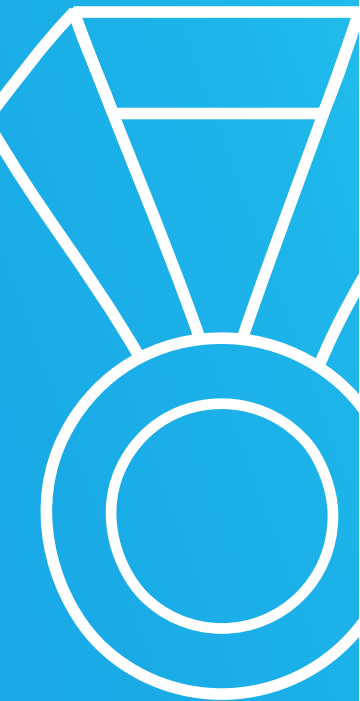
50
ALL
AMERICANS

(USA Swimming – Scholastic: 2018)

4 INDIVIDUALS
ON USA JUNIOR
NATIONAL TEAM

5 SWIMMERS
REPRESENTED
TEAM USA
INTERNATIONALLY

**BACK
-TO-
BACK**



**USA
JR. NATIONAL
TITLE WINNERS**

(Girls, Boys, and
Combined Team: 2017 & 2018)

**ISCA
JR. NATIONAL
CUP TITLES**

(Girls Title: 2017 & 2018 |
Boys: 2018 | Combined: 2018)

BUILDING ON THE CITY OF MASON MANTA RAYS' HISTORY OF SUCCESS

**USA
SWIMMING –
CLUB
EXCELLENCE
GOLD MEDAL
TEAM** (2018 & 2019)

**USA
NATIONAL
TEAM
COACH**

TEAM HAS
GROWN FROM

**110
-TO-
300
SWIMMERS**

(Wait List of
150 Swimmers)



**8TH OF 3,000
USA SWIMMING TEAMS**

(USA Swimming Gold Medal Club: 2018)

OHIO'S HIGHEST
USA SWIMMING TEAM RANKING



BUILDING ON THE CITY OF MASON MANTA RAYS' HISTORY OF SUCCESS

11

OLYMPIC TRIALS
PARTICIPANTS
FOR 2020 GAMES —
AND COUNTING

COACH OF THE YEAR

(Ohio Senior: 2007, 2008,
2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019
Age Group: 2017 & 2018)

SWIMMERS IN
EVERY
OLYMPIC
TRIALS
SINCE
2008

5 SWIMMERS RANKED IN THE WORLD TOP 100



(2018 | 8, 18 + Under Top 100: 2018)

CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

LIST IN FORMATION



KATHY FISH

COMMITTEE CHAIR



ZERLINA DUBOIS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



ERIC HAGEMEISTER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



KEVIN NAYLOR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR



YANNIS SKOUFALOS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



MICHAEL ULLOM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



JOE WALLER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



KELLY ANCHRUM

COMMITTEE MEMBER



LUISA CERDÁ

COMMITTEE MEMBER



CHRIS CHRISTENSEN

COMMITTEE MEMBER



AINSLIE GORDON

COMMITTEE MEMBER



NICK GORDON

COMMITTEE MEMBER



ABOUT

THE MASON MANTA RAYS

The Mason Manta Rays is a 2018 USA Swimming Gold Medal Club located in Mason, Ohio just north of Cincinnati. The USA Swimming Excellence in Club Swimming Program is a voluntary program that identifies and recognizes USA Swimming clubs for their commitment to excellence in operation, performance, and for their support of the sport and USA Swimming.

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THE MASON PARKS & RECREATION FOUNDATION

The mission of the Mason Parks & Recreation Foundation is “to preserve Mason’s livability by raising funds to enhance and expand our community’s parks, trails and recreation programs and to provide access and opportunity for all.”

Since its establishment in 2006, the Foundation has succeeded in raising general awareness of its mission, securing support from sponsors, donors, and the state of Ohio.



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Your Cheers **MATTER**

HOW WILL YOU HELP REACH THE GOAL?

Be a champion for our community and volunteer to help get Mason swimming off the blocks and into the future!



HONORING A FRIEND AND FELLOW SWIMMER

THE JOSÉ CERDÁ HALL OF CHAMPIONS

As a heartfelt tribute to the memory of José Cerdá Navarro, an area within the Mason Municipal Aquatics Center will carry his name. Individuals, groups, and businesses interested in associating their contributions with this portion of the capital campaign are invited to combine their giving in this meaningful salute. Not only benefiting the sports he loved, swimming and water polo, recognitions within this level of giving will be a reflection of José's passion for striving to always be one's very best.

On October 26th, 2010 — the day of his 18th birthday — José passed away suddenly from an arrhythmia while swimming. José was constantly striving to move to the next level of athletic performance, while also having fun and supporting his teammates and fellow competitors. As a Senior at Sycamore High School, José played on the Varsity Water Polo Team as the 2-meter position wearing Cap #3 and was awarded honorary 1st Team All Ohio at the end of the 2010 season. He also was the backstroker for the Sycamore Varsity Swim team.

KICK IN!

We need you to **go the distance.**

A Matter of 50 Meters has partnered with the City of Mason to help meet a private funding goal of \$5 million. Our capital campaign offers many opportunities for individual, group, and corporate participation.

Your support will have an immediate impact in development of the new Mason Municipal Aquatic Center!



COMMEMORATIVE NAMING

Giving levels of \$500,000 and above may qualify for naming opportunities relating to the aquatic park area, event complex, or Olympic-sized competition pool. Consider making a lasting impact through this time-limited option. Please contact us for additional details.

Individual plaques are available, as well – relating to specific areas of the aquatic center.

José Cerdá Hall of Champions

Honorary Sponsorship	\$500,000	collective goal
Scoreboard	\$150,000	
Community Room	\$100,000	
Locker Rooms (2)	\$50,000	each
Bulkhead/Bridge	\$50,000	
Flagpole	\$50,000	
Pool Starting Blocks (20)	\$10,000	each

LEADERSHIP GIVING

Recognition plaques – located in a highly visible area – will list donors according to giving level.

Platinum Sponsors	\$50,000
Gold Sponsors	\$20,000
Silver Sponsors	\$10,000
Bronze Sponsors	\$5,000

SIGNATURE RECOGNITIONS

Commemorate or honor an individual or group with inscription.

Indoor Tile	\$2,500	each
Outdoor Paver	\$1,000	each

SCOREBOARD ADVERTISING

Signage – incorporated in prime context – for a five-year-long period.

Large	\$50,000
Medium	\$25,000
Small	\$10,000

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Friend of Mason Manta Rays
All donations up to \$999

THANK YOU!

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All proceeds go expressly to the A Matter of 50 Meters, Mason Municipal Aquatic Center Campaign Fund.

Mason Parks & Recreation Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are eligible as a charitable deduction. Tax ID #20-5962880

If you would like to be contacted regarding more information about donating – kickingin@amatterof50meters.org

A Matter of 50 Meters
c/o Mason Parks & Recreation Foundation
6000 Mason-Montgomery Road | Mason, OH 45040

amatterof50meters.org | [f amatterof50meters](https://www.facebook.com/amatterof50meters)
[amatterof50](https://twitter.com/amatterof50) | [amatterof50meters](https://www.instagram.com/amatterof50meters)
#AMatterof50Meters | #MasonOHrays | #MasonOH



Kick In Online

