



December 10, 2020

Dear Maryland Swimming Membership,

The Maryland Swimming Board of Directors and Committees have continued to meet monthly by Zoom. We keep the athlete's safety paramount especially during the pandemic. We appreciate the support the swimming community has provided to the Athletes, the Coaches, and to the Board. We understand how difficult the situation is for everyone involved.

Vaccines are close but now is not the time to let up on masking, social distancing, and handwashing. It is imperative that everyone continue to follow the plan implemented by the Coaches at the team level, so we slow the virus, protect each other, and maintain the sport. The Coaches are following the Local, State, and Federal mandates without exception. It is the only way we will make it through this whole. Thank you in advance for being vigilant.

The virtual meet series for Maryland Swimming will continue for the foreseeable future; Spring Championships are on hold and probably will not occur this year. The Technical Planning Committee and the Coaches Committee are closely monitoring the meet schedule. They will put a plan in place to safely meet the needs of the athletes and communicate a possible summer schedule. Stay tuned.

The Maryland Swimming annual awards process that normally occurs at Spring Championships is being evaluated by a task force – selection, distribution, etc. Maryland Swimming will keep you informed as decisions are made.

USA Swimming previously mandated The Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy(**MAAPP**). The Maryland Swimming website has a Safe Sport tab with links to the policy. The Center for Safe Sport adjudicates decisions after full investigations of submitted complaints/issues. When cases are decided upon, the LSC Board and the USA Swimming Safe Sport division is informed of the actions taken by the Center for Safe Sport. Those actions are binding and final. Maryland Swimming is duty bound to abide by the decision and is not at liberty to do more than was apprised by the Center for Safe Sport. Reporting is the cornerstone of the Policy and process, so please keep up with the APT training, and know what to do. If you have questions, please feel free to email me.

The USA Swimming General Chair Leadership Meeting held by Zoom this week. Here are a few updates:

- Recruiting swimmers for college is **not** solely based on times; recruiters strongly consider what the athletes coach has to say about the swimmer; recruiting is based on the “big picture” concept – athlete character, work ethic, scholastics, etc. all are in play; the Colleges know the current situation and are making decisions based on the environment everyone is enduring.
- The goal from USA Swimming Safe Sport is to have 100% of the teams Safe Sport recognized by December 31, 2020. Maryland Swimming leads all teams across the USA in the percentage of teams who are Safe Sport recognized at 69.5%! I know the rest of the Maryland teams are close. Let us hit

that 100%! We can do it! Those of you who have applied will most likely receive a call from USA Swimming Staff in the next couple of days asking what help you need to push to the finish.

Sondra Hunt, Safe Sport Committee, has done a great job! Thank you, Sondra!

- Olympic Trials are still set to go in Omaha in June. The goal for the trials is to select the best Olympic Team possible. The National Team Coach and the USA Swimming Administrators are meeting to develop plans for facility and athlete safety procedures, testing procedures, spectator procedures (if any spectators allowed), etc. More information will follow shortly

The Holiday season is upon us. I wish each of you a safe, happy, healthy Holiday. I look forward to serving you in the new year.

Anna Summerfield, General Chair-Maryland Swimming
(alsumm1333@gmail.com)