

To our Aquatic Families,

We received some good news today that we will be allowed in a limited capacity to return to the pool. This should be taken as a positive step for our athletes and getting back to at least some kind of "normal" for at least a couple of weeks and hopefully beyond, as we have both high school and club seasons to get ready for.

We apologize for the length of this email, but we wanted to give you all the information we have as of August 7th, 2020.

This is all happening in "live" time and information is changing by the minute and even while we are writing this email. What we found out at 7:00am this morning is nothing like what we are talking about at 5:00pm this afternoon. To be honest, you may know more in some cases than our coaching staff around our district. The process is not cohesive and we apologize for that. We are only getting information relayed to us. We haven't had much of a voice in the decisions that are being made, nor has our high school administration, and like all of you, we have many unanswered questions.

For those families that have been with us for awhile, this is not how we normally do our planning. Instead, we take pride in being thoughtful as we take what we do very seriously when it comes to the mental, emotional, and physical health of our athletes and their families.

**We will NOT be attempting to get back on campus next week.** Our pool has been covered for 147 days as of today. This issue is important as it directly affects the cleanliness, chemical balance, and heat that will need to be addressed for the health and safety of our athletes. Chlorine kills the virus which makes our sport one of the safest sports to start playing again. So, the chlorine needs to be correct. Just about every country that has water polo has been playing for weeks, if not months already. Obviously, we have heard of some of the clubs around us that have been also playing polo for quite some time. The good news is that if our sport had an issue, we would have already heard of it.

At this time, please make sure that you have completed the Family ID process and that our Athletic Director has a copy of your athlete's Sport Physical and front and back of your Insurance cards. **Please email our Athletic Director a signed copy of the "COVID-19 Shared Responsibility Commitment" Document as well.** We will also collect a hard copy of this signed document on the first day of Summer Camp. **These things must be done BEFORE the first day of Summer Camp or your athlete will not be allowed to participate.** This is a hard rule coming down from our school board and will be strictly enforced. Failure to comply with these things could possibly shut down our program.

In order to get our Summer Camp plans approved, we will have to go through a "Summer Camp" clearance process that will happen over the weekend and over the first part of next week. Once that happens, we believe the district will redo the "Summer Camp" information on the El Dorado High School Website and then you will be able to sign up and pay for the camp.

We are planning to do some kind of conditioning training in the coming weeks. This will have to be done through the "Summer Sports Camp" procedures. **Our goal is to start on August 17th and run Monday thru Friday for two weeks** (hours and what this will look like will come out when we get more solid information). **We will be attempting to have all groups in and out of their specific sessions no later than 1:00pm.**

Unofficially (it will become official, once we get final approval from our district), we are planning to run groups of athletes through swim conditioning sets through the first week. In the second week, along with our swim conditioning, we are hoping for approval to start to run "sport specific water polo drills."

During the first week, our athletes will be in more general groups probably based on their year (Sr, Jr, So, Fr) or other criteria. We will need to do this as we are in the dark on our "true" numbers and we will need to comply with the limited numbers allowed in and around our pool. Once we find out who will be taking part in our camp and what specific athletes we will have participating, we may need to do some shuffling of athletes that may change their practice times during the 2nd week. We will give out more specifics of groups and times as they become finalized.

Again, we apologize that this seems a bit unorganized. Please understand that we will get out information when it becomes available to us.

Thank you for your patience and on-going support of our program.

Thank you!!

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**"The only place where success comes before work is the dictionary"**