



**Executive Director letter to Membership: 2021-2022-01
Oct 22, 2021**

Welcome to the 2021-2022 season! We are so happy to have you as part of our swimming community here in Saskatchewan.

We are seven weeks into the 2021-2022 season and all clubs are operational and we have clubs that successfully hosted swim meets safely, returned to training safely, hosted virtual officials training clinics safely and held provincial North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) sessions safely!

Swimmers, Coaches, Officials, Parents and Staff are eager to be involved and gathering to share in our passion for swimming. As we continue into our season with more training, competitions, travel and camps it is important that we continue to operate safely. We can swim safely if we all do our part!

Please keep doing so safely; mask, physical distance, get immunized, stay home when sick/symptomatic and seek testing, and continue proper hygiene and sanitizing practices.

Our early registration for swimmers and coaches this season is promising and officials registration is starting to come along well. The following chart illustrates swimmer and coach registrations for our current season as of Sept 30th, 2021 and compares it to the same date in the previous two years.

Registration Type	29/09/2019	29/09/2020	30/09/2021
Competitive Fundamentals (8&U)	28	20	10
Competitive Skills (9-10)	96	75	70
Competitive Development (11-14)	265	257	266
Competitive Open (15+)	90	100	114
Varsity-Open	0	3	2
Varsity	15	20	20
Varsity Year-Round	N/A	0	0
TOTAL COMPETITIVE	494	475	482
Pre-competitive (Learn to Swim and Fitness)	759	192	854
Masters	113	101	172
Masters-Open	0	0	9
Coach	91	70	75
Summer	0	0	0
Summer-Open	0	0	0
Limited Event	0	0	0
Limited Event - Open Water	N/A	N/A	0
Total	1457	838	1592

While we are pleased with our registration, we remain aware and cautious as we are experiencing an increase in identified positive COVID-19 cases (Sept 1, 2021- current). To best support and help guide clubs we responsibly apply the current, [Oct 19, 2021 Public Health Order \(PHO\) on Masking and Isolation](#). Please read this document and note that we have highlighted it to correspond with the sport of swimming and our application/interpretation of it.



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Some considerations from the aforementioned PHO follow in summary form, please refer and read [the entire Oct 19, 2021 public health order](#) for the complete context and wording:

- For the sake of the sport of swimming; Our members including swimmers, coaches, volunteers, staff, officials are all considered a natural person; therefore:
 - are not considered a pupil or student while in participating in our sport.
 - those under age 12 as they are NOT yet eligible to be vaccinated, are exempt from self-isolation if deemed a CLOSE CONTACT for the SOLE purpose of attending SCHOOL.
 - those aged 12 and over that are NOT fully vaccinated must self-isolate if deemed a CLOSE CONTACT.
 - those aged 12 and over that are FULLY vaccinated are exempt from self-isolation ONLY if they are asymptomatic.
- A Close Contact is any person who is closer than 2m for more than 15 minutes of another person. Therefore, each club, group must reflect on training size, layout and interaction at any given practice to help determine this.

Recognizing that you can now consent to receive Covid-19 results via text message or email or via your e health account, it is important that if any member does test positive, to advise our club's COVID 19 rep and follow your club's protocol. Should SHA contact you please ensure that you provide SHA of your participation is swimming and give them specific details on the name of the group you swim in, or the days of the week and location.

Clubs notify Swim Sask when there is a positive COVID-19 case within their club. This information is for case tracking purposes only. No names are shared. Clubs protect the privacy of their members and when notifying groups of a positive case, will not share the name of the member that tests positive.

Swim Sask COVID-19 [Training and Competition Guidelines](#) related to COVID-19 have been published and are posted on the [Swim Sask website](#).

Swim Sask is currently exploring a vaccine policy. Details will be shared when decisions are made.

If you are an official and plan on working on deck at swimming competitions this year, then you need to be a registered official. If you have not yet requested for your Officials registration account to be activated, then please do so by filling out this [simple form](#). Once we activate our account, you will receive an auto generated email from: systems@swimming.ca. You will then login to your account and complete your official's registration AND sign the Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk Form. Then, login and sign up to take officials virtual and online learning in the [Swimming Canada Learning Management System](#). We do not that alot of the auto generated emails go into junk/spam accounts, so please add systems@swimming.ca and registration@swimming.ca onto your approved sender list.

We thank you again for being a part of swimming in Saskatchewan and look forward to hearing how your experience with the sport has helped build #betterlivesthroughswimming.

Sincerely,

Marj Walton, Executive Director



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