



From the desk of / Du bureau de
Lisette Johnson-Stapley
Chief Sport Officer, Chef du sport
c (289) 383-6323
t (905) 508 3000 ext 232
ljohnsonstapley@usports.ca

TO / À: Athletic Directors & Head Coaches of Member Institutions - **Swimming**

FROM / DE: Lisette Johnson-Stapley, Chief Sport Officer

DATE: Wednesday February 24, 2021

COPY/COPIE: Tara Hahto, Director Compliance & Eligibility
Conference Offices
Members of the Swimming Sport Technical Sub-Committee
Suzanne Paulins, Director of Sport, Swimming Canada

SUBJECT/OBJET: University Swimming Challenge

As you may be aware, members of the University Swimming Community and Swimming Canada have been making efforts to provide some type of competition for University Swimmers under COVID conditions. Although we understand that not all swimmers are able to access the same amount of time in the pool, representatives across our University community felt that some “participatory” competition would be greatly received by Student-Athletes. As such, I am pleased to let you know that there will be a University Swimming Challenge in the month of March and April, 2021.

Members are invited to participate in this Short Course Swimming Challenge, which is a virtual competition and open to all eligible U SPORTS Student-Athletes in all traditional U SPORTS Championship discipline with some additional events which are outlined below.

Attached you will find the guidelines for this Challenge with pertinent information and highlights outlined below.

1. Members are responsible for:
 - running their events safely within the identified window of **February 27 – April 4, 2021**
 - setting up sessions in the format that best suits each team’s individual circumstances
 - workout timeframes
 - pool and staff availability, but maintaining the training block
 - submitting their entries via the Hy-Tek Entry File (instructions attached)
2. Priority must always be given to adherence to safety guidelines as determined by Institutional / Facility guidelines and Provincial Regulations.
3. U SPORTS does not take responsibility for the organization or participation in this Challenge.
4. This Challenge must be compliant with all policies (including insurance coverage).
5. The objective is meant to be fun and participatory. There is no registration cost.
6. This is not an official U SPORTS National Swimming Championships.



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7. NO awards will be given out
8. Eligibility and Participation Rules will apply
 - Participating swimmers must be listed on the institution's Eligibility Certificate. Swimmers currently training with a home club or overseas due to virtual classes are welcome to take part, and are permitted to do a separate time trial at their training location.
9. U SPORTS acknowledges that there will be schools that will not be able to participate at all due to restrictions.

We are living in unprecedented times and are willing to adapt our delivery of university sport where possible, in order to provide safe opportunities and according to Institutional and Provincial Regulations for our student-athletes and institutions.

The concept was brought forward to the Swimming Sport Technical sub-Committee in December and was unanimously supported. U SPORTS is supporting with a communications & digital strategy, which will include a media release this week and weekly updates of the top three performances in each event as well as team standings on the U SPORTS website. Swimming Canada will provide result recordings.

For Coaches:

U SPORTS Commercial department would like coaches to submit a highlight video from their week. U SPORTS will produce a weekly video highlight, which will be selected from all of the submissions received. This *Highlight of the Week* will be determined based upon the quality of the video clip submitted, regional and gender representation as well as stories of interest. Please provide any supplementary information when you submit the highlight clip.

Clips should not be longer than 30-seconds in length, filmed in landscape mode (long end of iPhone or Android phone on the horizon of the pool) and submitted every Monday to the U SPORTS communications team at communications@usports.ca.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the following:
Derrick Schoof, President of the Swimming Coaches Association, derrick.schoof@ubc.ca
Suzanne Paulins, Swimming Canada, spaulins@swimming.ca

Please stay safe and healthy.

Kind Regards,
U SPORTS

Lisette Johnson Stapley
Chief Sport Officer