

Technical Director's Report

Pascal St-Pierre

AGM – 2021



**SWIM
MANITOBA**

GENERAL THOUGHTS

The past year has been one of the most difficult years for many people, including myself. A moment to reinvent yourself, to learn, and to surpass yourself on new qualities, skills, and knowledge.

Build a return to play plan, keep it up to date according to new orders, be on the lookout for every news on COVID-19, learn the political game and know how to use it best, improve your communication skills, discuss to the maximum with the other PSOs and provinces, etc., are all things that have occupied my time and allowed me to develop new skills.

This past year has been very challenging for swimmers, parents, coaches, board members, volunteers, and officials. I hope that, like me, you have learned new skills from this ordeal which has turned our lives upside down during the past year.

“It is not the strongest or the most intelligent who will survive but those who can best manage change.” --Charles Darwin

COACH EDUCATION

NCCP swimming courses have been adapted for online delivery.

This is how Swim Manitoba offered its very first online Swimming 101 course on September 26-27 and October 3-4. Nine participants took part.

Several Swimming 101 portfolios evaluations have been done during the last year, as well as a few Swimming 201 portfolios, unfortunately, the coaches applying for the 201 certification will have to wait for the return of competitions to finalize their certification.

Several professional development opportunities were offered by several organizations, such as the CSCA, Sport Manitoba Coaching, CAC, etc.

COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE AND CALENDAR

Unfortunately, due to the restriction and public health orders regarding COVID-19, no competition could be organized during the past year.

Discussions to set up a provincial challenge system were well advanced in October 2020 but aborted due to the lockdown announced a few days later.

Fortunately, Kelsey Wog's performance at the International Swimming League (ISL) put a little balm on Manitoba swimming. She has done very well, winning 15 medals (6 golds, 6 silvers, 3 bronzes) and beat 4 provincial records in 5 matches despite a preparation limited to only a few weeks of full training. Congratulations to Kelsey and her coach Vlastimil Cerny.



TEAM HANDBOOK

In June 2020, we offered financial assistance to help swimmers on the junior and senior teams with the purchase of training equipment to deal with the restrictions in place due to COVID-19.

Although the 2019-2020 long-course season has been canceled and the 2020-2021 season has been greatly reduced, we were keen to make a selection of the junior and senior teams despite everything and to continue to support them with financial aid for training expenses.

TEAM AND CAMP

Due to the restrictions in force in the province, all in-person activities scheduled for spring 2020, fall 2020, and winter 2021 schedules have been canceled.

A conference with Kelsey Wog was organized in December 2020 with members of the junior and senior teams. A second conference was planned but did not take place due to the speaker withdrawing.

Conclusion

I would like to thank the members of the board of directors for their great adaptation to the circumstances and their support for our actions.

Thank you to my two colleagues Karen and Brian for their collaboration and help on the various projects and difficulties that we have faced during the last year. Your professionalism has made it easier to get through the challenges that life put in our way.

To all the members of Swim Natation Manitoba (swimmers, para-swimmers, masters, summer swim, parents, board member, volunteers, officials), I hope that the 2021-2022 season will be one of renewal in which we will be able to collaborate in the construction of a new model fills with success.

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