

Good Morning/Afternoon

As the weekend of the Bobcats 'Racing for Regionals' meet in March draws closer, we need to advise of the additional guidelines/conditions we have implemented to ensure the meet runs as smoothly as possible.

Most Covid-19 restrictions will have been removed by the end of February; however, we will be keeping some of the measures previously adopted at our October meet. The meet is going to be a very busy weekend of racing and we want to ensure we everyone attending has confidence following the pandemic.

To help us with this can we please have your support to work with the guidelines/conditions, so we can hopefully have a great time with some great racing.

Seating and Changing arrangements for teams.

- All swimmers will be based in the sports hall with designated areas provided for each team (there will be no poolside seating for swimmers).
- On arrival, swimmers, coaches, and team managers should go directly to their designated area in the sports hall and remain there unless they are getting changed, warming up or racing.
- Changing rooms will be available throughout the weekend, we request that swimmers keep changing time to a minimum, avoid gathering in groups and return to the sports hall as soon as possible.
- We are utilising this space as a holding area to ensure the poolside is clear for officials and coaches. Swimmers should only be on poolside as they warm up, progress through marshalling and to receive feedback from their coaches.
- We will have a team of competitor stewards / martials based in the sports hall and on poolside. Swimmers will need to report for martialling in the sports hall and will then be sent in their heats to the team on poolside.
- Swimmers should ensure that they are dry and are wearing appropriate footwear before returning to the sports hall.
- Swimmers will not be permitted to enter the spectator area during the meet, and spectators must not enter the sports hall to ensure the safety of all competitors.
- We understand that this does take away some of the usual comradery however, we feel this is still a necessary action in the current climate. We would like to remind clubs that they are responsible to ensure swimmers stay within the designated areas and abide by these rules.

Team Managers / Chaperones

- As swimmers will be in the sports hall, we will need each club to offer some support in looking after their swimmers and to ensure they report to martialling at the correct time.
- We are therefore issuing 2 x free team manager / chaperone passes to each club. These can be collected at the entry desk. If clubs can please arrange for a volunteer or two to help cover each session for your club it would be really appreciated. Bobcats will support as much as we possibly can do too.

- Please ensure that swimmers report to marshalling in the sports hall with plenty of time before their race. We also ask that we try and avoid any delays to keep the meet moving to ensure that we finish the sessions on time.

Coaches

- We are expecting the warmup sessions to be very busy, so to help support this we encourage teams to utilise space in the sports hall for dry land warmups.
- A free lunch will be provided to all coaches and officials (this does not include Chaperones). With the sports hall being used to hold swimmers we have secured a room just outside the building called 'Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio'. This will be open from 8am to 3pm both days. Please make your way there for your lunch. Tea and Coffee will be available throughout the day.

Spectators

- Whilst spectators are permitted, we have been advised to limit the numbers on the gallery to run slightly under full capacity.
- We are therefore requesting that only **one spectator per swimmer** attends the meet. This does mean that we may have to refuse entry to some spectators.
- Entrance fees are £8 per day, £3 will be refunded for a half day at the end of the morning session. Just afternoon sessions will be charged a t£5. Programmes will be available for £2. We will accept cash or contactless payment.

Preventing the spread of Covid-19 and other infectious diseases

With Covid-19 testing being scaled down and access to lateral flow tests becoming increasingly limited, we appreciate that it may not be possible for everyone to test prior to arrival. We are therefore asking all people attending the meet to use a common-sense approach, if you or your child are displaying any symptoms of infectious disease, please consider whether it would be appropriate to attend.

Finally, we really want everyone to have the best time. We understand that some of the conditions noted above might still be a little different however, we feel this is the first step in getting normality back and we hope that everyone can respect and support us in hosting a great meet.

We hope you all enjoy the weekend... see you all there

Thanks

Bobcats Committee