



---

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO: MEMBER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS & ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**  
**FROM: JORDAN ABNEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP UPDATES**  
**DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2020**  
**CC: DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS, SPORT COMMISSIONERS, BCSS ZONE PRESIDENTS**

---

### **FALL & WINTER SEASONS OF PLAY UPDATES**

The BCSS Board of Directors met this week to evaluate the fall season of play, and when considering the late start to athletics in most schools, while remaining optimistic for some interschool competition for our fall student-athletes, the Board has decided to **extend the fall season of play until December 18th, 2020**.

Additionally, and likely as a surprise to no one, the Board has **formally cancelled all 2020 Fall Season of Play Zone and Provincial Championships**. We share in the deep disappointment of our student-athletes and member schools who work year after year for the opportunity to compete at a BCSS Provincial Championship. We continue to work with our government partners to move to Stage 3, which would allow for some local competition. We encourage our schools to continue to work with our fall sport student-athletes throughout the season of play.

Consequently, the Board decided to **delay the start of the Winter Season of Play until January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. This was done by the Board to preserve the opportunity, if approved by the Ministry of Education, to provide our fall student-athletes, especially those graduating this year, some element of interschool competition.



### **BCSS RETURN TO SPORT PLAN (RTSSP)**

Today we will be publishing Version 3.0 of the RTSSP. We continue an ongoing dialogue with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. While we are not moving to a new stage some minor adjustments should be reviewed. It is important to note, **this plan has been reviewed by the Ministry of Health and the BCCDC**. While they do not formally approve documents, their feedback has been incorporated throughout. Many of the changes from version 2.0 to 3.0 are housekeeping in nature to align with the common language of Health and Education guidelines, but those changes of more substance are noted in the revision history.

Many schools went to the quarter system for timetabling purposes to start the year, in a lot of cases, they simply cohorted each class, meaning a cohort had 25-30 students rather than the up to 120 as allowed by the Ministry of Education. The unintended consequence of this was that it made it even more difficult to conduct co-curricular activities such as school sports. **The Ministry of Health has confirmed that schools can still create cohorts of up to 120 for the sake of participation**. It should be noted that students are still restricted to participating in only 1 cohort. This will allow some schools more flexibility in providing opportunities for student-athletes where there may have been a small number of student-athletes in a certain team. See the BCSS Return to School Sport V3.0 document for a more detailed explanation.

### **BCSS CROSS COUNTRY PANDEMIC CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY SUBWAY**

A quick reminder that our BCSS XC Pandemic Challenge, Presented by SUBWAY began earlier this week. The window for students to complete either the 3.0km or 5.5km distance is open until November 4<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found [here](#). We encourage our schools to get out not just their cross country runners, but all their athletes, and even those who don't normally participate in school sport. We know students are looking for something meaningful to participate in, and we know some schools are working to make this a fun event for their students. We hope to see some great participation numbers and some fast times! Good luck to everyone.

### **E-SPORTS TRIAL**

After being delayed due to COVID in the spring, BCSS has announced its E-Sports trial. The trial is exploratory and will last for 8 weeks running through December and January. Schools must indicate their intent to participate by November 4<sup>th</sup>. The information package can be found [here](#).



## **GOVERNANCE Q&A SESSION**

The BCSS Board will be hosting a Virtual Q&A session on the Governance Proposal on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Every member school is welcome to participate. Many of you will recall this proposal was made in February with the intent to come forward at last year's AGM. The Board chose to delay that due to the school closures in the spring. This is the first chance to restart the conversation. Be on the lookout for a full package coming next week, which will include a new package and registration details for the meeting.

We continue to thank you for your support, and as always we are here to serve you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the BCSS office with any questions.