

May 30, 2020  
Ohio Swimming Families,

I hope this message finds you safe and healthy. It has been a busy week for swim teams in Ohio as they make plans to return to practice. There were a couple of teams who were able to start this week and many more will begin practices over the next 2-3 weeks. It appears that the majority of our clubs will be back in the water in some capacity by the end of June.

As you may know, USA Swimming has extended the no meet sanction policy to the end of June. They have also created a return to competition plan (<https://www.usaswimming.org/news-landing-page/2020/05/15/return-to-competition-roadmap-and-june-event-sanctions>). The plan calls for intrasquad and virtual meets in July and then increasing to regional competition in August depending upon local health guidelines and restrictions.

Therefore, our long course meet schedule for 2020 is canceled, including all Championship meets. There are committees that are working on a meet for the middle of August that would mark our return to competition and would include as many athletes as possible from across the LSC in multiple locations. Those details will be released as they become available. USA Swimming is also organizing Regional events to replace the Sectional and Futures meets that would also be set in the middle of August. Those details will become available soon as well.

I understand that this will be disappointing news for many of our coaches and athletes but the priority is the safety of the athletes. The situation still remains fluid and adjustments with the meet plan will be made as more guidelines are provided by the State of Ohio and USA Swimming. As of now, the short course season will operate as close to normal as in the past, but this will be dependent upon future guidelines and restrictions set by Governor DeWine.

I will continue to provide updates as they become available. I hope to see you on the pool deck very soon.

Sincerely,

Todd Billhimer  
General Chair – Ohio Swimming