



**January 31, 2022**

**Executive Director letter to Membership: 2021-2022-05**

Dear Swim Saskatchewan Membership:

In mid January an online survey was sent out to all registered age group competitive, masters and varsity swimmers to seek input into competitions over an eight-week period (January 14 – March 10, 2022). Thank you to those that took the time to complete it.

340 responses were received from a possible 731 swimmers (46.51% response rate). 65% of responses indicated a plan to continue with and attend competitions as scheduled while 35% indicated they would like to see competitions postponed, cancelled or re-formatted. Additionally, there was substantive feedback submitted. Upon review the following trends were clearly identified: adapt format/size/type of sanctioned meets to keep competitions as safe as possible, enforce COVID-19 precautions at meets, improve masking, vaccination, and use of rapid tests.

The results confirm the shared desire to compete. How we do this to provide meaningful competitive experiences for our swimmers in a safe and responsible manner is the responsibility of the Provincial Sport Governing Body, Swim Saskatchewan.

A review of the current COVID-19 guiding documents has been completed and updated versions are now available for [TRAINING](#) and [COMPETITION](#) on the [Swim Sask website](#). Swim Sask continues to stay up to date on the guidance provided by the Sask Health Authority and Government of Sask with regards to COVID-19 and continues to work collaboratively with our members clubs and stakeholders.

Knowing that sanctioned swim competitions can adapt to provide safer environments (i.e.: reducing capacity, re-formatting, etc.) will impact access for some clubs/swimmers to attend competitions. Therefore, Swim Sask staff will provide support and resources to assist affiliated clubs in hosting at a sanctioned competitive opportunity, including those clubs that have not traditionally been hosting if the club so chooses.

We thank those clubs that have hosted competitions to date and will be hosting in the coming months. Currently scheduled meets include Junior Provincials which has been adapted allowing, 11 & over females and 12 & over males to attend without having achieved an "A" time. Additionally, there will be no relays and the event will be livestreamed as there will be no spectators. This will be followed by March ManSask in Winnipeg (meet package is in final stages) and a meet in Swift Current in April.

Each member club is responsible for assessing the risks in their environment and establishing the appropriate safety procedures to minimize those risks, while following the advice, guidelines, and directions of Swim Sask and instructions of public health and other government authorities, including facilities.

Additionally, it is an individual's responsibility to assess his or her personal risks in consultation with medical professionals and for the outcome of his or her decisions and actions.

Swimming builds #betterlivesthroughswimming.

Sincerely,

Marj Walton, Executive Director



**Better Lives Through Swimming**