**RETURN TO COMPETITION ROADMAP AND JULY EVENT SANCTIONS**

Over the past several months, planning for resuming practices has been our main focus. As USA Swimming resume of return to competition plan, for July 2020, it is clear that our clubs and teams are looking for a conceptual plan for competition. USA Swimming Board of Directors has approved sanctioning of meet comprised only of athletes and clubs registered within the sanctioning LSC.

With that, we are sharing the framework of our flexible plan with three-month recommended roadmap for a safer return to competition for our members. This conceptual plan, based on the current health environment, encourages fostering competition in practice in July; the prospect of intra-squad, virtual meets, and small community-based dual meets in August; and regionally based competition in September. The Return to competition date is identified when nearly 100 percent of the teams in the districts are able to conduct in-water practice.

Most importantly, all steps within this progressive strategy require compliance with local, state, and federal public health guidelines.

In support of our recommended approach, and in a continued effort to ensure an even and level playing field among all our LSC’s, the USA Swimming Board of Directors has made the decision to anticipates returning sanctioning control and discretion to LSC’s (subject to certain restrictions) in July.

The targeted return-to-competition guidelines are further detailed below:

July

A return to practice, where possible, is our primary focus. When your athletes are ready, we encourage fostering competition in practice, making racing a fun part of your return to the pool plan. Whether you are racing 15 meters, odd distances, or their favorite event, keep it fun and use the opportunity to set positive expectation.

August

The goal is to return to small competitions such as sanctioned intrasquad meets, virtual meets, and potentially community-based dual meets. These meets may require individual age-groups, limited event orders and new uses of technology. Any hosting team club representative must sign an additional sanction form related to COVID-19 (see attached)

September

USA Swimming staffs continue to plan for a regionally based series of non-championship meets in August for athletes at the sectional level and above. As with our LSCs, we must all have a Plan B and Plan C for competitions this early Fall.

Beyond 90 Days: Snake River Swimming starts to establish a new normal:

* Must conform to public health guidelines and limitations
* Potential for some LSC wide competition opportunities

Teams will be allowed to host meets that regulatory requirements, resources and availability permit. That is, meet formats which make sense for and fit the need of your intended participants.

Teams should agree out of professional courtesy to discourage the acceptance of new transfers during the recovery (30-60-90 day) period.

* Encourages common good and common goals during our recovery
* Allows teams to stabilize operations while recovering from long shutdown
* Prevents any team taking advantage of teams unable to resume in-water practices

If you have any questions about sanctions, please email Eric Perttula, eperttula@onewest.net. For a return to practice, please email to Stephanie Omalley, stephanieomalley@boisestate.edu or Joan Wong, joan.lee.wong@gmail.com