

Dear AC Members and AC staff & volunteers

The past week has continued to see developments related to the pandemic that has shaken our daily lives and brought stress and anxiety to all. We hope that all of our Members and participants have taken steps to stay safe and support the measures that are being taken by our governments and public health agencies in all of our communities.

We have had ongoing communication with leadership and Chief Medical Officers of the COC, CPC and the partners within the sport system. We applaud the work they have done day and night with the International Olympic Committee and International Paralympic Committee to represent the concerns around the health and welfare of our athletes, coaches and support staff. In the coming week we will continue to have weekly / twice weekly calls with both of these organizations, along with the leadership of all of Canada's national sport organizations.

We are supportive of and participated in the decision that has been taken by the Canadian Olympic Committee and Canadian Paralympic Committee in calling for the postponement of the 2020 Games and declaring that we will not attend if the Games are allowed to go ahead as scheduled. Last night's joint statement from COC and CPC was taken with the full support of the Canadian Sport System and the Federal Government.

Our prospective Olympians and Paralympians who are so directly affected by this announcement have been receiving updates from our High Performance Advisor and national team leadership and we have been working out how to support them through this crisis. We will continue to maintain these communications and provide them with access to resources they may need in the coming months as these become available. We will provide them with updates related to training protocols and selection processes that are impacted by the rapid degree of change we have been experiencing.

The impact on our sport along with all other sport in Canada is going to be felt for some time. We will be looking at finding possible solutions for our summer season and will work with our Members to put in place contingencies for events or ultimately to make decisions on whether all national events should be cancelled for 2020. We will be seeking the feedback of our Provincial / Territorial Members on how to best proceed for the year which will be discussed during a meeting of PTSO staff followed by a meeting of the AC Board of Directors on April 7. We will continue to heed the advice of provincial and federal health authorities. In the meantime, we ask you to continue to take preventative measures as outlined by Health Officials.

Some resources:

[Staying Resilient During the COVID-19 Pandemic – A Video Blog](#)

[Sport Medicine Advisory Group Update #7](#)

[Risk-informed decision-making for mass gatherings during COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Should you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us.

Karl Balisch

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