



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



BC Summer Swimming Association
SWIMMING | DIVING | WATER POLO | ARTISTIC

BC Summer Swimming Association

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2020 AGM AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Roll Call, Quorum, and voting procedures. (Quorum is 40 voting members)

2. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

3. Board of Director's Reports

a. President	Danny Schilds
b. Vice-President	Francis Cheung
c. Secretary Treasurer	Cris Jevons
d. Director of Competition	Sean Cauley
e. Director of Officials	Mike Craig
f. Director of Member Services	Jeff Sheenhan
g. Provincial Registrar	Catherine Schwichtenberg
h. Director of Diving	Drea Beye
i. Director of Water Polo	Vacant
j. Coach Representative	Lee Van Danham
k. Director of Artistic Swimming	Nicola Iten
l. Regional Director Reports	
i. Cariboo	Deirdre McDonald
ii. Fraser South	Vince Choong
iii. Fraser Valley	Jim Baxter
iv. Kootenay	Dave Dunnet
v. Okanagan	Ian Murray
vi. Simon Fraser	Carl Trepanier
vii. Vancouver and District	George Eng
viii. Vancouver Island	Sheila Coogan

4. Nominations and Elections by Acclamation

- o President - Danny Schilds
- o Vice President – Jim Baxter
- o Director of Competition – Sean Cauley
- o Provincial Registrar – Catherine Schwichtenberg
- o Director of Diving – Drea Beye

5. New Business & Notice of Motions

- a. 2021 Provincial Championships, August 16-21, 2021.
- b. 2021 BCSSA AGM, Thursday, August 19, 2021.

6. Adjournment

2019 AGM MINUTES

Thursday August 15th, 2019

Tournament Capital Center, Kamloops

Draft for approval

1. **Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by Danny Schilds.
 - Reminder to turn off electronic device and anything that beeps.
 - Reminder that only individuals holding a voting card are eligible to vote.
 - Introduction to Provincial Board Members in attendance.
 - Confirmed that the meeting will be run following Robert's Rules of Order.
2. **Quorum:** It was confirmed by the Provincial Registrar that quorum had been established.
3. **Additions to the Agenda**
 - Self Identification and Transgender Youth Policy and Club Guidelines
4. **Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting**
 - a. **Errors, Additions, Omissions**
 - i. 139 registered athletes not 148 for NVC numbers in George's (V&D) Regional Director Report.

MOTION #1

Move to adopt the 2018 Annual General Meeting minutes as presented in the 2018 Annual Report with the edit to the V&D Regional Report.

Moved: Heather Fisher

Seconded: George Eng

Carried Unanimously

5. Annual Reports

- a. **President**

Danny Schilds	- as submitted
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- b. **Vice – President**

Francis Cheung	- as submitted
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- c. **Treasury Secretary**

Christina Jevons	- as submitted
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 - i. **Financial Report by Michael Hutchinson**
 - Since 2010, BCSSA has chosen to do a peer internal review rather than an audit
 - This year the Board decided to do an audit but had a review engagement
 - a. In an audit, the firm comes in and audits
 - b. In a review, BCSSA sends information to the firm, the firm reviews, asks questions, checks the plausibility of numbers
 - c. There were few changes to implement and items raised
 - Balance sheet
 - a. Net assets
 - i. Money set aside to fund various things (revenue to last for a year if funding stops)
 - b. Statement of operations
 - i. Registration is down

- ii. Provincials revenue and costs are up.
- iii. Scholarship line item is down to 0 because there was a donation of \$6,000 to increase the fund.
 - 1. Also down because the Vancouver Fund now does for perpetuity to cover scholarships
 - 2. \$8,000/ year will also be used for the Ian Allen Coaches Scholarship
- iv. Grants and club reimbursements
 - 1. Up by 50%
- v. General administration
 - 1. Increase due to the overlap of staffing during Office Manager transition
- vi. Marketing
 - 1. Website & strategic planning costs
- vii. Professional fees
 - 1. Associated with the creation of the Financial Audit and Report

MOTION #2

Move to accept the Treasurer's report.

Moved: Brandon Da Costa

Seconded: Jim Baxter

Carried Unanimously

- d. **Director of Competition** Sean Cauley - as submitted
- e. **Director of Officials** Mike Craig - as submitted
 - i. Regions have been working cohesively
 - ii. The Harassment Policy is now online
 - iii. Regional Directors are getting more similar across the province
- f. **Director of Member Services** Bill Bishop - as submitted
- g. **Provincial Registrar** Catherine Schwichtenberg - as submitted
- h. **Director of Diving** Sarah Wellman & Drea Beye –as submitted
 - i. Clarification on rules is needed due to misunderstandings by clubs on coaching aspects at Provincials.
- i. **Director of Water Polo** Cole Wagner - as submitted
- j. **Coaches Representative** Brandon Da Costa - as submitted
 - i. Lee Vanden Ham was selected as the **Coaches Representative** for 2020.
- k. **Cariboo Region** Heather Fisher - as submitted
 - i. Heather will be stepping down as RD, and Diedre McDonald is the incoming RD.
- l. **Fraser South Region** Georgina Wheatcroft - as submitted
 - i. Georgina will be stepping down and Vincent Choong is replacing
- m. **Fraser Valley Region** Jim Baxter - as submitted

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| n. Kootenay Region | Dave Dunnet | - as submitted |
| o. Okanagan Region | Ross Hoshizaki | - as submitted |
| p. Simon Fraser Region | Carl Trepanier | - as submitted |
| q. Vancouver & District Region | George Eng | - as submitted |
| r. Vancouver Island Region | Sheila Coogan | - as submitted |
| s. Synchro Director | Stefanie Dickinson | - as submitted |
- i. A rewrite to the rule book will be required for next year to stay in line with Synchro Canada rule changes.

6. Nominations & Elections

Treasury Secretary – Names Standing: Christina Jevons

- By acclimation - new Treasury Secretary: Christina Jevons

Director of Member Services – Names Standing: Jeff Sheehan

- Nomination of Jeff Sheehan by nominating committee.
- By acclimation – new Director of Member Services: Jeff Shehan

Director of Officials – Names Standing: Mike Craig

- By acclimation – new Director of Officials: Mike Craig

Director of Synchronized Swimming – Names Standing: Nicola Iten

- Nomination of Nicola Iten by nominating committee.
- By acclimation – New Director of Synchro: Nicola Iten

Director of Water Polo – Names Standing: Bear Fraser

- **Nomination of Bear Fraser**
 - Nominated by: George Eng
 - Seconded by: Cole Wagner
- **Nomination of Ron Hadar**
 - Nominated by: Ron Hadar
 - Seconded by: Jane CBSC
- **Presentation of the Candidates**
 - Ron
 - Served as water polo director for the Coquitlam Sharks,
 - Served in a water polo management role in winter clubs,
 - Thorough understanding of the rules of the game.
 - Bear (presented by Catherine Blanco)
 - Coached her sons in Pacific Storm: he has an incredible passion for sport, he played at the national level, he connects with kids and is all about getting kids involved. He works for the development of the sport.
- **Suggestion from the voters:**
 - It would have been nice to hear from the nominees on how they would deal with the divide between development and elite athletes.

- How do you deal with fairness?
- How do you encourage participation when there are scores of 21 – 2? When parents and athletes see these scores, they are less inclined to join.
- Suggestion to look at hockey or soccer leagues.
- **Results of the Vote**
 - Bear Fraser elected as the new Director of Water Polo.

MOTION #3

Move to destroy the voting ballots for the election of the Director of Water Polo.

Moved: Carl Trepanier

Seconded: Heather Fisher

Carried Unanimously

7. Notice of Motions & New Business

a. Transgender Athletes & Self-Identification

- i. The BCSSA Board recognized a need to recognize non-binary athletes within the BCSSA rules and in accordance with governmental laws
- ii. A Committee was formed in October to investigate the topic and report to the board at the January board meeting
- iii. The committee looked at resources within amateur sport from developmental to International Sports Federations
 - Gain an understanding of what other federations, and associations have done in policy creation
 - Discussions with Qmunity and other like-minded organizations
- iv. January meeting
 - **Suggestions from the Committee**
 - a. **Athletes should be allowed to compete in the gender to which they identify,**
 - b. **BCSSA should update documentation to create more inclusive language and rules.**
 - i. Move to singular they not he/she
 - c. **Clubs and regions should work with local facilities, governments, and community groups to create safe changing spaces.** This should be done without singling out people (for example – the labelling of family and universal changerooms)
 - **Board accepted the suggestions**
 - **As of the 2019 AGM, the BCSSA will let transgender athletes compete in gender category with which they identify**
- v. **A breakout session was held between the preliminary round and finals on Saturday of the 2019 Provincial Championships to discuss the topic with the BCSSA community, hear any questions, concerns, or suggestions.**
 - People who self identify as a different gender are more marginalized and less likely to get involved in sport.
 - Issue of fairness and competitive advantage: with very few numbers of athletes who are non-binary it was not seen as a huge issue.
 - Swim BC was present at this discussion and the BCSSA can work with them to create a cohesive Provincial understanding of this topic.

vi. How do you enforce a swimsuit rule?

- British Columbian laws state that girls do not have to wear a swimsuit top and there are no repercussions for chest area nudity.

vii. Coaches perspective

- Potential for an open category in Division 1.
- It is a tough process but as coaches [we] should try to stick together and talk to the parents and help build understanding. They also understand that this is a hard process.

b. Inequities in the Water Polo System – NVC Vice-President Keith Kirkwood

- i. The provincial winter club water polo system has made certain summer teams stronger than others. When those more elite teams play “house” teams, the developmental players are left at a disadvantage and do not enjoy learning the sport.
- ii. Suggested Rule Change:
 - Allow two club players and four non-club players in the water at any time.
 - Makes teams also recruit non-club players, potentially building participation.
 - It allows the elite players to continue to play but encourages a developmental competition.
- iii. Many players leave and do not come back because they get injured in games which made them unable to compete in speed swimming.

iv. If BCSSA promotes sport development, how can we have elite teams?

- There is a large variance in the scores, the intensity of play, and the speed of the ball
- Mixing skill levels can lead to dangerous situations for all athletes.

v. Discussion

- **Adrian Falcon (SSSL):** His son started playing in division 4 and felt ostracized by the more elite players due to him being new to the sport. He supports tiered categories.
- **Jane (CBSC):** Their club has a combination of elite and developmental players. Their club and coaches have decided to give all athletes equal playing time. Their stronger players have become mentors. She notes that sportsmanship and fair play need to be encouraged amongst the clubs.
- **Castlegar Aquanauts Representative:** Should a director prepare recommendations before 2020 season?
 - a. Danny will direct the new Director of Water Polo to create a committee that will investigate this topic. As President, he is able to form a committee at anytime. Specifically:
 - i. Alternative categories.
 - ii. Best practices in other leagues.
 - iii. The committee will gather information that will be presented at the October 2019 Board Meeting. The information will also be discussed with the clubs. The feedback and recommendations will be presented at the January 2020 Board Meeting.

- **Cole Wagner (Director of Water Polo):** There were exclusion rules introduced four years ago. If the feeling is that they need to be introduced again, the committee can adjust those rules to find a solution. This year there were only four u18 teams and six u18 teams which demonstrates that sometimes it's a numbers game for tiering.
- **Chris Lee (COQ):** Their club faced challenges getting parents and athletes to travel to games because they were often far away due to the small number of teams. This is an appropriate time to look at the competition level, how programs are designed and how games are played to lead to future growth of the sport in BCSSA. He supports the idea to form a committee to look into these topics.
- **Shane:** Suggests that whatever direction and suggestions are put forward by the committee be aligned with BCSSA's overall objectives and goals of respectfulness, inclusiveness, and sportsmanship.
- **Rita Henderson (LOWC):** There are some high-performance clubs who opt out of the BCSSA but continue to sub-operate out of summer clubs and recruit players from these clubs. If the tiered option goes through, these clubs can be included as there is a place for them but the right place for them needs to be created.
- **Keith Kirkwood (NVC):** Suggest categories similar to the O'Cat and Summer categories in speed swimming.
- **Brandon Da Costa (Coaches Representative):** The BCSSA should still allow and encourage high performance involvement. Lower tiers can have a mercy rule that includes equal playing time and maybe no scores at certain tournaments. However, it is good for the athletes development both in and out of the pool to add back the scores. The mercy rule is for learning and when they move from introductory water polo to the more competitive level, the scores can be part of the competition. It is also a good learning avenue to train with high performance athletes.

vi. Action Items

- **The BCSSA members are directing the Board to create a committee to investigate options/ changes for the 2020 season that could include but are not limited to: S/O categories, tiered competition, rule changes and the addition of new rules.**
- Creation of two tiered committees
 - a. One committee will include members of the board and some other members.
 - b. A second larger committee will be created to act as a sounding board for the core committee. This will help speed up the documentation process.
 - c. If any members are interested in being on the larger committee they should email Danny, who will then form the committee.

c. "Thank Yous"

- i. Thank you to **Heather Fisher** who will be leaving her role as the Regional Director of the Cariboo Region.

- ii. Thank you to **Bill Bishop** for his work as the Director of Member Services.
- iii. Thank you to **Sarah Wellman** for her work as the Director of Diving.
- iv. Thank you to **Stephanie Dickinson** for her work as the Director of Synchro.
- v. Thank you to **Cole Wagner** as the Director of Water Polo and **Brandon Da Costa** as the Coaches Representative and for their work for the BCSSA. Both men started as athletes within the association and have given back to the sport in their roles as coaches and now board members.

d. Hiring

- i. Currently in the process of hiring a new Provincial Office Manager. The ideal candidate will have a background or knowledge in marketing which will help ensure more sponsorship and revenue for the association.
- ii. The Provincial Office will be hiring a part time bookkeeper. They will work approximately 10 – 12 hours per week.
-more sponsorship and revenue

e. Synchronized Swimming

- i. A number of older athletes are moving on and they are in the process of re-growing.
- ii. Creation of a splash program to encourage younger athletes to try the sport. However, some swimmers do not want to join because the rules state that after two years of participation an athlete is categorized as an intermediate. This means that an 8-year-old could be competing with a 16 year old if they both have two years of experience.
- iii. Nicola will look into this in her upcoming term as Director of Synchro.

MOTION #4

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Cole Wagner

Seconded: Sean Cauley

Carried Unanimously

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

PROVINCIAL MANAGER

It has been an extremely interesting start to my employment here at BCSSA !

I started at the end of January, just in time for the Board meeting and meeting all the people around the province. Little did I know that I would be meeting with them weekly, sometimes more, between March and now ! I now know these personalities very well and I have to say I'm very grateful to have such a hard-working and dedicated Board of Directors behind me !

Covid-19 certainly threw a monkey wrench into our operations of the year but I'm proud of how we all banded together and worked collaboratively to create programs, services, and support for our membership all over the province. With the Board meeting so regularly, we were able to shift quickly with any developments and changes in orders from the Provincial Health Office. Thank you for your time, commitment, and all those hours spent on Zoom meetings on Thursday nights !

The start I have had in BCSSA has been <untraditional> at best, but I really feel that it has allowed me to get to know the leaders and athletes in your organization, all across the province, and I know how passionate they are about the mission and mandate of BCSSA.

With the launching of the « Return to Swimming and Aquatic Sports Workbook and Guidelines » we now are seeing some pools and swimmers actively participating in weekly in-pool training sessions. Unfortunately these aren't happening all across the province yet, and without a Provincial Championship competition, it is difficult to keep ourselves motivated. But there are some virtual competitions in the works and lots of activity behind the scenes to get kids comparing themselves to others, all across the province. Maybe it isn't exactly the same as the Provincial Championships, but it's the best we can do at this point !



I am so glad that we ran the Covid Cup programs online as I got to really get to know many of the athletes that participated regularly. Thank you for all your enthusiasm and ready smiles for me, every week !

We are looking forward to next season and maybe, just maybe, with a little luck and a lot of pixie dust, we will all be back in the pools next year. In the meantime, keep training outside, keep being active and, as Dr. Bonnie Henry says, « Be Kind. Be Calm. Be Safe. »

Respectfully submitted,

Penny Bartel

Provincial Manager



2 months
5 days a week
85 Zoom sessions
315 unique participants
2,745 participant logins
110,465 Zoom minutes accumulated
88.7% overall approval rating from participants

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT

How to begin? What a strange, strange year.

My Wife started dating me 45 years ago. As she says, ***"This is the first year in 45 years we don't have swim meets to go to. We have the summer off, and nowhere to go."***

This past six months has not been something anyone would plan for but actually, your Provincial Board did start planning for such a season 10 years ago. We started putting money away with the plan that if we ever had a year with no revenue, we would be ok because we would have at least one year's expenses in long term investments. So, I can tell you that in spite of no revenue, some increased costs, and a very bleak season, the BCSSA is financially viable.

Over the past six months the Provincial Board has been meeting (via zoom) very often. We have tried to stay on top of a very fluid situation and react to the virus and its consequences. I want to thank all the Board members for the many nights and hours we spent in front of a computer working to keep our organization going. The Board reduced the Provincial Registration fee to only \$5.00 for the year so that clubs and athletes could reduce their expenses and still be covered by insurance. The reduced fees also allowed many of our athletes and coaches to continue to stay involved with the BCSSA through our online exercise programs and coaches corner. Thank-you to Lee and Penny for getting that program up and running so quickly. The Board also provided funds to swim clubs to support their delivery of safe programs through our Covid Emergency Fund.

The day to day activities did not stop just because of the pandemic and I want to welcome and thank Penny Bartel, our Provincial Manager. Penny stepped into the position the beginning of February without the advantage of having someone in the office show her the ropes and she has stepped up to the challenge. We are lucky to have her and I look forward to working with Penny in future seasons. A number of cancellations had to be made around our Provincial meet, sponsorships, regalia, and bookings. We have been working on bookings for next year in hopes that 2021 will be a bit more of a normal year.

There is some sad news. As of this writing, I have not heard of any election results from the Regions but I do know that Ross Hoshizaki, the OK Regional Director and most knowledgeable man about online registration, has stepped down from the Regional Director's job. Ross, you will be very, very missed. Ross put in a massive amount of time on behalf of the whole province and ensured that so many of our programs, the registration system especially, was what the organization could use and save time and money. Thank-you very much Ross, I look forward to sitting down to a special dinner with you.

Our Treasurer, Cris Jevons will also be leaving her position. Thank-you Cris for all of your hard work, the extra time working in the office and figuring out just what all those numbers mean. It has been great having you on the board and we will miss you.

Finally, Mr. Vice President, Francis Cheung. Many people forget that Francis originally ran as the Director of Competition and was able to serve only one year in that position when he was tapped on the shoulder to switch mid-term to the Vice President position. That may have been one of the best things that could have happened for our organization. Francis' attention to detail, his ability to take a complex subject (long term strategic plans) and present them in such a logical and meaningful way will be missed. Francis, thank-you for the many, many hours you have dedicated to the BCSSA for these many years. I will miss your calm, steady advice.

We only had a few clubs gain access to water time this summer. A few more clubs are going to be able to run some form of winter maintenance program. There is a very good chance we will be looking at modified programs even as late as next summer. Here is hoping that we will be able to get our kids into the water on a regular basis and that we will be able to have some swim meets next summer.

Take care of yourself and your swim family.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Schilds

President

VICE-PRESIDENT

The Annual General Meeting during the Provincial Championships normally signals the culmination of another successful competitive season. As the world grapples with the unprecedented challenges posed by COVID-19, this season wasn't quite what many of us may have envisioned when we were in the midst of Winter Maintenance – but here we are.

Human beings have the ability to adapt and this quality has clearly contributed to our evolutionary advancement as mammals. Indeed, we have relied heavily upon adaptability amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, as we have made the most out of a 'season' with no access to indoor or outdoor pools and the cancellation of the Provincial Championships. A Japanese scholar, Okakura Kakuzō, once said that the art of life is a constant readjustment to our surroundings. If that is the case, we are all becoming beautiful artists during these trying times.

Looking ahead, the current strategic plan is at the end of its life-cycle and the Board will be developing a new plan which sets out new directions and new goals for the Association.

This will be my last Vice President's Report as I will not be seeking re-election to the position. I have been part of the BCSSA family for 19 years and saying goodbye is not easy. It has been a privilege to contribute to the Langley Flippers Swim Club and BCSSA in a small way, but also incredibly rewarding and gratifying to have been able to watch my own three daughters grow up within the Association. I've had the pleasure of having a 'front row seat', witnessing all their trials and tribulations, and I truly believe they are better people for their experience!

I am proud of what the BC Summer Swimming Association has accomplished over the years and confident that there are more great things to come. I will miss seeing the competitions and the many friends that I have made over the years, and I wish you all the very best!

Respectfully submitted,

Francis Cheung

Vice-President,
Chair, Rules & Regulations Committee

DIRECTOR OF COMPETITION

Our exciting plans for the 2020 Provincials at the beautiful UBC Aquatic centre were starting to come together nicely in the spring and clubs across the province were ready to get back in the water. And then the world changed drastically - in a very short period of time.

As we entered Phase II of the re-opening, it started to look like some pools would be re-opening and some clubs would be able to offer some kind of summer season, though without any competitions. We went to work drafting up a Return to Sport plan guideline to help our clubs with the process of getting their athletes in the water safely – in fact we were so quick to get our guideline put together that we were actually ready before Swim Canada and the Lifesaving Society. We waited until those organizations published their guidelines, and added some of their content to our own. I want to thank the people that helped out putting it together, and to extend an especially big thank you to Penny in the office.

We are hoping to run a 'Virtual Provincials' fun meet at the end of the summer – more news on that will be forthcoming over the next few weeks.

Now that the facilities at UBC have re-opened, we are working with the aquatic staff to move our pool booking to 2021 – as soon as that is confirmed we will of course give everyone the good news. See you all at UBC in 2021 (fingers crossed),

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Cauley

Director of Competition

SECRETARY-TREASURER

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I am pleased to report that BCSSA remains financially stable and in a position to support our programs and strategic initiatives, providing opportunities for training, development and competition within British Columbia.

We continue to ensure prudent financial management practices are in place and continue to monitor our internal control processes, allowing us to manage our financial resources appropriately and provide direct financial benefits to our regions and clubs.

As in prior years, the Board has continued to focus its efforts to provide financial assistance programs to BCSSA member clubs and regions. During the 2020 fiscal year, the BCSSA distributed funds and/or covered expenses in the following categories:

- Capital Funding Grants \$ 6,984
- Strategic Implementation Grants \$ 10,727
- Officiating supplies distributed \$ 6,838
- Financial Aid \$ 3,269
- Software Reimbursements \$ 7,791

The Capital Funding and Strategic Implementation Grants were less than the previous year but used to finance new computers, iPad, printers, timing and training equipment, website and coach development, etc for clubs throughout the regions. The Software Reimbursements were primarily for Hy-Tek Meet Manager Upgrades.

There were a couple of significant changes to BCSSA's financial operation and controls. The first was the migration of BCSSA's accounting system from Quickbooks Desktop to Quickbooks Online - allowing the Finance Committee better access to ongoing financials. The second was the implementation of Plooto - an online multiple authentication payment platform to help streamline payments to clubs and vendors.

As in prior years, a review of BCSSA financials will be completed this summer. This review has specific procedures conducted over revenues, expenses and balance sheet line items. I would like to thank Pacific Chartered Advisors LLP for their performance of this review. All recommendations will be taken into

consideration and any financial adjustments will be made accordingly.

The following is a summary of the fiscal year's financial results:

- Registration income dropped by almost 14% which is more than most years but primarily due to a decrease in Winter fees due to COVID19.
- Marketing and strategic expenses increased by 36.9% compared to last year primarily due to advertising through a number of sources for the Office Administrator position that was filled by Mark Brkic in September 2019 followed by Penny Bartel in February 2020.
- The 2019 Coaches Conference was held at RockRidge Canyon, in Princeton, BC. This event generated \$18,752 in revenue with total expenses of \$34,573. The event continues to be very successful every year. BCSSA budgeted to absorb the loss of approximately \$15,821 and therefore was able to keep participant fees low as a benefit to our member clubs who normally pay for coaches to attend the annual conference.
- Administrative expenses increased slightly by 8.41% compared to the prior year. This increase is primarily due to software licenses fees for Active and Teampages, as well contractor fees and salaries. BCSSA continues to contract with Michael Hutchinson to help manage office operations, as well as a co-op student to assist with an increase in social media and office operations during the summer season which proved to be very beneficial
- The revenue for the 2019 Provincial Championships in Kamloops, BC was 16.34% lower than the previous year but saw an overall loss of \$15,652. On occasion this event will experience a financial loss as some host locations are more expensive, however BCSSA wishes for the Provincials to take place throughout the province and therefore budgets accordingly.

During the January 2017 Board meeting, BCSSA approved the establishment of the BCSSA Endowment Fund with the Vancouver Foundation. An initial contribution of \$200,000 was made to the Vancouver Foundation by the BCSSA. The Endowment Fund is expected to generate sufficient income to support our **Scholarship program** for our members moving forward. As the fund continues to grow, the BCSSA hopes to be able to offer more scholarships.

If you would like to donate to the BCSSA Endowment Fund and support BCSSA's Scholarship program, please visit the Vancouver Foundation's website at the following link:

www.vancouverfoundation.ca/bcsummerswimming

BCSSA strives to support the growth and development of our member clubs and we are happy to be in a position to support our member clubs through the various financial assistance programs which have been developed. Subsequent to year end the Board approved the Strategic Plan Implementation Program which provides regions and clubs with funding to carry out initiatives that align with the BCSSA Strategic Plan. If you have any feedback or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Cristina Jevons

Secretary Treasurer

We would like to thank the following organizations for their ongoing support and sponsorship of BCSSA's programs and services:

AAA Photography
Accent Inns
Esquire Wholesales Ltd
Jordans Furniture
Kerr's Recognition Services Inc
Lawson Lundell LLP
Metrix Professional Insurance Brokers
Team Aquatic Supplies
viaSport British Columbia

During this current financial crisis due to Covid-19, many businesses are struggling to stay viable. Help these companies & organizations that have supported BCSSA in the past to continue to support amateur sport in BC by choosing to do your business with them wherever possible.

This is our opportunity to give back to those that have given to us over the years.

Thank you !

DIRECTOR OF OFFICIALS

On a happy note, not a single DQ this year!

We have offered and will continue to offer some online training for Officials this summer. We will also reach out to the coaches to offer them the same opportunities. I have four sessions scheduled for the rest of the summer that Regional Directors will be supporting as well.

Aside from that, let's hope for a better 2021!

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Craig

Director of Officials

DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES

My first year in this position and on the Board was very interesting and satisfying until March came around. Since then, our focus changed from providing and enhancing a normal season to seeing if and how we can salvage any type of season at all. I was impressed with the diligence and persistence the members of this executive showed in coming up with guidelines and leadership for the organization trying to navigate our unfolding new reality.

I was pleased with the work we did on the Rules Committee, but due to Covid 19, work on the Competitions Committee basically ceased, as did work to streamline the Officials' pins categories, potential work with new club Executives, ordering regional banners and running the Member Services table at the Provincials.

It has been a pleasure to serve on this Executive this year and I look forward to a more normal and complete experience next season if we are so lucky.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Sheehan

Director of Member Services



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PROVINCIAL REGISTRAR

It's been a fun 2-year term as Provincial Registrar, working the "relay desk" at the 2019 Provincials ended up being the most entertaining time I've spent in a small busy room. Thanks Sean, Craig, and Kimber and the many others who helped out.

Registration for 2019 was late and complicated as clubs figured out how to export. Active can be irritating, but with their excellent help system and responses to questions there are some plusses.

Registration for 2020 was much improved with a few inconsistent interpretations of what is required by BCSSA and insurance. I would like to confirm that we keep the information safe, confidential and do not sell or give away the databases of swimmers.

It's always interesting to read the BCSSA rule book, especially as every time I read it, I learn something new. With that knowledge I held the first 'Annual Registrar's Meeting' which was something that was well received by the registrars who attended. I also joined the Rules Committee and with our changes, relay rules are more clear and easier to interpret – take a read!

New for 2020 I made Google Database sheets for each region. Containing the numbers for each club, the breakdown of SS vs WS vs WW and more, it is easier sort out fees on a club and regional level.

It was a sad moment to accept there would be no provincials but it felt really good to be part of a board that worked together to give a discounted rate to all athletes, that worked to provide support for return to swim plans and that was completely open to new ideas. There are a total of 3058 athletes who took advantage of the \$5.00 rate.

Wishing all the best to everyone, and especially club and regional registrars who do so much work behind the scenes. Thank you – Deb Wolf (CA), Anna Nelson (FS), Natalie Baxter (FV), Pam Drydale (KO), Terri McDonald (OK), Erica Lin (SF), Cathy Yeung (V&D), and Mark Duffell (VI).

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Schwichtenberg

Provincial Registrar

THANK YOU TO OUR REGIONAL REGISTRARS

.....
DEB WOLF (CARIBOO)

ANNA NELSON (FRASER SOUTH)

NATALIE BAXTER (FRASER VALLEY)

PAM DRYDALE (KOOTENAYS)

TERRI McDONALD (OKANAGAN)

ERICA LIN (SIMON FRASER)

CATHY YEUNG (VANCOUVER & DISTRICTS)

MARK DUFFELL (VANCOUVER ISLAND)



2020 REGISTRATION DATA

Total Registrations by Region Summer 2020	
Region	Members
Cariboo **	0
Fraser South	542
Fraser Valley	374
Kootenays	113
Okanagan	412
Simon Fraser	772
Vancouver & District	356
Vancouver Island	489
Total	3058

Age Distribution	
Age range	Number
3-6	117
7-10	901
11-13	1013
14-16	649
17-19	225
20-23	68
24-27	13
28-35	3
35-50	51
51+	18
Total	3058

Membership by Sex*		<p>* Please Note :</p> <p>We understand and acknowledge the fluidity of gender. By 'Membership by Sex', we mean the distribution of the membership as they report & self-identify as either male or female during registration for the 2020 Summer Season.</p>
Female	1564	
Male	1319	
	2883	

Club Affiliation by Region					
Region	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Cariboo	5	6	5	6	6
Fraser South	8	9	10	11	10
Fraser Valley	9	9	9	8	8
Kootenays	7	6	7	7	7
Okanagan	10	10	10	10	10
Simon Fraser	5	5	5	5	5
Vancouver & District	5	5	5	6	6
Vancouver Island	11	11	11	11	11
Total	60	61	62	64	63

Top 10 Clubs participating in the 2020 Covid Cup :

1. Greater Trail Stingrays
2. Nelson Neptunes
3. Nanaimo White Rapids Swim Club
4. Sydney Piranhas
5. Campbell River Salmon Kings
6. Golden Dolphins
7. Powell River Aquatic Club
8. Comox Valley Blue Devils
9. North Van Cruisers
10. Langley Flippers

* Calculated proportionate to summer 2020 membership in the 51 clubs that participated

2020 Summer Membership by Club & Region

CARIBOO **

Dawson Creek Seals	0
Fort Nelson Finns	0
Mackenzie Rainbow Swim Club	0
Nechako Valley Otters Swim Club	0
Prince George Pisces Summer Swim Club	0
Quesnel Aquatic Club	0

FRASER SOUTH

Boundary Bay Bluebacks	42
Cloverdale Tritons	78
Crescent Beach Swimming Club	30
Ladner Stingrays Swim Club	83
North Delta Sunfish Swim Club	77
Richmond Kigoos Swim Club	101
Surrey Sea Lions Summer Swim Club	0
White Rock Amateur Swimming Association	131

FRASER VALLEY

Abbotsford Whalers Aquatic Club	82
Agassiz Harrison Aquanauts	67
Aldergrove Sea Monkeys Summer Swim Club	12
Chilliwack Stingrays Summer Swim Club	19
Haney Neptunes Aquatic Club	64
Langley Flippers Swim Club	72
Langley Water Polo Club	37
Mission Marlins Swim Club	0
River Monsters (Hope)	21

KOOTENAYS

Castlegar Aquanauts	22
Colville Sharks	0
Creston Wave	12
Grand Forks Piranhas	27
Greater Trail Stingrays	19
Kimberley Seahorse Swim Association	3
Nelson Neptunes Swim Club	30

OKANAGAN

Golden Dolphins Swim Club	11
Kamloops Tsunami Summer Swim Club	42
Kokanee SS Club (Princeton)	26
Lumby Lightning Swim Club	20
Merritt Otters Swim Club	52
Ogopogo Summer Swim Club (Kelowna)	71
Penticton Pikes Swim Club	60
Revelstoke Aquaducks	38
Salmon Arm Sockeyes	59
Similkameen Steelheads	33

SIMON FRASER

Burnaby Barracudas	133
Burnaby Mountain Mantas	162
Coquitlam Sharks Aquatic Club	285
Port Coquitlam Marlins Swim Club	105
Port Moody Aquarians	87

VANCOUVER & DISTRICTS

North Shore Winter Club (NSWC) Marlins	74
North Vancouver Cruisers Summer Aquatics Club	54
Squamish Pirates	65
Vancouver Super Sharks Swim Club	30
Vancouver Vikings Swim Club	133

VANCOUVER ISLAND

Campbell River Salmon Kings	31
Comox Valley Blue Devils	38
Cowichan Valley Breakers	30
Gordon Head Gee Gees	53
Juan de Fuca Aquatics	13
Nanaimo White Rapids Swim Club	123
Oak Bay Summer Swim Club	51
Pender Island Otters Swim Club	12
Powell River Aquatic Club	15
Salt Spring Aquatic Society	66
Similkameen Steelheads Swim Club	57

**** Cariboo Region** had not reported their 2020 summer membership numbers at the time of printing.

DIRECTOR OF ARTISTIC SWIMMING

Crescent Beach: CBSC has just completed our first week of programming. For Artistic Swimming they currently have 86 Recreational swimmers (down from 100 last year) and 19 Competitive swimmers (same as last year).

Their pool time is reduced for competitive swimmers this year just due to pool availability, they only have one 3 hour practice a week. The rec. program remains the same this year with 4-25 minute lessons per week.

They have not had much of a chance to speak to the new figures yet as their first comp. practice is currently in session when this report was due. They do plan to work on some physically distanced routines with three teams, mostly just to work on patterning/travelling (obviously no highlights or group elements).

Coquitlam Sharks: As for Coquitlam Sharks, they are finally in the water! They had several weeks of online training. The coaches choreographed warm up to music to work on counting and timing, along with core and strength training. At the end of a session, coaches would review a skill ~ name, what it would look like in proper positioning, etc. They asked the athletes to provide them with music ideas that they would like to swim to this season. As there is no competition this season, they are going outside the box and hoping to create show pieces that are fun and not tied to the rules. This will include no contact highlighting more in the vision of Synchronized Skating, and open moving patterns and formations (old school Artistic Swimming).

Sharks have kept their registration numbers very tight, limiting to 10-12 athletes. They have 4.5 hours/ weekly of water for youth artistic participants. As they were not able to host their second registration, they have collaborated with North Van Cruisers and a number of their athletes are Sharks for summer 2020. This ensured that BCSSA members received access first and that they had athletes familiar with the sport ~ a safety consideration that was implemented as they had established plans for the season.

Sharks are excited to host a group of Masters Artistic swimmers this season also!

North Delta Sunfish: Our club has pool time, but only for Speed Swimming and some Waterpolo skills. We had to limit our club numbers to about 1/3 of our usual registration due to Covid. Also our regular coach is currently on CERB because of another job she was working, so no coach.

North Van Cruisers: Swimming with Coquitlam Sharks

Haney Neptunes: The Haney Neptunes were not able to find pool space for Artistic Swimming at the Hammond outdoor pool this summer.

General Notes:

A winter Masters Club is swimming with the Coquitlam Sharks. Another winter club inquired about joining BCSSA as they had pool time but their PSO was not allowing them in the water.

Coach and judge courses cancelled due to Covid.

Prior to Covid:

With consultation from the Club Synchro Directors, a complete review and update of all the rules were completed prior to the start of this season. These include:

- New thresholds for advancement will help athletes be better prepared to move up. Based on skill and not length of time in a level.
- Requirements/elements for routines have been removed and will now be offered as a suggestion for coaches to use. The penalties have also been removed for requirements/elements.
- Routine time limits have been adjusted to better reflect each level.

- Split up Ocat into provincial stream and national stream to enable provincial athletes that only train 5-10 hours a week not to be in the same competitive pool as national athletes that could be training upwards 35 hours per week and competing across Canada.
- Clarification on team building with different levels
- Rules and provincial package should now have the same information and not contradict each other

Although not included in the rules, the figures have been completely changed. They will now build upon each other as the athlete moves up the levels. This will help them be more successful in learning the basic Artistic Swimming skills. There was consultation with two national athletes, one a certified NCCP level 2 coach and the other NCCP 2 trained and an Olympic judge. At the end of next season, an evaluation can be done with the coaches and the judges to see if other skills need to be added/changed in the figures/routine elements.

Administrative/Equipment:

- The Artistic Swimming equipment has been thoroughly gone through and reorganized.
- One box for on deck and one for judges.
- Each duty has a job aid (an explanation and equipment specific to that job).
- Figure markers were made. Thank you to Shannon Higgins for donating her time to acquire the materials and make them. The decision to make 8 was made so that if the sport grows, there will be enough figure markers to use for 4 figures and for back up for loss and or ruined.

Ongoing challenges in a non-Covid world:

- Getting Judges for mid week is a challenge. Added to that, due to cost, we are not able to access judges from island, interior or Prince George. BCSSA does not have any judges of their own, we are reliant on CAS/BCAS judges.
- Having a chief referee is a challenge as there are only two and they live on the island, so cost is a factor. Chief referees help the meet move smoothly and efficiently. It was definitely felt last season when there was not one. Chief referees are certified the same as judges and know the rules of the sport.
- Getting coaches that are NCCP trained and or certified. It is a two-day course.
- Not having artistic swimming anywhere in the province except the lower mainland.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicola Iten


Director of Artistic Swimming

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COACHES REPRESENTATIVE

This year we sadly had to cancel our Coaches' Conference which we normally would have held at Rockridge Canyon. Because of this cancellation and the cancellation of the season, we wanted to make sure we provided something to our membership, both swimmers and coaches.

With this in mind we created the COVID CUP program. Every week we hosted 2 workouts (one cardio, and one strength/core), a classroom session for swimmers, and a professional development session for coaches. This professional development for coaches included topics such as:

- Mental Training
- Coaching Concepts for Neuro-diversity
- Developing a Coaching Philosophy
- Fundamentals of Long-Term Athlete Development
- Breakdown of Teaching Breaststroke
- Developing a Coaching Program from Inside your Team
- How to Teach Basic Nutrition to Your Athletes

We also created a weekly online video that included a weekly challenge, allowing our members to participate in and potentially win limited edition COVID CUP swim caps.

The Covid Cup program ran successfully, providing both an opportunity for swimmers to still be a part of BCSSA this summer, as well as offering coaches professional development.

While some clubs have been fortunate to be able to commence swimming, some are still struggling to find pool space. Regardless of where teams are at in their re-opening process I think it is critical to have support for coaches and provide a service to all our members. Hopefully in the coming years we will be able to host a large Coaches' Conference similar to previous years. If that is not possible we have to make sure to provide professional development to our coaches in other ways, such as online seminars or open chat forums. I think developing more tools for coaches will also benefit our organization as a whole for the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Vanden Ham
Provincial Coaches Representative

DIRECTOR OF DIVING

DIRECTOR OF WATER POLO

No reports

THANK YOU TO OUR COVID CUP COACHES & INSTRUCTORS :

Brandon Bronson

Kaelyn Burgess

Colleen Canning

Brett Caswell

Bree Cooper

Brandon de Costa

Jodie Dueck

Gillian Goerzen

Angel Jones

Jaren leFranc

Em McGibbon

Baylee Munro

David Pinsky

Olivia Roschat

Danny Schilds

Melissa Taylor

Byron Trajan

Vanessa Tung

Lee Vanden Ham

**AND all 315 of our
Covid Cup participants!**

REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

CARIBOO REGION

It has been an interesting 1st year representing the Cariboo as Regional Director. Instead of preparing for my first provincial meet, I am looking forward to all of the possibilities of next year.

The Cariboo clubs each had successful winter maintenance seasons and the Regional board met regularly through the winter preparing for the 2020 season.

All of our 5 clubs registered swimmers for the summer season and made plans while waiting to see what kind of season we would be able to have and whether or not our pools would be open. At this time only the Quesnel pool has been opened, while the other pools have plans to open in September.

The Regional board will continue to support clubs as they prepare for winter maintenance sessions, in whatever form that will take, and also work towards the 2021 Summer season.

I thank the Provincial Board members for their dedication and commitment to their work during this unforgettable season. I am glad I was able to attend the 2 in person meetings and meet the people who support summer swimming.

I also want to thank the Cariboo Regional Board for their work over the past year. I look forward to working with them as we prepare for what we hope to be a more regular swim season, including the celebration of the Prince George Pisces 50th Anniversary.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre McDonald
Cariboo Regional Director

The Cariboo clubs invite you to travel north for our swim meets in 2021 :

Mackenzie Rainbows : June 12/13

Quesnel Sea Lions : June 26/27

Nechako Otters : July 10/11

Prince George Pisces : July 24/25

(The Dawson Creek Seals are hosting Regionals in 2021 so they invite you to come to their meet in 2022 !)



Quesnel Sealions 2017

(source : Quesnel Cariboo Observer)

FRASER SOUTH REGION

No report.

FRASER VALLEY REGION

The clubs in the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford, Agassiz, Aldergrove, Chilliwack, Haney, Hope, Langley, Langley Otters Water Polo, and Mission are all healthy and growing. There have been challenges this year with COVID-19 but we will get through this!

We in the Valley finished off the last competitive season strongly with a well-run Regional Meet and a strong showing at Provincials. With our Yellow Caps and t-shirts the Fraser Valley Rapids were easy to identify and cheer on at Provincials.

As a region we have been working hard to streamline operations and make running our meets a community affair, updating our equipment making sure the regional trailer is fully stocked and all equipment is maintained and or replaced when it is needed. It might be your club hosting a meet, but the Region supplies all the computers, paperwork, and knowhow to make it run smoothly. We are always looking for new people to train in all aspects of running a meet.

The Regional Board has been working hard to keep all clubs updated with the goings on of the BCSSA during the COVID-19 pandemic, many of our athletes took part in the COVID Cup events that were put on by the Provincial Board. Some outdoor pools have been reopened in our region and some clubs have been using open water for training, and clubs that do have a pool for training have opened space up for swimmers from other clubs where possible.

As I said there are many challenges that we are currently dealing with and more to come but as a strong unified region we will come through this and be stronger on the other side.

Thank you to all the volunteers and athletes that have made serving in our region a pleasure over the last few years and for the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Baxter
Fraser Valley Regional Director

KOOTENAY REGION

The Kootenay Region had a strange year in 2020. All winter maintenance programs were cut short and only 3 clubs were able to take on partial summer programs. There were no competitions and enrollment in the clubs that did offer programs was way down. Before Covid hit many clubs had had challenges finding coaches.

Most clubs that offered programs were not able to bring on many new swimmers as pool requirements for social distancing made it necessary that swimmers already had enough knowledge and ability to be able to do things on their own. We also lost many senior swimmers who may have stayed on if there were competitions and opportunities to see their friends from around the region.

Financially, our region is staying at a status quo. With no outlays for the regional meet, medals or ribbons, and no wear and tear on equipment, we have turned over very little money.

With so many senior swimmers not returning it is a concern that we will lose much of our collective knowledge base about running meets as those parents will not be returning. Officiating is just one area where losing a full season of new official training opportunities while aging out so many senior swimming families could be catastrophic. Should things return to normal next year we may have real challenges finding knowledgeable parent volunteers to run meets and sit on boards.

Respectfully submitted,
David Dunnet
Kootenay Regional Director



OKANAGAN REGION

Firstly I must say I did not see myself in this position, writing the report on behalf of the Region. We all had assumed this would be Ross. To lose Ross as our Regional Director, I cannot put in words what a loss that is. Ross was beyond dedicated in the position and made our jobs as club heads that much easier. Thank you to Ross for his countless hours of work he put in and for standing firm to represent the Okanagan and we all wish him a speedy recovery and healthy 2021.

This as with all the other regions has been a challenging year to say the least. Covid put a stop to gains we made as a region over the last few years. We had a number of teams running their own dryland programs which has been a great success. It allowed those kids to stay connected to each other. Here we are in late July and we do have some teams back in the pool but at a reduced capacity and reduced registrations. We have outdoor pools in Similkameen, Princeton, Lumby and Kamloops open. Indoor pools in Merritt and Salmon Arm. The town of Golden has chosen to not open their outdoor pool for financial reasons which is truly unfortunate as the club has put a lot of effort into keeping the club going. Kelowna and Penticton are not in the pool but have been lake swimming and this has been a smashing success. It is safe and the kids are having a blast! Thank you to the BCSSA for allowing it to happen, I would encourage us as a Board to keep this option open for clubs. Revelstoke has not had their pool open and it is looking like sometime into September before that happens.

We are all unsure of what the winter will bring in terms of registrations. All clubs are down in numbers and winter may be an even tougher sell until we know what we are dealing with in terms of allocated pool times, lane numbers etc.

We have been able to provide work for a number of our coaches which gives them some added financial support. Parents have been amazing, realizing we have to deal with the cards we are dealt.

Hoping that the coming season will be a booming success.

Respectfully submitted,
Ian Murray (Not Ross)
Okanagan Regional Director

SIMON FRASER REGION

Is it just me or did we have more Regional meetings from mid-March to the end of June than we normally have in two years and there was no one in the water? My sincere thanks to the great people of the SF Board for their hard work during this Spring.

*May You Live in
Interesting Times.*

English Expression

There was a rolling dialogue and sharing of information throughout the period that kept us anchored. It would have been easy to fly off with no direction given the circumstances. Instead the group worked together to close off their winter maintenance programs, keep their coaches and members apprised of any developments regarding government programs and best practices, and not get too far out front of our skis when it came to the possibility of a summer season.

When it came time to plan for a Return to Sport the clubs continued to work extremely closely with the board to come up with safe, thoughtful methods of ensuring our athletes could participate in the sports they love. They were able to navigate the shifting landscape and work with their cities who were being rightfully cautious about allowing people back into facilities. We can count ourselves as some of the fortunate in that all of our clubs are back in the water. Not only that, all four sports are back in the water. June 29th our first club was back in the water. July 15th kickboards and pull buoys came out on deck in many pools. Clubs have planned for their AGMs.

Numbers are roughly half of what they would be had it been a regular season which is the best news we could have hoped for. The main downside is the fact that our youngest swimmers cannot participate due to distancing requirements.

While we are using outdoor pools only at this moment there is hope that the indoor pools will reopen before the end of summer in Burnaby, Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam. What the Fall will look like is still to be determined. I am confident our group will meet any new challenges with the same unity and resolution it showed this Spring.

Stay safe.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Trepanier
Simon Fraser Regional Director

VANCOUVER & DISTRICTS REGION

An unprecedented summer swimming season to say the least.

For our Vancouver & Districts (V&D) region, we had to adapt and adjust to the sudden summer swimming changes. Obviously there was disappointment, but also hope.

We managed to get almost 60 kids from our region involved in outdoor kayaking lessons for a 6 week program that started in June. This was based out of Cates Park and Jericho Beach and run by Deep Cove Kayak. The kids and parents enjoyed it and they learnt many new outdoor water skills.

Some of the coaches from our North Vancouver Cruisers club took it upon themselves to create a V&D uniting T-shirt initiative for the region. There was a logo contest and charity fundraiser to help unite our region and give back to the community. We will use our BCSSA "covid" funds to support the T-shirts for our members as well.

We don't have any of our clubs fully back in pools training yet as the pools remain closed.

All clubs have the RTP guide and are creating their club plans with their boards. We remain hopeful that a partial season is better than no season. Perhaps the season extends and winter maintenance hours are adjusted.

Respectfully submitted,

George Eng

Vancouver & Districts Regional Director

V&D Region Club Reports

NSWC Marlins Mid-Season Overview

The North Shore Winter Club reopened its doors in May and we were fortunate enough to have our outdoor pool opened. Our Marlins swim training programming commenced on June 1.

In preparation, our Marlins Executive had been planning through the month of May and had created smaller training groups - most with 8 swimmers per group - with an allocation of no more than 2 swimmers per lane (starting at opposite ends of the pool).

The Marlins have 74 registered swimmers for the 2020 season, which is planned to run through August 28. Swimmers have 5 practice times during the week available to them (this is a reduced number from a typical summer program). We have retained 2 senior coaches and 2 junior coaches supporting our program this summer. All coaches have coached with our Marlins program previously.

We have been running a modified challenge/contest for swimmers to try to encourage engagement and participation in training sessions with no competition this summer. It has so far been working out well and we have had good attendance and engagement from most of our participants.

We hope to extend training through September if the weather allows us to continue use of our outdoor pool.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Gill

NSWC Marlins President



Vancouver Vikings

We opened our online summer registration on March 1. By mid March, 133 swimmers (including 8 coaches) had registered for our 2020 season. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19, we had to make the difficult decision in April to refund all of our swimmers' registration fees, which we have now done. However, we allowed all of those who registered to remain registered with the Vikings so that they could participate in BCSSA's virtual programming, and the Vikings covered the cost of those swimmers' BCSSA registration fees.

As of the date of this report, the Vikings have still not returned to the water for the summer 2020 season. Typically, our swimmers train out of several pools, including community / Parks Board pools (Hillcrest Community Centre, Lord Byng Pool and Kerrisdale Community Centre), private pools (St. George's Senior School and the Jewish Community Centre) and UBC's pool. As of the date of this report, most of these pools remain closed, and the ones that are open (JCC and UBC) have been unable to offer us pool time.

However, the Vikings executive remains active, meeting regularly to plan for our swimmers' eventual return to sport. Over the past few months, we have done the following:

- Attended V&D Region zoom meetings to provide input on Regional activities, such as the 2020 V&D T-shirt initiative spearheaded by a North Vancouver Cruisers Coach.
- Prepared a draft Return to Sport plan (the Plan), based on BCSSA's guidelines and building on Swim BC, BC Athletics and Royal Life Saving Society recommendations.
- Submitted the Plan to St. George's School and UBC for their review and feedback.
- Participated in the 2020 KidSport Sweat-a-thon, a virtual event replacing the annual Swim-a-thon which the Vikings have participated in at Kits Pool for the last several summers. [KidSport](#) is a national organization that provides funding towards the registration fees for a season of sport for kids that otherwise could not afford it.

Our next steps will be to circulate the BCSSA COVID-19 waivers to our members so that they can complete these in advance of our next session, and finalize the Plan once we receive input from St. George's and UBC. We are hopeful that our swimmers will begin training in one or more pools in August or September.

Our 2020 AGM is not yet scheduled, but will likely occur in November.



**VANCOUVER
VIKINGS
SWIM CLUB**



Vancouver Super Sharks

2020 has been a year like no other that we have ever experienced before, it has changed the way we do everything. As with all swim clubs we have not been in the pool since March when this pandemic was announced and Templeton Pool shut down. New Brighton, the other pool the Super Sharks normally train at during the summer season will finally open on July 13 but not to any swim clubs. There haven't been any announcements on when to expect indoor pools in Vancouver to reopen.

For the 2020 summer season we had 30 athletes registered. We are currently waiting for our training facilities to reopen and have our athletes back into the water.

2020 will certainly go down in the swimming history books as an extremely unique time that has tested our resilience, for athletes as well as for parent volunteers. With continued collaboration, we will get through this and hope that 2021 brings us back together.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Wong

Super Sharks Swim Club

VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION

Home is where the pool is.

Well, this summer certainly proved that saying to the left true – we all felt that we were away from our homes, especially each weekend. All of us found ourselves saying “darn it, this weekend we should be in ...”. We became acutely aware of how our summers are measured by swim practices and swim meets. And we realized how large and diverse our families are, as we form one large swim family.

How much our children get from seeing their friends (and rivals!) from other teams. How much we parents get from spending time with the other swim parents. But we also realize that this is yet another opportunity for us to grow and develop as a team, sharing plans and resources, and problem solving for the benefit of the whole Region.

At our AGM last August we welcomed some new faces to a couple of our positions (Regional Registrar and Regional Director of Officials), and saw some new (and in some cases familiar) faces showing up as club Presidents. Our Regional Board continues to be tremendously hard working and collaborative, and it is a genuine pleasure to work with such a great group of people!

Last summer we tried a new incentive, to try and increase participation in the more senior divisions (5 and up and OCAT 2), by introducing cash “door prize” draws on each day of each meet. Each day of the meet swimmers got their names entered into the draw for each event they were swimming, with two winners being drawn just prior to relays. Although the swimmers who won certainly enjoyed getting the cash (and I enjoyed giving it out!), when we reviewed the success of the initiative, at our Fall meeting, it was felt that there really hadn’t been an increase at all because of the draw. We also felt that often a swimmer’s participation is not driven by just their interest in swimming, but by family circumstances – not all families can make it out to every meet. We felt that we could probably put that money toward some sort of training initiative that would appeal to the senior swimmers instead.

We were excited to plan on having Ian Mattock and Gareth Saunders do a trial run of their Regional Coach Development training program (part of the training package they proposed to BCSSA in 2019) for many of our newer coaches, with our senior swimmers acting as the “guinea pigs”. We had set a date in May, but unfortunately that too had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. Hopefully things will be in a position to try it next year!

Last year saw our Region facing a shortage of White Shirts, for a variety of reasons. We had hoped to have lots of new faces on deck this summer, but alas, that’s not going to happen. It does give us another whole maintenance season to recruit people and have them complete the online training, so that they are all ready to jump in and shadow next summer!

As we negotiate through these uncertain times, we need to work together and appreciate one another more than ever. I feel tremendously proud to be part of the Regional and Provincial Boards, as well as my own club’s Board. These groups have worked tirelessly over the last few months to hold the framework together, so that when we get back in the water, our children will not have lost any of their pride and passion for this sport. Thank you to each and every one of my fellow Board members – you are simply the best. This is such a wonderful organization to be part of – let’s all “just keep swimming” forward together!

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Coogan

Vancouver Island Regional Director

THE 2020 BCSSA TEAM

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