



STATEMENT CONCERNING NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

MARCH 13, 2020

Canada Artistic Swimming established and communicated a response plan to address our competition landscape in the evolving situation related to the attempt to contain the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19. This plan was assembled in collaboration with our Members and had at its core, the primary objective to keep our participants healthy and safe, and a secondary objective to continue normal sport operations as much as the situation would allow.

CAS has watched closely as the government health advisors at various levels make recommendations on the basis of their expert opinions, and government and other sport agencies move forward to implement those recommendations.

As these decisions have unfolded very quickly, the definition of normal sport operations has changed significantly within the last two days.

Consistent with the health and safety guidelines being implemented across Canada, and with new directives from the Ontario government, the decision has been taken to **cancel the 2020 Qualifier competition scheduled to be held in Markham, Ontario, March 24-28, 2020.**

This is one of many difficult decisions that are being made across the country and around the world related to sporting events of all types. With such a rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus, CAS is committed to following all of the recommended guidelines and measures to slow its spread and maintain the health and well-being of our athletes and all other participants in our sport.

At this moment, a contingency plan is being constructed to address the Canadian Championships scheduled for Quebec City in early May. For now, this competition will continue to remain on our calendar.

Accompanying this announcement is a Q and A which will address many of the questions our clubs and parents have as a result of this decision.

We wish all of our Members and participants continued good health and safety through this challenging period in our history.

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