



# COVID-19

# RESPONSE PLAN

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LAST UPDATED JUNE 4, 2020





## Our Team

We have prepared this response plan to raise awareness of the ongoing progress related to the COVID-19 concerns of our gymnastics community. Our board and staff have been working around the clock these past few months responding to this crisis, and are excited to return to the gym when we are able!

We are committed to supporting our members to the best of our ability under the support and directives of Sask Sport. We ask that all our members remain patient - we are navigating this pandemic together and we all have the same goal in mind - *a safe return to sport.*

As Mahatma Ghandi said: "It is health that is real wealth, and not pieces of gold or silver". We thank all our members for continuing to keep the health and safety of each other in mind throughout this entire process.

Klara Miller  
CEO of Gymnastics Saskatchewan



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# Covid-19 IMPACT

On April 9th, a survey was sent out to all member clubs to determine the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. A summary of this report can be found below. The full report can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

## SUMMARY

## EMPLOYMENT

300 part time and 11 full time employees have been laid off.

## REVENUE

Clubs have reported monthly operating costs without any projected revenue of \$159, 965.

## CLUBS ARE LOOKING FOR:

- Online opportunities for coach & athlete training
- Information/assistance with government supports
- Member engagement
- Advocacy
- Financial assistance directly from Gym Sask

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# Future GOALS

This response plan is a living, working document that will change depending on the provincial pandemic phase and needs of our member clubs.

WE STRIVE TO:

## COMMUNICATE

- Provide up-to-date information to our clubs via the COVID-19 response plan, email, website posts, and social media.
- Host a virtual town hall meeting for club representatives to attend.

## COLLABORATE

- Collaborate with Sask Sport and Gymnastics Canada by attending regular meetings, keeping up to date with the wider sports community and future plans for gymnastics.

## SUPPORT

- Assist clubs in adhering to the **Return to Play** guidelines that align with provincial government expectations.
- Compile additional information regarding financial needs of clubs and determine how we may provide additional funding.
- Develop social media content and signage creation for clubs to use to engage their members and assist with re-open protocols.
- Keep membership rates the same for the 2020-2021 season.

## CONTACT US

Our office hours are limited at this time however all staff continue to be available via email.

For urgent inquiries please do not hesitate to reach out to CEO Klara Miller on her cell phone at 306-535-4778.

# Communication TO DATE

Since the onset of COVID-19 we have communicated all developments to our members as we received them. Please use the below list as a reference point for all memos/emails that have been sent out to date. These are also available on our website by clicking [here](#).

## COMMUNICATION

## Directory of MEMOS

- [March 13th COVID Update](#)
- [March 16th COVID Update](#)
- [March 24th COVID Update - Events](#)
- [March 25th GCG Memo - Canadian Championships Cancellation](#)
- [March 26th Email Update - MAP Grants, Wage Subsidy, Managing a Sports Organization](#)
- [March 26th Email Update - Request for online training information](#)
- [March 31st MAP Grant Top Up Memo](#)
- [March 31st Email - Online Training Update](#)
- [April 1st Email Insurance Update](#)
- [April 6th Email - Online Training Insurance Documents](#)
- [April 21 Email - Economic Impact on Clubs Report](#)
- [April 21 Email - COVID Resource Page started on Gym Sask website](#)
- [April 24th Email - Sask Sport Announcement on Re-Open plan](#)
- [April 29th Email - Safe Sport Memos for virtual training](#)
- [April 29th - Draft Re-open protocols documents](#)
- [May 21st Email - Commercial rent program](#)
- [May 22nd, Final draft of Return to Play protocols](#)
- [May 27th Memo - Waivers and Resources](#)
- [May 28th Email - Club Survey](#)
- [June 1st Memo - Letter from the Board Chair](#)

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# Collaboration TO DATE

Gym Sask is committed to collaborating with Sask Sport and Gymnastics Canada on behalf of our member clubs. We are also dedicated to the health and safety of all our members.

COLLABORATION

## ACTION

- Worked with our insurance provider to obtain coverage for clubs to move to online training platforms.
- Provided resources to clubs & coaches to ensure Safe Sport guidelines were adhered to with online training.
- Represented our members on weekly calls with Sask Sport and Gymnastics Canada.
- Surveyed clubs and published an **Economic Impact Report** that was distributed to Sask Sport, Gymnastics Canada, and other sports governing bodies.
- Wrote correspondence to our government ministry regarding an early opening of gymnastics.
- Offered access to athlete and coach mental health supports for provincial teams.
- Researched waiver forms and insurance information for a return to play scenario during the pandemic.
- Created a working draft **Return to Play** document and distributed it for feedback to our members.

# Support TO DATE

Many government supports have been created to address the financial struggles of COVID-19. Gym Sask has also been able to offer direct support to clubs. Use this page for a quick summary of all available programs, or access them on our website by [clicking here](#).

## SUPPORT

### PROVINCIAL

- Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment (SSBEP)
- Provincial Sales Tax relief
- Crown utilities bill deferral programs
- WCB premium waivers
- Self Isolation Support Program
- Products and Supplies
- More information can be found on the government website [here](#).

### FEDERAL

- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)
- Temporary 10% Subsidy
- Work Share Programs
- Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)
- Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)
- Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)
- Canada Emergency Response Benefit
- More information can be found on the government website [here](#).

### GYM SASK

- 2019-2020 MAP grants were topped up by an additional \$104,000 from self-help dollars.
- Actively involved with the other Western provincial organizations in creating online coaching webinars free to all Gym Sask members.
- Worked with insurance providers to include online training in current premiums.
- Developed social media recognition content to engage members in gymnastics (daily postings, provincial team highlights, etc).
- Maintained a regular social media presence with almost daily communication and resources on COVID-19 such as grant information, cleaning tips, etc.
- Have diligently remained present and available, providing professional support and advice to all our members.
- Communicated on behalf of our members on a continuous basis with Sask Sport and Gymnastics Canada.

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# WHAT TO EXPECT

While there are many unknowns as we work through this pandemic, members should be prepared for a much different experience when returning to gymnastics.

## WHEN WILL CLUBS RE-OPEN?

Our early re-opening is now endorsed by Sask Sport, as well as our insurance carriers. Gymnastics Saskatchewan sanctions and approves member clubs in permanent facilities to open operations as of June 8th, provided clubs can meet the protocols and requirements of the Government of Saskatchewan and Gymnastics Saskatchewan. Your re-opening must follow the staged-phased protocols in the Return to Play document, sent out to all clubs.

## HOW CAN CLUBS PREPARE?

Gymnastics Saskatchewan has prepared re-opening protocols that will meet the requirements of government mandates. Clubs should review and be familiar with these **Return to Play** protocols as well as government re-opening plans, and ensure that their gyms can be set up to meet the needs of these new requirements. Clubs should be proactively sourcing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (face masks, hand sanitizer/soap, disinfectant, foggers, etc). We have compiled several resources that may be helpful on our website [here](#). Gyms will most likely need a different layout and additional supplies to ensure physical distancing that may take time to set up. Clubs should also take into account the additional personnel that will be required in order to maintain cleaning requirements and ensure a safe environment.

## HOW CAN PARENTS PREPARE?

Parents should be patient with clubs as they work through the **Return to Play** protocols, and cautiously follow each directive to ensure the safety of their athlete as well as everyone else in the gym. Parents should be expecting to sign a waiver for their child prior to participation. Parents should also be prepared to provide COVID-19 screening information for their child prior to entering the gym.

## HOW CAN GYMNASTS PREPARE?

Gymnasts should be prepared for training to be different than what they are used to. A coach may not be able to spot certain skills, and physical distancing will need to be maintained between teammates. Gymnasts should be well aware of their gym's regulations and what they will need to be prepared for (For example, coming to the gym already in training attire). Gymnasts should talk to their parents or coaches if they have any questions.