

April 15, 2020

**BCSSA Club Presidents** 

## **Dear Club Presidents,**

In the BC Summer Swimming Association, the season has traditional started on May 1<sup>st</sup>. This year, we know that we will not have pools available for our athletes and indeed, we do not know when pools will become available. To that end, the BCSSA is developing alternatives for our athletes. These alternatives will include online dry land exercises, online seminars for athletes, coaches, and officials as well as province-wide fun and competitive challenges for our members.

All of our decisions will be based on the Provincial Health Officer's recommendations.

Following our pre-published plan of action and dates, the Board of Directors have the following statements to share:

- 1. It is our hope and intention to keep our athletes involved with our organization. This involvement may be restricted to dry land activities for the next few months.
- 2. We believe that any season is better than no season and are prepared to extend the season to the end of August.
- 3. We have cancelled the 2020 Provincial Championships.
- 4. We may hold an electronic "Provincial Meet" so that athletes and coaches can compare their performances provincewide.
- 5. We will put an emphasis on our Regional Meets this season with Regional Celebrations in each of the eight regions.
- 6. The Board is creating a "Covid-19 Response Fund." This fund will be administered by the BCSSA Finance Committee and will be used to support club's efforts to deliver online activities for their swimmers, coaches, and parents. More about this fund and how to apply will be in our next news bulletin.
- 7. The Board has approved a revision to our Provincial Registration Fee. For this summer only, the Provincial Fee will be reduced from \$35.00 to \$5.00 for all athletes that register before July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The \$5 fee will give you all the benefits that were available in the past including full insurance for dry land and water workouts, competitions, special club activities and travel to and from BCSSA activities. When registering this summer for the \$5 fee, all benefits will extend to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will include the winter maintenance insurance.

We are truly in uncharted waters. Your Board of Directors is meeting weekly and, as you know, the Provincial Covid-19 situation is changing weekly as well. The next few months will require ongoing perseverance, patience, and adaptations. I am hoping we will be able to be together this summer.

Sincerely, and on behalf of the BCSSA 2020-21 Board of Directors, Danny Schilds, President