



PO Box 321 Orillia ON, L3V 6J6

Swim Club

www.orilliachannelcats.ca

July 2020,

Hello all members, we hope you are staying well throughout the stages of the pandemic.

Throughout the pandemic there has been and still remains a lot of unknowns. We are doing what we can to keep you as updated as possible. The Return to Swim Committee has been regularly communicating to get the Return to Swim Plan established. We have to ensure we cover all aspects of a safe return to sport, and do it according to Swim Canada and Swim Ontario set guidelines which are changing on a regular basis. This adds some uncertainty and frustration to the planning/scheduling process.

All Swim Canada clubs are required to implement a “phased in approach” to the Return to Swim Plan. Clubs are told to start with the older swimmers who can adhere to physical distancing guidelines. This will also enable the facility and our coaches to get used to the new process with fewer swimmers at a time. We are currently planning with the City of Orillia to be in the new pool upon our return to swimming. As things evolve, we will keep you informed.

At this time, we are unsure if moving to stage 3 in the Province will affect our swimmer numbers in the pool. Once again, we have to keep the swimmers and coaches safe, and strictly follow the guidelines. For the 2020-2021 season, we will be offering increased dryland and educational sessions for Sr Novice and up so that they can get back to some sort of routine as we hope to provide similar hours (pre-covid) of programming each week. *Should the start of Jr Novice and Channel Kittens be even further delayed, we will be looking into dryland activities for those training groups as well, with the hopes those swimmers can also establish some routine.

As part of the affiliation process for the 2020-2021 season, all Swim Ontario clubs are required to submit a Return to Operations Plan by August 21, in order for the season to begin in September. We will communicate that plan to you once it is ready to view. As soon as we have an idea on potential start dates for our different groups, we will inform you ASAP. ***Group movement:** at the beginning of the pandemic our coaches decided not to move swimmers to the next level until October. Since then, we have decided it will make more sense to go ahead with group movement for the season start up. This will help to minimize further disruptions to our training groups as we navigate through the Covid restrictions. You will be notified what group to register your swimmers' for prior to our registration date. The board is working on the logistics of registration etc, and will let you know the information as soon as it is available.

Thank you for your continued patience through these unknown waters. Check out our Covid page on our website here for updates: <http://www.orilliachannelcats.ca/covid-19/>

Sincerely,

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