



METRO WEST DISTRICT

Metro West Swimming Victoria Incorporated

ABN: 92 118 401 054

INCORPORATION NO: A0007742J

13th March 2020

Attn: Metro West Members

Re: Metro West All Junior Selection Trials (2020)

Dear Metro West Members,

Thank you to all swimmers that registered for this weekend's Metro West All Junior Competition Selection Trials. This competition is one of the highlights of the swimming calendar for our junior swimmers with many of our Metro West athletes using this meet as a launchpad for greater success at a state & national level. As a district we place a great value on this meet and what it offers our junior swimmers in the west.

As a district we also place a great value on providing a safe competition environment for our swimmers. At this present time, Metro West does not have the capacity to explicitly guarantee this for Sunday's scheduled Metro West All Junior Competition Selection Trials due to the rapidly developing issues relating to COVID-19.

As President of Metro West District I have been in regular contact with the Victorian Department of Health & Human Services, Swimming Australia & Swimming Victoria over the past seven days, both to seek advice from these entities regarding hosting the competition this weekend, as well as assessing the risk to both the District and our members should the meet go ahead.

With recent developments this morning in regards to a suspected case of COVID-19 at a school that several Metro West members attend (including a school aquatic facility that Metro West members may have utilised), that assessed risk has become too great, and the District has no other option then to **postpone this Sunday's scheduled competition**.

This is not a decision we have taken lightly and I understand there will be many Metro West members that will be disappointed their children will not get the chance to compete this Sunday. However as President of Metro West District my primary responsibility is the health & welfare of our membership base of over 1000 swimmers, and I am not willing to take a risk on any of our members' health by continuing with this weekend's competition.

We are in discussions with Swimming Victoria in regards to the staging of the Semi-Finals on the 28th March (with the hope these will be postponed to a later date to ensure we can still stage our selection trials), or if they in fact do proceed as is, how we can best ensure that Metro West are still represented at this event. These discussions are obviously still ongoing, with any further information to be relayed to clubs & members in due course.

We will await for this advice from Swimming Victoria as to if & when the Semi-Finals will occur, before working through a potential replacement date for the trials (or actioning a complete cancellation of this meet and refunding of entries). As the Metro West Management Committee is a volunteer organisation I ask that you please bear with us over the next few days as we work through our next steps. I also ask competitors to please not attempt Credit Card chargebacks to obtain refunds as this process may compromise actual refunds should the competition ultimately be cancelled.

Again I apologise to all competitors, particularly those who were still planning on attending this Sunday, but as an organisation the risk to our members is too great to continue with this Sunday's competition.

Regards,

Cam Nation
President
Metro West District