2026 Battle Creek Field of Flight Air Show and Balloon Festival

Registration & Tentative Briefings

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME	GATE
Wednesday, July 1	**Registration**	**BALLOON OFFICE**	2:30 – 4:30 PM	5th Ave
	1st Master/Mandatory Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	5:30 – 6:30 PM	5th Ave
	PM Flight		7 PM	
	PM Illume Briefing (Even #'s)	**LAUNCH FIELD**	9 PM	#6 OR #20
Thursday, July 2	AM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:00 AM	5th Ave
	AM Flight		6:30 AM	
Thursday, July 2	PM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:30 PM	5TH Ave
	PM Flight		7 PM	
	PM Illume Briefing (Odd #'s)	LAUNCH FIELD	9 PM	#6 OR #20
Friday, July 3	AM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:00 AM	5th Ave
	AM Flight		6:30 AM	
Friday, July 3	PM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:30 PM	5TH Ave
	PM Flight		7 PM	
Saturday, July 4	AM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:00 AM	5th Ave
	AM Flight		6:30 AM	
Saturday, July 4	PM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:30 PM	5TH Ave
	PM Flight		7 PM	
Sunday, July 5	AM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:00 AM	5th Ave
	AM Flight/Competition Ends		6:30 AM	
Sunday, July 5	PM Briefing	BALLOON OFFICE	6:30 PM	5th Ave
	PM Flight with $1,200 Prize Money		7 PM	

Please Note: July 5 AM Flight will End the Competition. However, July 5 PM flight will have $1,200 in Prize Money for those that are willing to fly – Refueling will take place after the Flight and hotel will be paid for.

DIRECTIONS FOR "AM"& "PM" BRIEFINGS and REGISTRATION:

FOR AM BRIEFINGS I-94 TO HELMER ROAD AND GO NORTH; YOU WILL PASS COLUMBIA AVENUE AND CONTINUE PAST WMU COLLEGE OF AVIATION TO 5TH AVENUE (WEST). THIS IS THE NORMAL FIELD OF FLIGHT OFFICE AND IS WHERE CLINGER'S OPERATION STAFF FUNCTION OUT OF AND AT GATE #32. PARK IN THE DESIGNATED AREAS AND YOU WILL ENTER THE BUILDING AT THE FAR WEST END. PORTA JONS WILL BE AT THE END OF THE BUILDING. THEY WILL BE LOCKED, SO PLEASE ASK THE OPERATION STAFF FOR THE KEY. HOWEVER, Sunday, July 5, AM Briefing, you will use the PM directions below as Helmer will be closed from Goguac to Columbia for the Half Marathon!

FOR PM BRIEFINGS YOU WILL TAKE COLUMBIA AVENUE WEST TO 20TH STREET; GO NORTH ON 20TH STREET; AT THE SECOND TRAFFIC LIGHT GOGUAC STREET – YOU WILL GO WEST, THIS WILL DEADEND INTO HELMER ROAD; TURN NORTH AND PROCEED TO THE BALLOON OFFICE located on the WEST Side of Helmer Road. Goguac Street will have a Road Closure Sign; however, you may proceed as directed above.

THESE DIRECTIONS WILL BE THE SAME DIRECTIONS YOU WILL NEED TO FOLLOW TO GET BACK TO THE BALLOON OFFICE WHERE REFUELING WILL TAKE PLACE.

CHAMPIONSHIP DIRECTOR PHIL CLINGER WILL BRIEF EVERYONE AS TO WHICH GATE TO ENTER THE LAUNCH FIELD ON THE BALLOON ILLUME NIGHTS. IT WILL BE EITHER GATE #20 OFF HELMER ROAD OR GATE #6 OFF SOUTH AIRPORT ROAD.