

Dear GPAC,

The Board of Directors met via conference call today, Sunday, March 22, to discuss the state of team and the situation we are facing in the midst of this unprecedented crisis. The BOD and the coaching staff want to communicate the following information to our families.

I know that is a lot of information however, we wanted to get as much information to you as possible. I also want to reiterate what Coach Greg said in his email last week. Over the years, GPAC has worked to build a safety net in case of a large-scale emergency so that the team can continue. We want to let you know that it is our plan to be able to start right where we left off once we can do so. With all of your help, dedication and understanding during this pandemic we will emerge stronger than ever.

UWF has announced the closure of the aquatic facility until May 5 and PSC has said their pool will remain closed indefinitely. These closures, along with the guidelines set by USA Swimming, have led **GPAC to suspend all practices, meets and functions until at least April 30, 2020.**

This means that both upcoming away meets (Biloxi and Mobile) as well as the team awards banquet on April 25 are canceled. We hope to reschedule the team banquet for some time this summer and will get that information to you asap.

The GPAC Flip Flop meet scheduled for May 2-3 is also canceled. We still plan to hold our Tom Lalor Invitational in late May, as well as our Summer Finale in late June but we must evaluate as the time draws nearer.

Since GPAC will be unable to hold any in-water training for any groups, the BOD has elected to **suspend all training fees** for at least the month of April. The board will be keeping abreast of how everything is developing and will make decisions regarding May and beyond as is necessary. Our goal is to have a decision no later than April 24th regarding May.

On your April 1, 2020 account billing, you will not see April Training Fees, but you will see any past meet fees that are scheduled to be billed (Region IV Champs and Southeastern Champs, both from February), Team Support Fees (1st half of the year – Sept to March) and any other fees that were to be billed. We ask that you pay your account within the normal time frame as having a clean set accounting figures will help us decide future plans.

Additionally, we will move the last installment of Fundraising from May 1 to August 1 and we will adjust the 2nd half of Team Support points to 2/3 of the requirement since we have cancelled the Flip Flop Meet. Should we have to adjust these policies later we will inform you.

Now for some insight as to moving forward.

We will be adding a page to the website for COVID-19 Updates. We will also put information on Social Media as is necessary, but we will be communicating to you directly, mostly via email. If you have a change of contact info, PLEASE go onto your Team Unify Account and update it. Now would be a great time to verify your cell phone number and provider so that we can send you texts, if needed.

The coaching staff is working to design and provide appropriate and applicable dryland training regimens to the swimmers in each group (daily PE class!) as well as distribute goal sheets, instructional videos and other motivational tools to keep our swimmers in the forefront of our mission.

We hope that every one of our families will continue to be an integral part of our team and organization through these uncertain times, and that we will all be on deck again soon. Please feel free to reach out to Coach Greg gpaccoachgreg@gmail.com or myself, Coach Phil gpacswimcoach@gmail.com if you have a need. We will do our best to help!

Be safe and be healthy, GO GPAC!