



Lifesaving Society Update

November 12, 2020

As the Lifesaving Society continues to provide updated information and resources to support you in providing aquatic recreation and education in BC and Yukon, please note the following items:

- 1. Current COVID-19 Restrictions:** Based on the [most recent update from the Provincial Health Officer](#) with the exception of indoor group physical activities such as aquafit classes (in Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions only), pools can continue to operate based on their approved COVID-19 Safety Plan. More clarification will be provided when received.

In accordance with the Provincial Health Officer's order, training courses and recertifications for First Aid, Lifesaving and National Lifeguard within the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions can continue as long as:

- All candidates reside in the same health region and are not travelling from one health region to another to attend the course/recert.
- The skills adaptations for all Lifesaving Society courses are maintained as outlined in the *Skills Adaptation Evaluation Chart During COVID-19*. The bubble buddy system and social circles (excluding household members) are no longer permitted while the current order is in effect. For skill adaptations listing bubble buddies as the only permissible contact level (i.e. Team Approach and BVM), a household member may be used while the order is in effect. An exception to this can be made if all candidates in the course are already in a work cohort.
- All other COVID-19 protocols are followed as outlined in the *Guidelines for Delivering Training During COVID-19*.

For Affiliates, both the *Skills Adaptation Evaluation Chart During COVID-19* and the *Guidelines for Delivering Training During COVID-19* can be accessed when you login to Affiliate Resources. For Instructors and Trainers, these documents are accessed through the [Mandatory COVID-19 Instructor Update](#).

- 2. Lifesaving Instructor Recertification:** As a result of the recent restrictions imposed by the Provincial Health Officer, the LSI Recertification pilot course and other related items have been delayed causing the postponement of the launch of the Lifesaving Instructor Recertification. Consequently, the launch of the new Bronze Medal courses will now be February 1, 2021. The revised schedule is as follows:

November 10, 2020	LSI certifications extended to January 31, 2021
November 23, 2020	New COVID-19 restrictions lifted (pending their success)
December 14, 2020	LSIs can register for the LSI Recertification Online Module
January 31, 2021	LSI extension expires
February 1, 2021	New Bronze Medals launch

This does not prevent Affiliates from holding Bronze Medal courses using the current curriculum while ensuring that appropriate COVID-19 precautions are taken. A revised [LSIR Communication for Affiliates and Instructors](#) is now available on the website.

Lifesaving Society COVID-19 Update – November 12, 2020

3. **Risk Mitigation for Competitive Swim Club Training:** As a result of collaboration between Swimming Canada and Lifesaving Society Canada, a guidelines document entitled '[Multiple Swimmer & Single Lane Swimming for Competitive Swimmer/Club Training – Risk Mitigation](#)' has been jointly released and is available on our website. It is important to note, however, that some provincial swim organizations (including Swim BC) have already seen success in a return to training using cohort strategies in accordance with provincial health authority directives.

Note that the [latest Provincial Health Officer order](#) contains exemptions for high performance athletes.

For further clarification, contact Swim BC Executive Director, Ken Radford at ken.radford@swimbc.ca.

4. **Revised Program Guide:** With many recent changes, we encourage you to view the revised BC & Yukon Program Guide (Nov. 2020) now available on the website when you login to Affiliate Resources. Any questions can be directed to Member Services staff at awards@lifesaving.bc.ca, or Brooke Cherfils, Education Director, at brookec@lifesaving.bc.ca or call 604-299-5450.

Thank you for continuing to ensure the safety of your staff and patrons!

BC & Yukon Branch
#112 - 3989 Henning Drive,
Burnaby, BC V5C 6N5
Telephone: 604.299.5450
E-mail: info@lifesaving.bc.ca
Web: www.lifesaving.bc.ca