



## Swim Saskatchewan current and next steps in supporting clubs

April 24, 2020

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting each one of us. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to adapt to provide services to our membership. We appreciate each one of you and hope that you are staying strong and safe. Thank you for the work you are doing within your club to keep your members engaged during this time.

We continue to work together with Sask Sport and Swimming Canada and the other provincial offices to ensure that decisions that impact our sport and membership are addressed uniformly and timely. As you chart these uncertain times, it is essential that we follow the direction of our Federal and Provincial governments to ensure we take the necessary steps to keep our communities safe and healthy.

Swimming Canada has a COVID-19 Resource hub with some great information. It can be found [here](#). It includes documents on core training, stretching, dryland best practices, and mental health documents.

On Wednesday Swimming Canada announced the dates and plans for national competitions for next year; of which some will become a 'virtual' competition, and some will be combined. They have made this decision to reduce travel and to help families financially. Please see article [here](#) More details as well as time standards will be released by Swimming Canada in early May.

Yesterday the Premier of Saskatchewan unveiled the "Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan" it can be found [here](#). What we know is that swimming pools may be able to open in Phase 4, however this phase still has public and private gatherings of 30. Please remember that just because the government of Saskatchewan is saying that they can open, there may be facilities/towns/municipalities that decide they are not going to.

Today we announced the cancellation of July ManSask. This was a difficult decision to make however a necessary one based on the *Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan*. Please see letter posted on Swim Sask homepage with rationale.

Clubs need to continue to watch the Canada Revenue Agency [website](#) for programs and benefits as this site changes almost daily and there are things that don't get announced but are available.

As always, I remain committed to providing you with updates and information as I have it available to me. Year-Round Club Head Coaches and Club Presidents need to continue to watch your email inbox.

Swim Sask continues to work remotely for our membership and sport. Please reach out with any questions you may have to me at [marjwalton@swimsask.ca](mailto:marjwalton@swimsask.ca) or by phone at 1-306-780-9238.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Marj Walton  
Executive Director



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### Communication

To help communicate with our members, Swim Sask is currently in the process of updating the home page on the website to include a “COVID-19” tab. This will store all with important updates and information that we have already shared with you via email. Please watch for this tab over the coming days.

We will continue to hold club meetings with Head Coaches and Club Presidents in the coming days/weeks to ensure we stay connected and work collaboratively to support one another.

### Next Meetings for:

### Date and Time

Head Coaches: Year-round/Age Group

Weekly on Friday's at 12 noon

Clubs: Year-round/Age Group & those that have master's as part of them.

Date to be confirmed. Zoom meeting invite will be sent

Clubs: Summer

Semi-Annual General Meeting May 2, 2020 at 10:30 am via ZOOM.

Masters only club – RMSC

Swim Sask will be in contact with you soon

### Upcoming Coach Education and Training:

We are offering The Community Coach and Swimming 101 courses online/virtually this spring:

- Community Coach Course: May 23 and 24, 2020 (must attend both days)
- Swimming 101 Course: May 29, 30, 31, 2020 (must attend all 3 days)

Find more information [here](#)

- Reminder that coaches that completed their Respect in Sport (RiS) training over 5 years ago need to recertify.

**Officiating:** Officials training is being offered online and virtually. Check out details [here](#).

Reminder that before taking any of the courses that Swim Sask is offering virtually on May 9, a person must take the Level 1 Intro to Swimming Officiating first.

### Cancellations and Postponements

As per Swimming Canada direction, all sanctioned competitions between now and April 30 are cancelled and for other meets past April 30, Swim Sask is following a 30-day rule for club invitational competitions; meaning that swimmers need to be back in the water training for 30 days prior to a competition.

Swimming Canada has cancelled all National Sanctioned meets for remainder of the season [\(link\)](#)

The following competitions and events have been cancelled:

- NCCP Swimming 101 Course: Humboldt – April 10-12, 2020
- NCCP Swimming 201 Course: Saskatoon - April 22-24, 2020
- Michelle Moore Swim Meet: Regina – May 22-24, 2020
- LC ManSask: Regina – July 2-5, 2020





Other events that have been cancelled or postponed by our partner agencies that impact our members include:

- Sask Summer Games – TBC (decision to be announced April 28)
- All NAIG Swim Team Camps– POSTPONED
- NAIG 2020 Games – POSTPONED to summer 2021 (no dates have been set yet)
- NAIG Coach and Coordinator Symposium – POSTPONED

### **Sanctioning future competitions for Year-round, Masters and Summer clubs**

Swim Saskatchewan will not sanction competitions until such time as the Province of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Health Authority and municipalities permit mass gathering to resume to a level that sanctioned competition require, including taking into consideration, athletes, coaches and officials. Swim Sask is committed to working with clubs on sanctioning requests when restrictions have been lifted.

### **Insurance**

Clubs and Coaches registered with Swim Sask have been asked to follow guidelines with respect to virtual training. These restrictions have been modified to facilitate online training for registered swimmers through the COVID-19 pandemic. The key point is that the virtual training must be led by **registered coaches** and all swimmers participating must be **registered**. In addition, participants/parents must sign an Acknowledgment of Risk. A link to complete this electronically will be available on the new COVID-19 tab of the Swim Sask website. The Online Training Endorsement has previously been circulated to you and once the new COVID-19 tab on the Swim Sask website is completed it will be available there as well.

If you are using a 3<sup>rd</sup> party provider then you need to ensure that this 3<sup>rd</sup> party provider has liability insurance and that the liability insurance includes that they can deliver online training. If your club is sending out dryland training for athletes to do on their own, then they need to understand that they are doing so voluntarily and that they are not covered by Sport Accident insurance in this instance. (This is no different than if they go outside and play and hurt themselves).

The insurance company has also provided some exclusions right now due to COVID-19. Once the new COVID 19 tab on the Swim Sask website is completed this exclusion document will be available there and is called: Contagion Exclusion Endorsement.