

# LESI COVID Task Force

Meeting 04.20.2020 7pm via Zoom

**In attendance:** Brenden Burns, Sarah Tobin, Lori Baylor, Stacey Aroney, Zach Toothman (athlete), Mia Nagle (athlete)

## Introduction

Discussion of what teams are currently doing - generally the same. Dryland workouts, videos, live Zooms, etc. Unique ideas in action: FAST Food Drive and "Race to Omaha", HEAT Food Drive

USA Swimming offering 90-day Zoom account with Enterprise level account

- Offers alternate hosts option

- Access requests should be sent to Paula D'Amico at [pdamico@usaswimming.org](mailto:pdamico@usaswimming.org). In addition to the one Enterprise license per club, we also encourage you to register for free Basic accounts as needed.

Clubs are requested to send workouts, unique team projects for social media highlights for the Lake Erie Swimming Facebook page. Branden is working on regaining rights to the Lake Erie Swimming Athlete page.

## Meeting Focus - Return Action Plan Framework

Practices and Competitions

Lori brought up a SwimSwam article about Germany's return to swimming (<https://bit.ly/34PU7fK>). The guidelines are broad and we seemed to touch on all of them as we discussed framework. Mia has an exchange student who is a swimmer in Germany - she will try to touch base with her to see what is/has working/worked for them so we are not recreating the wheel.

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### Practices

Initial concerns are locker rooms as a contact point. Suggesting that athletes arrive and leave in their swimsuits and bags are placed on deck (with social distancing). Locker rooms are used for restroom purposes only. Discussed potential staff members as locker room monitors for those in the restroom.

Once the Governor determines a number for gatherings, a plan will need to be implemented at the club level to space our practice times. Within the practices, swimmers should not share equipment (even kickboards) and equipment bags should be taken and brought back each day. Swimmers can start on both sides of the pool to aid in social distancing (breathing on one another at the wall).

Any dryland practices or on deck pre-practice stretching etc should highly suggest masks. Athletes place masks in their bags before entering the water. It would be suggested that coaches practice appropriate behaviors such as social distancing and wearing masks throughout the practice time.

Once more guidelines are established, we can explore more specifics for the practice levels. There is the agreement that high schoolers would be the priority to reenter into the water as Sectionals and Futures are still potentially presented.

Clubs should suggest that carpools are temporarily suspended and that those who are high risk or are in contact with those who are at high risk consider their participation.

### Competitions

Discussed backing up some long course meets to August/September and then jump right into short course. Currently, OHSA start date is October 30th. Our thought is meets should not occur until after June 1st if we can be in the water as of May 1st (6-week mark of being out of the pool).

#### Financials/Participation of Meets

- Anticipate that the number of athletes will be down. Can families afford it?
- Potential spectator limits may be a challenge
  - Ideas of one per family
  - Live streaming the meet for those who could not attend
  - Parent chaperones per club for younger swimmers
  - May gain some officials for parent's desire to be in the facility or on the pool deck
- Because there is an anticipation of meet participation to be lower/admissions costs to be lower; proposing to LESI a lower sanction fee for the club that is hosting as a courtesy.
- Offering sessions by gender, waving the 15-minute rule
- Staggering session starts for potential disinfection requirement of spectator area/pool deck (depending on requirements at the state, local, and facility level)
- Coaches hospitality would need to be revised/potentially eliminated depending on guidelines