



June 6, 2020

Swim Saskatchewan Membership:

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work to work through the “Re-Open Saskatchewan” plan in accordance with Saskatchewan Health Authority Guidelines and get back to swimming.

Last Friday, Swimming Canada released the “COVID-19 Return to Swimming Resource” Document; found [here](#), a FAQ Document [here](#), the Open Water Safety considerations for [Individuals](#) and just today the Open Water Swimming Safety Guidelines for a [training Group](#)

Sports remain in Phase 4 of the *Re-Open Saskatchewan plan*. The Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan can be found [here](#). At this time, the only approved/ sanctioned activity that can be occurring is the virtual dry land training for the year round age group clubs that have requested to do so and have submitted all of the following: training plan, list of athlete that have signed up to attend these sessions and those athletes parents have completed the Virtual Training Acknowledgement of Risk Form: COVID-19. If your club engages in any group activity you are at risk and liability as there is no insurance coverage and your activity is not approved and therefore unsanctioned via the insurance company terms.

Yesterday the Premier of Saskatchewan unveiled that Phase 4 of the “*Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan*” will be in 2 different steps: Outdoor pools and/spray pads in Step 1 and Indoor Pools in Step 2. What we are also learning is that some municipalities have made the decision that they will not be opening Outdoor pools this year; so, in some cases we will have no choice but to wait until Step 2. In addition, we must remember that once pools are given the date that they can open, that the facilities will still need time to train their staff for operating within COVID-19.

We are in the process of creating a Swim Sask Return to Swimming document for club use, to assist in re-opening, which will include useful check lists and as well as Acknowledgement of Risk Forms that all swimmers, coaches and officials will have to sign.

We have submitted a request to the Government of Saskatchewan Business Response Team for consideration to include swim club dry land training in outdoor greenspaces as part of the Outdoor Individual Recreation Guidelines that open in Phase 3 of the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan. We will advise you of the response once received.

Sask Sport and Swim Sask continue to be pro-active and work to understand how we can return to sport in a healthy and safe manner. We do know that our sport, like most aspects of our daily lives, has changed and it is important to remain patient, flexible and adaptable as we transition to this new way. We also need to start ‘re-imagining’ the sport of swimming - how we “swim” will be different for quite some time.

Please reach out with any questions you may have to me at marjwalton@swimsask.ca or by phone at 1-306-780-9238.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Marj Walton
Executive Director

