

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



BCSSA

BC Summer Swimming Association
SWIMMING | DIVING | WATER POLO | ARTISTIC

205-2323 Boundary Road, Vancouver, BC, V5M 4V8
office@bcsummerswimming.com (p) 604-473-9447

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BC Summer Swimming Association
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2022 AGM Agenda

1. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call
- b. Quorum (40) & voting procedures

2. Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting

3. Board of Director's Reports:

- a. President *Danny Schilds*
- b. Vice-President *Jim Baxter*
- c. Secretary Treasurer *Jeff Sheehan*
- d. Provincial Registrar *Catherine Schwichtenberg*
- e. Director of Competition *Sean Cauley*
- f. Director of Officials *Leah Esplen*
- g. Director of Member Services *Brendan Connolly*
- h. Director of Artistic Swimming *Nicola Iten*
- i. Director of Diving *Drea Beye*
- j. Director of Water Polo *Sam Furneaux*
- k. Coaches Representative *Ethan Phillips*

4. Regional Directors' Reports

- a. Cariboo *Deirdre McDonald*
- b. Fraser South *Isaac Kendall*
- c. Fraser Valley *Rachelle Harron*
- d. Kootenay *Dave Dunnett*
- e. Okanagan *Tracey Cramer*
- f. Simon Fraser *Carl Trepanier*
- g. Vancouver & Districts *George Eng*
- h. Vancouver Island *Sheila Coogan*

5. Nominations and Elections

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Director of Competition
- d. Provincial Registrar
- e. Director of Diving

6. Notice of Motions

7. New Business

8. Adjournment





DRAFT MINUTES 2021 Annual General Meeting

Thursday August 19, 2021

Zoom Meeting Online



Attendance Full list of attendees follows these draft minutes (p.6).

- There were 53 official voting delegates present therefore quorum was met.
- Total in attendance 69

1. Opening Remarks:

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Danny Schilds. 1.1. Quorum & Voting Procedures reviewed

- Reminder to turn off electronic devices and anything that beeps.
- Reminder that only individuals registered to vote are eligible to vote.
- Review of voting & meeting procedures online, should it be necessary
- Introduction to Provincial Board Members in attendance.
- Confirmed that the meeting will be run following Robert's Rules of Order
- It was confirmed by the Provincial Registrar that quorum had been established.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Approval of the Agenda, as circulated

MOVED BY Jim Baxter, SECONDED BY Catherine Schwichtenberg

CARRIED

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

MOTION: Approval of the Minutes from the 2020 Annual General Meeting, as circulated

MOVED BY Dave Dunnet, SECONDED BY George Eng

CARRIED

4. Annual Reports from the Board (submitted in writing to the BCSSA 2021 Annual Report, circulated)

- President Danny Schilds, as submitted
- Vice – President Jim Baker, as submitted
- Treasury Secretary Position vacant
- Financial Report Danny Schilds

MOTION: To approve the Financial Committee's Report, as submitted

MOVED BY Mike Craig, SECONDED BY Lee Vanden Ham

CARRIED

- Director of Competition Sean Cauley, as submitted
- Director of Officials Mike Craig, as submitted
- Director of Member Services Jeff Sheehan, as submitted
- Provincial Registrar Catherine Schwichtenberg, as submitted
- Director of Diving Drea Beye, as submitted
- Artistic Swimming Director Nicola Iten, as submitted
- Director of Water Polo Sam Furneaux, as submitted
- Coaches Representative Lee Vanden Ham, as submitted
- Cariboo Region Deirdre McDonald, as submitted
- Fraser South Region Isaac Kendall, as submitted
- Fraser Valley Region Jim Baxter, as submitted
- Kootenay Region Dave Dunnet, as submitted
- Okanagan Region Thomas Vikars, as submitted
- Simon Fraser Region Carl Trepanier, as submitted
- Vancouver & District Region George Eng, as submitted
- Vancouver Island Region Sheila Coogan, as submitted

5. Nominations & Elections:

The meeting was turned over to George Eng as Chair of the Nomination committee.

- **Treasurer:**

Nominations were called from the floor three times.
Jeff Sheehan was elected as Treasurer by acclamation.

- **Director of Member Services:**

Nominations were called from the floor three times.
Brendan Connolly was elected as Director of Member Services by acclamation.

- **Director of Officials:**

Nominations were called from the floor three times.
Mike Craig was elected as Director of Officials by acclamation.

- **Director of Artistic Swimming:**

Nominations were called from the floor three times.
Nicola Iten was elected as Director of Artistic Swimming by acclamation.

- **Director of Water Polo:**

Nominations were called from the floor three times.
Sam Furneaux was elected as Director of Water Polo by acclamation.

Congratulations! Thank you to **Jeff Sheehan**, who stepped down from his position as Director of Member Services. Elected to the position of Treasurer.

6. Notice of Motions & New Business

- There were no motions from the floor.
- The 2022 Provincial Championships were announced to be hosted by the City of Kamloops, August 15- 21. We are hoping to be able to host the event in person next year, depending on pandemic status, etc. More information will be provided as soon as it is available to clubs.
- The 2022 BCSSA Annual General Meeting will be held Thursday August 18, 2022 at the Provincial Championships in Kamloops.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved BY Lee Vanden Ham

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM



Appendix A: Zoom Attendance at 2021 Annual General Meeting

Club	First Name	Last Name	Yes Vote	No Vote	Club	First Name	Last Name	Yes Vote	No Vote
WRASA	Emmy	Lu		No	Penticton Pikes	Paul	Bourne	Yes	
Fraser South Region	Gristy	Furneaux		No	Aldergrove Seamonkeys	Nick	Alvaro	Yes	
ND Sunfish	Ann	Kishor		No	Ladner Stingrays Swim Club	Marcy	Reoch	Yes	
North Vancouver Cruisers	Dana	Rulova		No	Burnaby Mountain Mantas Swim Club	Heather	Bourke	Yes	
ND Sunfish	Jason	Landry		No	PoCo Marlins Summer Swim Club	Brendan	Connelly	yes	
Langley Flippers/Fraser Valley Rapids	Leah	Esplen		No	Princeton Kokanees	Lindsay	van Genne	Yes	
Mission Marlins Swim Club	Matthew	Torres		No	North Vancouver Cruisers	Shane	Hopkins Utter	Yes	
ND Sunfish	Andrea	Mori		No	WRASA	Sue	Fack	Yes	
ND Sunfish	Caroline	Roschat		No	Richmond Kigooos	Richard	Buckley	Yes	
Super Sharks Swim Club	Angel	Lee		No	Cloverdale Tritons Summer Swim Club	Sasha	Okyere	Yes	
ND Sunfish	Jason	Landry		No	Pender Island Otters Swim Club	Helen	Lemon Moore	yes	
Similkameen swim club	Tanya	Molachyk		No	Similkameen Steelheads	Chantal	Walters	yes	
Burnaby Barracudas	Ashley	Sandquist		No	Nechako Valley Swim Club	Andrea	Grady	yes	
Agassiz Harrison Aquanauts	Scott	Anderson		No	Salt Spring Stingrays	Shelly	Johnson	yes	
Port Moody Aquarians	Kerry	LeCorre		No	RiverMonsters Swim Club	Catherine	Freimark	YES	
Similkameen Steelheads Swim Club	Karen	Rivest		No	Similkameen Steelheads	Chantal	Walters	Yes	
BCSSA	Nicol	Iten	Yes		CBSC	Tanja	Phillips	Yes	
BCSSA	Mike	Craig	Yes		Burnaby barracudas	Angela	Battiston	Yes	
BCSSA	Catherine	Schwichtenberg	Yes		Langley Flippers Swim Club	Pamela	Labrum	yes	
BCSSA	David	Dunnet	Yes		Oak Bay Orcas Swim Club	Sarah	Bonner	Yes	
BCSSA	Jeff	Sheehan	Yes		PG Places	Rory	Boyle	Yes	
BCSSA	Sam	Furneaux	Yes		Vancouver Vikings	Lauren	Illich	Yes	
BCSSA	Drea	Beye	Yes		Squamish Pirates	Tamara	Guerin	Yes	
BCSSA	Shelia	Coogan	Yes		Grand Forks SS	Chris	Jonat	yes	
BCSSA	Lee	Vanden Ham	Yes		Super Sharks Swim Club	Jeff	Wong	Yes	
BCSSA	Carl	Trepanier	Yes		Quesnel Aquatic Club	Shawna	McKenzie	Yes	
BCSSA	George	Eng	Yes		Agassiz Harrison Aquanauts	Maria	Gorelova	yes	
BCSSA	Deirdre	McDonald	Yes		Surrey Sea Lions	Dale	Freeman	Yes	
BCSSA	Mike	Freimark	Yes		AWAC	Jane	Bazan	Yes	
BCSSA	Sean	Cauley	Yes		Campbell River Salmon Kings	James	Revoy	yes	
BCSSA	Danny	Schilds	Yes		cloverdale tritons	Jason	Meyer	yes	
BCSSA	Thomas	Vicars	Yes		Nelson Neptune Swim Club	Chad	Badry	Yes	
BCSSA	Jim	Baxter	Yes		Greater Trail Stingrays	Lesley	Chisholm	Yes	
ND Sunfish	Jane	RASHED	Yes		NSWC Marlins	Deb	Gill	Yes	
					Gee Gees	Gabi	Vindisch	Yes	
		subtotal	18	16		subtotal 1	35		
					Total voters	subtotal 2	53	16	

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President's Report Danny Schilds

This really is one of those 'where do I start'? kind of reports.

First, I would like to assure the membership that our Association is in a very good financial situation largely because of the foresight of the Provincial Boards starting in 2009. The Board began to put some funds away every year in case of a 'rainy day' as well as being careful to never run a deficit budget. The last few years have been a rainy day in spades and in spite of a lack of registration funds and increased expenses, the BCSSA is on strong financial ground.

I would like to thank all the Board Members for their service to the BCSSA. As you will learn from their individual reports, they have all been busy working at planning events as well as taking care of the day to day business of the Association. We have a working board and the volunteers that make up this board do put in a lot of hours on the membership's behalf.

I first started with our organization in 1969 as a swimmer. I have many fond memories of swimming at Empire Pool and UBC as well as travelling around the Province to swim meets. Through the 80's and 90's I served for ten years on the board first as the Coaches Rep, then the Cariboo Regional Director and finishing as the Vice President. Around that time my own children started to swim so I became a swim Dad and Starter/Referee. (it seemed like every weekend) In 2008 I was elected back on the board, first as the Vice President and then as the President. I have had the pleasure and honour of working with some excellent people and was able to learn from all of them. People like Ian Allen, Neil Wuolle, Kerry Sheppard and Francis Cheung stand out.

Throughout my time with the BCSSA, (and I will continue to coach, I'm not riding off into the sunset) I have been struck by how our core ideals always shine through. We are a family centered sport, we welcome all ages and all abilities, we strive to get better, and above all, we are building future good people. Someone once told me that you meet the nicest people through swimming. (they also said that swimmers make the best clothes hangers) and they were right. I am constantly struck by how swimming brings out the best in people, how our swimmers carry on accomplishing extraordinary things in their lives, and how they come back to swimming. We have an extra-special organization that has thrived for 64 years.

Keep up the good work!

Provincial Manager's Report Penny Bartel

It's been a fun season, finally getting to see BCSSA "in action" after 2 years of slow & cautious, mostly virtual, activities. I can see why volunteers like Danny Schilds have been involved for 50+ years... the heart and soul of this organization is rooted in compassion and caring and genuine affection for each other.

The Provincial Office has been making progress in a number of projects over the past year: improving our safe sport policy suite and risk management plans, updating the sport rules and changing the format of the rule book, updating and improving the results database project that was piloted in the 2021 season, and creating an updated and more modern website.

The production of the new **Rule book** was quite the undertaking in order to bring all the sport disciplines together into one publication with one style and one format. There is still room for improvement (sorry for the mistakes that were found) and our next challenge is to separate the sport rules from procedures!

I am particularly proud of the advances that BCSSA has made towards improving the safety and protection of our athletes and volunteers. Our **Safe Sport Policy Suite** will be presented to the fall Board of Directors meeting to be considered for adoption. Thank you to summer student **Tomas** for working in this area this summer!

Finally thank you to **Joanne** and **David** and **Elena**, our other summer staff, who have worked on improving our website, our results database, and our data administration respectively. I couldn't have done it without you... **Thank you!**



**Vice-President
Jim Baxter**

It is so awesome to be running in person swim meets again this season, seeing the athletes performing at a high level and having fun is great.

We did not have any major rule changes for swimming, diving, or artistic swimming this year. Changed up the age requirements and instituted beach polo, 4x4, for water polo trying to get a higher level of participation for water polo.

Many thanks to Danny for his leadership and knowledge that he has provided to the BCSSA.

I am looking forward to an amazing Provincial Meet in Kamloops and seeing all our friends from around the province.



Nechako Valley Swim Meet, June 25, 2022



**Treasurer
Jeff Sheehan**

It was another challenging year for the Finance Committee, as we approached another summer season not knowing how successful we were going to be in having a full season with meets and a provincial championship. As of this writing it looks as though it has been as complete and full of a season as could have hoped for. This was my first season as treasurer and the with the addition of our bookkeeper last year, the responsibilities have become much more manageable for a volunteer position.

As for the fiscal year that ended on March 31 of this year, the good news is that we showed a profit of about **\$52,000**. This made up more than half of the loss we reported in the previous year due to the pandemic. I wasn't part of budgeting process for that year, but as you can see this was a very positive outcome as budgeting through these times is particularly challenging.

Some notable items from the financial statements include registration fees at about 85% of pre-pandemic levels. Because we didn't run the provincial championships, we missed out on about \$70,000 in revenues from the event while saving about \$65,000 in expenses. The bulk of savings for the year came from holding back on expenses for courses & seminars as well as development expenses like grants and strategic implementation.

The organization continues to be in excellent financial health. Our two term deposits had a total of **\$239,048.70** in them and our bank accounts had a total of **\$94,017.94** for total cash of **\$333,066.64** as of year-end.

This past year has been the year of innumerable hours and Google searches in order to take the carefully pulled data from each and every club and have it self-populate into usable information. This is all thanks to formulae that begin with "Countifs", "Countif", Sum, "VLookup", or "Query" followed by long lines of Google Spreadsheet ranges and pages. Somehow, when the spaces, Dollar signs, quotation marks, and brackets are all in their correct place a magical thing happens on the BCSSA spreadsheet.

I can tell you very quickly how many males, females, O Cats, S Cats, artistic, WP, Divers, and more you have in your club, region, and BCSSA as a whole. Lists of duplicate swimmers, along with lists of Coaches, Artistic Swimmers, Divers, and WP players self-populate into one list for each of our Directors. Athletes who participate in more than one sport are also easily sorted and the final number for billing information is the result of a simple formula that does not count athletes who pay and play with a second club.

Next year we will deal with trial swimmers in an easy fashion, with Google Sheets it's easy to identify them and not have them in the official registration list. Winter registrations are also easy. It's a matter of taking each club's new database, pasting it to the summer one, and removing the duplicates through Google formulae. I am able to tell at a glance how many additional athletes need their BCSSA fee paid.

Active has been responsive to our questions and has continued to develop their question and answer database. I highly recommend using the 'help' button on your active site, but feel free to ask as well :)

With this spreadsheet, Regional and Club registrars now can spend their time doing the important work of determining swimmer eligibility, supporting parents and clubs with eligibility issues, and not wasting countless hours hand-counting athletes, looking for duplicates, or other difficult issues.

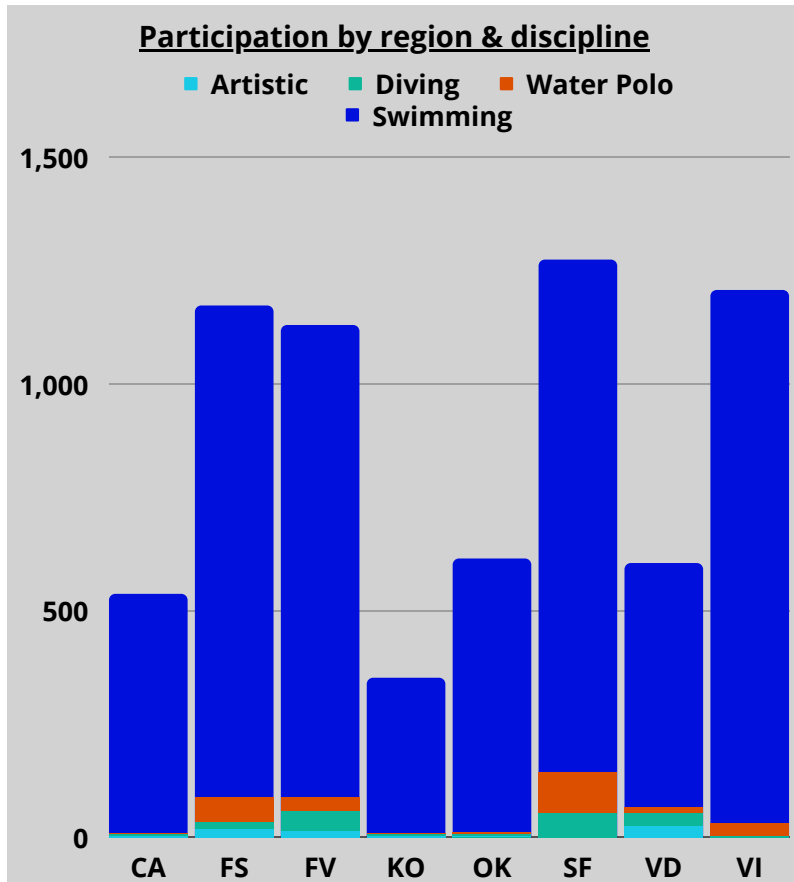
It is my plan for 2023 to remove the SS/SW/WW swimmer question as it has become redundant with the fee change and with the formula-driven Google Spreadsheet I have made. I also hope to continue the work of designing an easy method of sorting transfers and assignments. A couple of changes to the "Required columns list" but nothing very painful. Stay tuned!

I thank each of the regional registrars who are working hard with their clubs to support registration and eligibility. They respond to my requests and errors with kindness and they work especially hard in ensuring that BCSSA is fair and nobody has an undue advantage. It is my goal to make their lives easier and so as always, any tips tricks or suggestions that would ease the registrar's work, please shout it out!



**Provincial Registrar
Catherine Schwichtenberg**

2021-22 Registration Data



ATHLETES PER DIVISION	
Division	# of athletes
Div 1	1546
Div 2	786
Div 3	833
Div 4	673
Div 5	502
Div 6	402
Div 7	237
Div 8	304

Gender

Female 3248
Male 2849

Impact of the Pandemic on BCSSA Registration A year to year comparison by Region

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total # of registrations	6019	4,805	6,852	6097
CARIBOO	423	260	537	469
FRASER SOUTH	1038	859	1,140	1155
FRASER VALLEY	728	788	1,129	795
KOOTENAY	429	181	348	339
OKANAGAN	749	491	608	664
SIMON FRASER	1121	950	1,245	1096
VAN DISTRICT	615	491	650	567
VAN ISLAND	916	785	1,195	1012

Director of Member Services Brendan Connelly

This is my first year in this position. I am so very impressed with the experience and knowledge of the members of this provincial board. While I have been the president of my local club for six years, this position has me feeling like a bit of a newb.



My predecessor in this position dealt with two seasons disrupted by the pandemic. It was still impacting our sport at the start of my term. Our meetings are still via Zoom. The Spring Conference was done virtually again. While still beneficial, it does not quite compare to face-to-face seminars. Over the winter, I did what I could to sort out the responsibilities of this role. This consisted of mostly sitting on a few sub-committees and answering queries from members as they came in.

As the summer started, it seems as we are nearly back to pre-pandemic normal. The multi-club competitions are back. It is a fabulous feeling seeing all the smiling faces and racing kids back at the pool. The biggest challenge for many clubs is losing two years' worth of more experienced parent volunteers, especially in officiating, as their kids aged out. On top of that, parents that joined over the last two years did not have opportunities to gain experience. From what I know of swim families, this is a temporary blip. After this year, a whole new generation of parents will be ready for 2023.

I look forward to helping with Hospitality Services (Member Services desk) at Provincials. I would like to thank the entire BCSSA Board of Directors for their tremendous support. I look forward to the year ahead, having now completed my first year in this position.



This year has been one of significant change! After 2 years of not holding in-person Provincial Championships, here we are! This year also saw the resignation of **our former Director of Officials, Mike Craig.** Please join me in thanking him for supporting Officials throughout the province through a very difficult time in the swimming community (COVID).

While I have only held this position for a few weeks, my discussions with the Regional Directors of Officials fill me with encouragement and hope. Clubs throughout the province (& Washington state) saw athletes age-out, resulting in a significant loss of officials (usually more senior and experienced ones). In some regions, those parents continued to attend and officiate meets, despite the absence of their children. In other regions, those more experienced officials played an integral role in the training of new officials. Clubs got creative in how they planned meets so as to optimize the use of available officials. Everyone around the province and state did what we do best – we rallied together and got the job done!

Looking towards the upcoming year, we need to continue our focus on training new officials, while retaining and promoting those we already have. Let's make use of the resources we have available to us in the more experienced officials, if they are available. I am looking forward to working with all of you in the coming year!

Director of Competition Sean Cauley



Here we go - back to a more 'normal' Provincial Championship Meet after a couple of 'not so normal' seasons.

We will be continuing with the simplified marshalling for the senior pool prelims at Provincials as debuted in 2018, and we have eliminated marshalling for finals for O Cat 2 and Div. 7 & 8, in order to give coaches more time to spend on deck with their athletes, and less time sitting on a bench. Feedback on this new procedure from 2019 was positive, and it makes things easier and simpler for athletes and officials alike.

We have also made changes to the procedures for Regional Alternates and for the inputting of swimmer names for relays, both of which will reduce errors, and will further reduce the workload for the beleaguered Clerk and Marshalls at Provincials!

At the time I write this, final arrangements are being made with the facility people in Kamloops, and I think that you will all be pleased with the changes to the facility spectator entrance. Even with the improved viewing area, **capacity will still be limited**, and we will be encouraging spectators to help each other out so that as many as possible can watch the races they came to see. We will be streaming all the speed swimming online, so why not **kick back and watch some of the racing on your phone?**

Director of Diving Drea Beye



In 2022 we had three clubs with diving programs, representing three regions, an increase of two clubs since 2016:

- Coquitlam Sharks (Simon Fraser Region) 25
- North Vancouver Cruisers (Vancouver & District) 55
- Abbotsford Whalers (Fraser Valley Region) 7

Overall, there has been great competition. We have had two meets so far with another just around the corner before we get into our regional competitions. This year Coquitlam and Abbotsford will combine their regional competitions with a few North Van divers included and North Van will also host one of their own as well.

Overall registration numbers are doing quite well for diving.

All three clubs have coaches returning from last year with a few new ones in the mix. Burnaby and Port Moody did not run dive programs this year due to not being able to secure coaches. We are continuing to work with BC Diving to have training seminars available to train more coaches and had a few attend one in 2021. Swimming coaches who are interested could take the two-day Intro to Dive Coaching Clinic offered by BC Diving. Dates for this not yet known and anyone interested please email diving@bcsummerswimming.com

Again we are struggling to have enough judges for our competitions and are looking to BC diving for help. Emails have been sent to clubs for parents to do some shadow judging as we are working with Shannon Sullivan to hold training sessions. The response from parents is not what we have hoped for. Coaches could also attend these sessions to become better trained as we generally rely on coaches filling in some of the spots for judging.

We are a small sport and would like to reaffirm to parents that we cannot hold the meets without participation. Please consider helping out at future meets. Any volunteer participation is greatly appreciated. Table worker get a front row view of the divers... hint hint!

Dive meets require the use of a sound system to announce dives and results. A small portable sound system, to be shared by all the clubs, would be very helpful. The cost would hopefully be under \$150. This purchase will be requested at the Board meeting in October.

Some clubs continue to have difficulty getting pool time. Fraser Valley Diving (a winter club) ended up offering pool time and support to Abbotsford Whalers to enable them to host a club meet, which was greatly appreciated!

Diving requirements were reviewed in 2016, and modified to reduce the difficulty for new divers, and to split the groups between Summer Divers and Open Divers. This has increased overall participation at meets, however there are relatively few divers competing in the Open categories, leading to limited competition for these divers. We will continue to encourage coaches to move divers from the Summer category to the Open category when they are able. Additionally, rules were again modified in 2021 adding one additional degree of difficulty aspect for dives with twists or rotations to give more incentive for summer divers to increase their dive portfolios.

Director of Artistic Swimming Nicola Iten



Artistic Swimming still has 4 clubs participating; Haney was not able to get a program together this year, fingers crossed for next season.

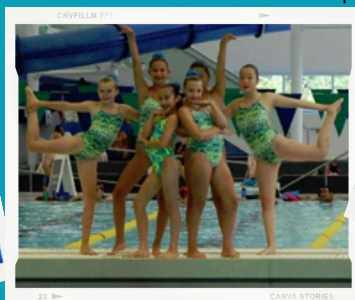
We are in the process of holding a judges course with 4 participants. This will help with the problem of getting judges out in the summer. So far the feedback has been positive by the course instructors. They will be able to train, have them practice with shadowing a full meet, take the exam and thus be fully certified all before the end of summer. These judges will be invited to judge at Provincials and will also be invited to judge in winter meets. The problem of getting judges out seems to be more troublesome since covid; mid-week is also a problem with working volunteers.

A couple of winter clubs were approached with their summer location counterparts and although nothing happened this year, the outlook is good for starting to expand outside of the lower mainland.

This year we held the Hootenany with North Van Cruisers as the host. Two clubs were able to come out and receive feedback from judges. Next week a figures meet will occur at Sharks in the Park, hosted by Coquitlam Sharks. Three out of the four clubs will be attending. Crescent Beach has taken on hosting Multi-Regionals in Surrey.

A heads up that the next couple of years are bringing big changes on how artistic swimming is judged. FINA just published a draft and we are not sure what Canada will adopt and how it will affect us.

We are looking forward to a successful summer program.



Excerpts from the full "2022 Report on Coaching"

The 2022 Season of the BC Summer Swimming Association (BCSSA) marks the first complete summer season since 2019. This return saw a large number of coaches employed within the association to accommodate the many swimmers welcomed into and returning to the BCSSA. This season presented many unique challenges for clubs to find coaching staff coming out of the pandemic and its associated restrictions. However, the BCSSA was able to provide a virtual Spring Conference to equip our coaches with useful knowledge and techniques to improve their sport communities.

This year a substantial number of coaches have been registered with the BCSSA. An approximate total of 378 coaches are involved in our four sports: speed swimming (360), water polo (42), artistic swimming (11) and diving (4). Some coaches (37) are multidisciplinary which accounts for the discrepancy between the total number of coaches and those in each discipline. Also there were some issues on reporting completeness so the actual number of coaches in the provinces is expected to be greater than 380.

The distribution of the age of coaches in the province is predominantly centered around 15-23 years of age. However, there is a minority of coaches that are between 39-66 years of age.

This year our coaches conference was another virtual event given the uncertainty of pandemic restrictions at the time. We had in excess of 100 attendees from throughout the province. Presentations from featured guests including Dale Miller (Executive Director of the Lifesaving Society of BC and Yukon), Nicole Shallow, Rachelle Harron and BCSSA President Danny Schilds were popular. Coach Mackenzie Campbell (Chilliwack Stingrays) won a spot at next year's spring conference by being the top points scorer for answering trivia questions and getting codes from the seminars.

The full and detailed "Coaching Report" is available separately online at www.bcssummerswimming.com



**Coaches Representative
Ethan Phillips**

Cariboo Regional Director Deirdre McDonald

The Cariboo clubs each had successful winter maintenance seasons and the Regional board met regularly through the winter preparing for the 2022 season with hopes of a regular summer swimming season.

The Prince George Pisces began the competitive season with hosting a celebration for their 50th Anniversary with the BCSSA. Along with a swim meet the club hosted Canadian Olympic swimmer, Martha McCabe. Martha spoke at the banquet about her experiences growing up as a competitive swimmer.

The Nechako Valley Swim Club hosted our second meet of the season and their 1st ever swim meet after having joined the region 3 years ago, and with COVID, were unable to host one until this season.

The Quesnel Sealions hosted the third meet of the season and the Dawson Creek Seals will host the last meet before Regionals, which will be in Prince George.

The Regional Board will continue to support clubs as they prepare for winter maintenance sessions, and work towards the 2023 Summer season.

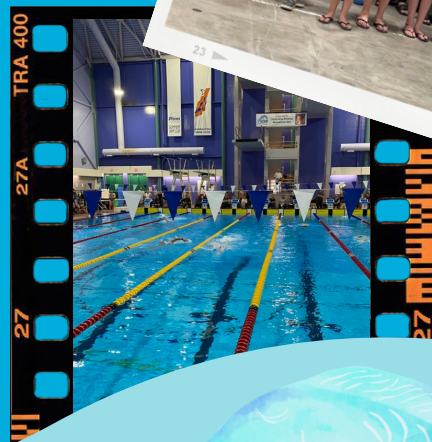
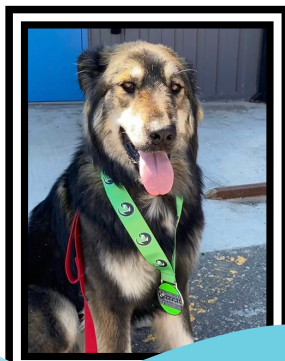
The Cariboo Region would like to thank Danny Schilds for all of his years as the BCSSA President and for the knowledge and history of summer swimming he has brought to our region.

I would like to thank the Cariboo Regional Board and the Provincial Board for their work over the past year.

I look forward to next year with another successful season of summer swimming.

Yours in swimming,

Deirdre McDonald



Kootenay Regional Director Dave Dunnet

The Kootenay Region had a rebuilding year in 2022. Many clubs have struggled with a turnover of swimmers and lack of experienced volunteers. However, as a region we have pulled together and helped each other out. It was touch and go for a while, but in the end every club held a swim meet and we have started building back capacity.

Enrolment in some clubs was down but overall numbers are still quite strong. The biggest change we have seen was attendance at swim meets. Most meets were about 30% smaller than usual years. It took a while for many new families to find the joy of swim meets during the season. Hopefully, next year more families will be able to travel to more away meets. Passports and vaccines still had an effect on the attendance at our one American meet and the ability for our American friends to attend meets in Canada.

Financially, our region has spent a little bit of our surplus and will have to think about raising our regional fees next year. The equipment in the trailer continues to age and we continue to work on a schedule for replacing and upgrading equipment. We did get a new PA system which was unveiled at Regionals.

Despite so many new faces, the collective knowledge base of our volunteers still managed to keep everything turning over. The number of officials we had was low to start but we have brought on some new parents and had other officials move up the ranks so that area looks promising as well.

Overall, for the first year back after 2 years off everything went surprisingly well. The Kootenays continues to be, not a collection of 7 clubs, but a regional family.

Vancouver & District Regional Director George Eng

Good to be back! It feels more like a BC Summer Swimming season!

Having said that, there are **shades of a "full reset"**. The 2020-2022 gap has disrupted the continuity of things: ie) summer swim culture, training (timers, officials, electronics, how to build and run a meet, etc.) We have certainly noticed a training and knowledge transfer gap. Especially with new families that have joined. Nonetheless, we are aware of this and happy that the region and all the clubs are stepping up to help each other and get things on track.

All five clubs (Squamish Pirates, North Shore Winter Club Marlins, North Vancouver Cruisers Aquatics, Vancouver Super Sharks and Vancouver Vikings) are collaborating together to have a regular season of swim meets and look forward to Regionals and Provincials!

Simon Fraser Regional Director Carl Trepanier

Dare I say we have returned to normal? Better not jinx it. Let's just say our clubs are either full or close to it with 1,100 registered athletes and coaches in the Region this summer. Each of our 5 clubs have run their annual swim meet plus we have had dive meets, water polo scrimmages and tournaments, and an artistic figures event. On one of our off weekends we had a hugely successful Relay Regatta where clubs got together on a Saturday morning and participated in the standard relays plus some 400 meter relays and a highly anticipated, hotly contested Kickboard relay.

Any worries we had about volunteers not stepping up or being unable to handle the work load were unfounded. Events ran the way they usually did – mostly smooth with brief periods of "Ummm, what's happening?" It was tonic for the soul seeing people in their tents and pop ups and camping chairs and in the bleachers and on the pool deck.

For the first time in over 10 years we had to bump our meet fees up as the extra cost of everything included pool bookings, awards, deck food etc etc. caught up to us. Overall that did not dampen enthusiasm for competition nor did it result in cutting corners.

So far, so good. Early indication is that Fall and Winter Maintenance numbers will be strong. Things are rolling. We hope the momentum continues.



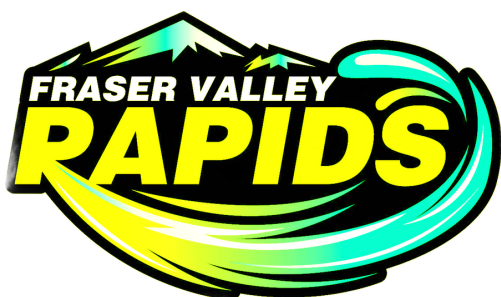
Okanagan Regional Director David Holland

The Okanagan Region has had its challenges with recruitment across all aspects of swimming this year from club executives to swimmers and officials.

Overall, our region's registration numbers are down approximately 11% from 2019. This has also correlated into lower attendance at our club swim meets by approximately 25%. Although our swim meet attendance is down, the silver lining is the host clubs had very high turnouts amongst their own swimmers which we hope will evolve into increased attendance across the region in future years. Merritt and Lumby were unable to host swim meets this year but we look forward to helping these two clubs get back on their feet in 2023. Our region continues to be blessed with a great group of coaches that push their swimmers to achieve their best results. These coaches have worked hard this year and without their dedicated efforts none of what we do could be possible.

Our Director of Officials did a fantastic job this year putting on numerous stroke and turn clinics, training new officials and promoting existing ones. Alongside the clubs she put out a strong recruitment campaign to bring on new officials to the team to fill our vacancies. She spent many a swim meet shadowing and training, working with the new officials to bring them up to speed, with these efforts our officiating future looks bright once again.

Thank you to all the parents in our region who continue to step up and help with club executives, regional executives and running successful swim meets. Your efforts have made for a successful season and I look forward to another great year in 2023.



Fraser Valley Regional Director Rachelle Harron

The Fraser Valley has enjoyed a great year coming back into full competitions!

Our region has eight clubs that have a long history of working well together to achieve each of our swim meets through the season.

There are many volunteer Officials who have returned and continued to support our meets even when their athletes are no longer competing.

We have been able to work to try to rebuild some water polo team numbers this season, however speed swimming is our dominant sport. We have lost many athletes and leaders for diving and artistic swimming over the pandemic. Rebuilding those sports' opportunities and interest for them is a challenge in the Region.

Last year work was completed for the **FV Rapids** to become a non-profit society, as a Region, in order to be able to own property and apply for grants etc.

Work was continued to achieve this transition and has been completed. We share a Regional Trailer with all the equipment needed for a Swim Meet to run. Several members have worked tirelessly through the recent pandemic to transition to a larger trailer, organize it and sell our smaller one. This has been achieved and we have been able to complete the process and pursue insuring all the equipment. Our region's grant application for a sporting event recovery grant was successful and we have also been able to get a Gaming License for a regional 50/50 draw.

Our swim meet attendance hasn't been as full each Meet as before the pandemic, however it's been consistent and all who have come have enjoyed competition and camaraderie!

Each club has worked hard this season to support each swim meet with Officials as we attempt to rebuild the number of trained volunteers that are active in the Region.

I appreciate each of the contributions and strengths our region's clubs bring to the table and have enjoyed working with everyone for the athletes in our region to enjoy training in their sport and developing their abilities and friendships!



**Vancouver Island Regional Director
Sheila Coogan**

What a difference a year makes!



Last year we were still, by and large, living in a world of virtual everything. Most of us were just getting to the stage where we could get together in person for small meets, and it was definitely something that we realized defines our Summer swimming. Those friendships, not just between swimmers, but parents too, are a vital part of BCSSA, and what makes it so great!

Most clubs were able to run a fairly “normal” Fall and Winter maintenance, but the Regional Board still kept meeting virtually. In fact, as great as it is to get together in person, the ease and convenience of virtual meetings, I think, means that they are going to be here to stay throughout the “off season”. As restrictions started to ease, we began planning for a regular summer season. All clubs who normally run meets were able to do so again, in spite of some challenges. The loss of two summer seasons meant that all clubs faced the challenge, like so many others across the Province, of lack of experienced volunteers. This meant lots of new faces in critical jobs at meets, and on deck as officials. Our Region did an amazing job of coming together to support one another, volunteering countless hours at each others’ meets, just to make sure that the swimmers got to have the best chance possible to do what they love – swim, race and connect with their friends.

Attendance was slightly down at many of our meets – the high cost of gas and accommodation meant that many families found themselves having to pick and choose which meets to attend. The Oak Bay Orcas and Saanich Peninsula Piranhas faced an additional challenge that came with hosting their meets at Saanich Commonwealth Place – the facility imposed a 300 swimmer cap on both meets (including Novice swimmers), and only one coach per team was allowed on the deck at a time, making it difficult for swimmers to connect with their coaches in the stands, and also making it difficult for the DDO to connect with the coaches! The Piranhas actually hosted a special Novice meet at Panorama Leisure Center in Sidney, in order to allow as many swimmers as possible to participate. We were very excited to welcome a record 8 teams from other regions at the Nanaimo White Rapids meet – it was fun to have other swimmers to compete against, and the extra help on deck from out-of-region officials was very greatly appreciated. And a couple of Penticton swimmers were able to attend the Saltspring Stingrays meet, our last club meet prior to Regionals. There have been some pretty awesome Parent relays at a couple of meets as well – perhaps next year we will see some Parent Artistic Swimming??

The focus now is on Regionals, then Provincials – something we have been eagerly awaiting for a long 3 years. The coaches in our Region have been working hard to create an inclusive atmosphere at every meet – we cheer for all swimmers, because we are all one Region. Look out Kamloops – here we come!

As always, it has been a great honor and privilege to represent this Region on the Provincial board, and to get to work alongside so many people who are dedicated to summer swimming and all it stands for.

Director of Water Polo Samantha Furneaux



This was the first summer the new rules that went into effect on August 31st, 2021 separating the high-performance players that will now be referred to as O-Cat and the summer players. This rule was put in in hopes of creating an opportunity for the growth of developing players and the continuation of O-Cat players, as well as room for clubs to encourage players to join and try water polo. Another change that came to water polo was not a rule change but was implemented to continue the growth of water polo in BCSSA was beach water polo rules. This means smaller playing fields, nets and fewer players in the water. This is in hopes that with having to field fewer players on a team we will be able to keep kids in the sport longer and clubs with fewer players will still be able to participate in games and tournaments. We will also continue to work on the skill sets that are required in 6-on-6 water polo. 6-on-6 water polo is still encouraged for when clubs have the numbers.

Following provincials, we will continue to look at and examine how these new rules have affected water polo this summer and how we can better adjust to make water polo stronger.

Crescent Beach and Coquitlam Sharks were able to host tournaments this summer. North Delta Sunfish continued to grow their sport through outreach to other clubs within their region. Many clubs were able to host scrimmages within their region as well as outside their region. Additionally, we saw the growth of water polo in the Fraser South with Cloverdale Tritons and WRASA adding water polo to their summer clubs.

Water polo continues to be the second largest discipline in BCSSA

Fraser South	184
Fraser Valley	24
Simon Fraser	89
Vancouver District	38
Vancouver Island	25
TOTAL	370



Fraser South Regional Director (Interim) Jane Rashed

The Fraser South Region was anxious to get back to competition this summer but faced struggles with membership and resource expertise over the past couple of years that it was evident the Region needed to pull together this summer.



Our membership was revived through the hard work of many families and board members who found ways of reaching out to their respective communities to spread the word of BCSSA. With the loss of resource expertise in many critical areas of running a competition, the moto of "We are ONE and let's COLLABORATE" was used for all swim meets. Each Club supported each other's swim meets where officials were doing multiple or all-day shifts and it was fabulous to see alumni return to help share and transfer their expertise. Many parents also stepped up doing multiple volunteer shifts including shadowing officials, electronics and office experts. The swim meets all ran successfully and illustrated the great strength and heart of each FS Club.

Another success for the Region is related to Artistic Swimming where a judge training clinic was held. It continues to be a challenge to find judges for our competitions, so having this clinic was valuable to the season as this was also the first time one was held.

Another noticeable success for the Region is the tremendous growth in water polo through the addition of 2 teams from Cloverdale and WRASA this season. Sunfish continues to provide water polo to the 3 Delta swim clubs and will continue to support WRASA's water polo program during the Fall/Winter maintenance sessions. Many new partnerships and collaborations were made in the Region amongst each other and with 2 high performance clubs. This is the first year in a long time that the FS Regional Water Polo will consist of several age categories (U12, U14, U16 and U18 - including S and O players) with representation from several Clubs.

Together with all the Club Presidents, we are very proud of the growth and resilience our Clubs have shown throughout the year and most noticeably this summer.



Thank you to **Danny Schilds**, for
your many roles with BCSSA
over the years!



Thank!
You!