



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

8/26/2020

Dear Swimmers and Families,

Without a doubt, I think we can all agree we've all grown very tired of the indecision, lack of knowledge, and general uncertainty that dominates our daily lives. I apologize for adding to this over the past several months through poor communication. The excitement and enthusiasm for the swim team are partially lost with the uncertainty of competition with other teams. The fall and winter season continue to face uncertainty, so I will offer transparency to team leadership as we move through the days ahead.

As you're likely aware, before the COVID related closure, the Y was facing regular financial shortfalls, which have been increased by the pandemic. We've lost many memberships and face a great financial burden in attempting to deliver many traditional YMCA programs. Please know that the Y board is meeting weekly as we attack the financial concerns facing the Y, through funding, donations, community relationships, and grants, we hope to remain relevant and open for swimming.

In recent weeks I've learned of many Y's exploring novel ideas for staffing, hours, program delivery, and facility usage. We are leading and learning from these conversations. The previous way of running our Y won't pay the bills in the next few months. We're having meaningful conversations with young adults and a variety of local leaders from Johnstown. We've learned there are a variety of crises that face Johnstown including gaps in educational support and food delivery should remote learning become necessary. We're researching how to become part of the solution in these scenarios as well as in the chronic disease prevention arenas such as diabetes being heightened by the pandemic.

Your coaches are committed to working on delivering safe and meaningful workouts to swimmers in the upcoming season. With so many uncertainties, the following decisions have been made:

- **Swim team fees will be monthly instead of the season fee.** That fee will be \$57/month, with a \$10 off sibling discount. Y membership will be required.
- **Swim team hours will be from 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Monday – Friday.** Younger swimmers will swim from 5:00 – 6:00 PM.
- **State, YMCA, League and team decisions are fluid, and plans could change** in the future. Changes could reflect changes in the number of practice times, the ability to compete, and the availability of coaches. We're working together to create plans before their needed to avoid the many gaps that were created with the shut-down in March.

Finally, as a believer in Jesus Christ, I ask that you pray now and often for our country, our community, and the YMCA. There are good things on the horizon, but dark days to get through. If you're able, please consider visiting our website for a one-time or recurring donation. I'm available for conversation or to set up a parent meeting, I just ask that you email me to set up a time to talk. I'm packing my schedule with every opportunity to serve and develop income. **I thank you for being a part of the YMCA, where we are for youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.**

Respectfully,

Shawn Sebring, CEO

ssebring@johnstownpaymca.org