



Swimmers and parents

I just wanted to send out an update with regards to the situation that we and many clubs throughout BC are in. Our executive along with VPSC executive (CoV stakeholders) are currently trying to set up meetings with City officials to get an idea of what is going on and when we can get back. All clubs within the LMR are in exactly the same scenario overall with no answers and no response at this moment to our questions.

First of all, congratulations to ALL of those swimmers who persevered in attending the dry land workouts and staying in touch. You guys did a fantastic job! We loved seeing you. This allowed coaches to keep monitoring your development as well as knowing that most were staying vigilant in their ability to self isolate and keep fit. For those who may have had some problems with getting a solid line on the internet, that is unfortunate but we hope that you were able to continue doing some of the dry land that we posted on facebook pages throughout. It has been a long haul but our swimmers were very good at doing things and making sure they stayed connected. We are one of the few clubs that had continual connection throughout the pandemic so far! Congratulations!!

Please believe me and understand that we, the coaches, executive and other members are continually doing our best to get answers as to when our pools will reopen. At the present moment, unfortunately, we have not even received ONE email or letter from city officials, Parks Board, city councillors as to what is going on, information on pools or notification of problems. We have been in communication with staff members at VAC, but they in turn have NO IDEA and have not heard anything as well with regards to what is happening.

Many of our parents have written to different NEWS sources and have had a couple published in the PROVINCE and CBC.CA, which we are very grateful for and thank those parents! Some others have written to the Premier, as have I myself, in at least trying to start a dialogue with regards to what the plan is and even if there is a plan.

Understanding that although the province is not responsible for cities and their management, at least maybe, the province might be able to help in funding and starting some sort of communication for clubs and cities within the province. The JCC has allowed some of us to get back in to the water, but unfortunately, space is limited and the costs are a little more than accustomed to.

Although this season came to an abrupt end, we had many successes and are on track to become even better. I am so proud of our swimmers. We had one swimmer reach a

qualifying time for the Olympic Trials (as a Junior), but was also within a few tenths of reaching a QT as a senior. We had one other who was within a couple of tenths of reaching a Junior Olympic Trials QT! That is fantastic as they are both just 13-14 years of age. We had so many reach their first Western QT as well (over 10), whereas last year we had 3. Our Age Group squad once again, placed 2nd at the Provincial Age Group Championships. We had over 30 reach their BC Champs times and move our club to within 1 spot of the top 10 overall, climbing each season. We had over 5 swimmers break CLUB RECORDS as well. Our girls' relays went 1st and 3rd at the BC Champs and just about were 1st and 2nd! We had multiple medalists at BC Champs this season whereas last season, we had no medals.

We look forward to seeing this continue in to the new season once we get back. Even though many are not back yet in the water, it is not as imperative at this time because meets will probably not start until January of 2021 in some form. We are hoping that with our executive's push to get a meeting with a city official, that we are able to convince them to get clubs back in to the water by September. Until we have that information, unfortunately we are not able to give you information on registration. This will all be dependent on numbers allowed, getting pool space and pool time given to the club. ALL Vancouver clubs are in the same scenario. VPSC and Gators will be working with us to try and secure pool space availability for local clubs. Chena has had NO space available and neither has WVOSC. We are ahead of most other clubs within the province at the time in having any space. We look forward to collaboration of all clubs within cities to try and engage cities to open back up to the rental groups as soon as possible.

For those who are doing training at JCC at the moment. We are concentrating on more technical aspects and hope to get swimmers to make habits out of good push offs, kicking and stroke counts. Most of the work is 25's to enable spacing out and ability to work together. Groups have been very good. Continue to wear masks in and out of the facility, keep talk to a minimum, better to do it by texting or twitter. Keep self distancing and maintaining small pods of people to interact with and try not to extend your bubble too much in order to maintain the safety. Wearing masks in public is now something that might help everyone. Try to be a leader in this aspect and set new goals.

I am very excited for the new season and once we are all back in, it should prove to be a GREAT ONE! Our swimmers are working together and setting new goals towards reaching Olympic Trials Qualifying times, Western times and provincial times. There will be a New PROVINCIAL format coming out in the next few weeks, so stay tuned! You guys are awesome and lets' look forward to sweeping the relays next season as well as trying to WIN more often. Set your goals high, aim for the sky.

I will be away for a couple of weeks and then Jennika will be away. We have someone covering for us when we are away. Khosro will continue to monitor any health surveys and these must be filled in before EVERY practice by EVERYONE attending. Dryland is now over until further notice.

We look forward to hearing good news about a September opening from our pool, but we will inform everyone as soon as we do hear.

Kelly

GO FINS!!