



Dear Members of Connecticut Swimming – Swimmers, Coaches, Parents, Volunteers and Officials,

It is hard to believe it has been a month since COVID-19 fully altered how we live our lives. By now, swimmers are well ensconced with online learning, home offices have been set-up and coaches are chomping at the bit to get back on deck. As we continue to tread our way through these challenging times, and as I mentioned in my previous letter, the CT Swimming Board of Directors as well as task forces are busy at work planning our course of action for when we get back in the water.

The purpose of this letter is to bring you up to speed on what is going on with CT Swimming. We may not be in the pool practicing, we may not be getting ready for upcoming meets, but we are busy at looking at what we can do for all of CT Swimming.

First, our CT Swimming Stimulus Program Committee is meeting weekly to assess the climate and needs of our membership and has prepared Phase I which we felt to be of immediate need/action. This was presented to the Board of Directors and on a recent teleconference call was passed unanimously. Moving forward, subsequent phases will be rolled out after great thought and methodical preparation for what is most beneficial in helping sustain the teams and support the swimmers.

Phase I Details:

- I. Immediate House of Delegates Meeting refund to teams in the amount of \$200 regardless of attendance.
- II. Coaches will receive a CT Swimming Grant of \$200. We are very aware of the financial impact COVID-19 has had on coaches, many of whom are unable to work, have had a reduction in pay, and to all who have been impacted by the COVID-19 virus. Connecticut Swimming will provide a grant in the amount of \$200. Coaches that would like to take advantage of this grant, may submit a [“CSI Coach Covid-19 Support Grant Application.”](#) This application is posted to all coach FAST My Accounts. Coaches need to have current and updated certifications as of March 1, 2020.
- III. Due to USA Swimming’s insurance coverage of virtual training led by a coach limited to a 1:8 ratio, CT Swimming will provide up to \$400 to enable clubs to purchase Club Liability Insurance to cover virtual/remote/online dryland training. The liability insurance will allow teams to offer dryland sessions for larger numbers and they can be live or via video without direct in person supervision. This allows for the coaches to have flexibility in giving direct training and/or training suggestions to allow swimmers to do it on their own
Clubs can request reimbursement by submitting a CT Swimming Expense Reimbursement Form ([Click here](#)) to the CT Swimming office with a copy of the invoice for the policy and proof of payment. Approval of the request will be made by the COVID-19 Stimulus Program Committee.

The Board of Directors continues to meet every two weeks while our Task Forces meet every week in order to develop ideas, prepare for a number of possible scenarios and continually assess the status of COVID-19.

Please feel free to reach out with your thoughts, ideas, concerns and questions.

Best to you all.

Ellen Johnston
General Chair
Connecticut Swimming