

Coaches/Partners Meeting – May 14th

Participants: Noelle, Alanna, Larry, Patty, Ming, Claude, Scott C, Greg, Janice, Wayne, Oyinko, Reed, Gee-ef

1. Update from Claude and U of M:

- Update from Vice-Provost:
 - Remote Learning Plan announced for the Fall Term. This could very well have an impact on Cross-Country.
 - Kurt Warkentin was asking for updates and will follow-up with Canada West.
- Budget:
 - Active Living Fee-Bison Sports gets a large portion of this
 - They are not charging it in the Summer & they will likely not do the same for the Fall term. This may strongly impact Bison Sports and the Competition season.
- Phased re-opening of the facilities:
 - University is working on their Policies. Gene is going to work with sports so that training can resume. We will need to coordinate with them.
 - Additional layoffs (facility managers) are going to affect the process.

2. Insurance updates

- Questions:
 - What do we say to a parent group of volunteers about the insurance? Members are not covered, but do parent members need their own waiver?
 - We are trying to keep the parents, volunteers, and officials in the same umbrella. The return to sport document would have a waiver that
 - No one is saying that a club or a group MUST start training again. We are just trying to keep a policy together that covers us if people do.
 - Parent executive-may have to be involved in the process of deciding whether the club is returning to sport.

This next section is taken from an email explanation I provided after the meeting, which I think explains things better than I managed to do on the call.

Commercial General Liability

The main areas of coverage under this policy.

- Commercial General Liability
- Directors & Officers (Wrongful Acts/Errors & Omissions) Liability
 - *This is an important area of coverage as most Directors and Officers are volunteers. This section covers their "financial exposure" for the decisions they make.*
- Legal Defense Coverage

Sport Accident Policy

- This policy combines both the **Accident** Insurance and the **Accidental Death and Dismemberment** Insurance programs into one, with the premium being lower than if the two were applied for separately.
- IT INCLUDES OUT OF PROVINCE ACCIDENT COVERAGE AS WELL AS TRAVEL ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS COVERAGE FOR OUT OF COUNTRY (WORLDWIDE).
- Expenses covered include: chiropractor, physiotherapist, athletic therapist, massage therapist and osteopath services; crutches, splints, orthotic devices, trusses, medical braces (for every day wear/rehabilitation purposes); rental of wheelchair or hospital bed; prescription drugs; cast and cast materials; licensed ambulance service and hospital services (for which benefits are not provided by any Federal or Provincial Government Hospital Insurance Plan); eyeglass and contact lens expense (resulting from injury); and dental accident reimbursement.

- The rates within the Sport Accident Policy for all therapy will be \$50.00 per visit with a maximum of \$2,000.00 per accident over a 52 week period from date of the accident. This includes physiotherapy, athletic therapy, chiropractor, massage therapy and osteopath.
- This policy is the **SECOND PAYER** to any other coverage available to the individual (employee benefits plan, etc.).

Property Policy

- Property owned by your association may be insured against physical damage and theft if the property is listed in a schedule and provided to Sport Manitoba.

At the moment, (and as discussed at previous meetings) Athletics MB has SUSPENDED our Sport Accident Policy in order to save some money because our sport is currently INACTIVE. This coverage will be re-instated BEFORE we resume any officially sanctioned activities. Any training that athletes or coaches are conducting right now, they are doing without this coverage. This was discussed at length with the Board, communicated to all members and coaches, via email and is noted on our website.

The Virtual Training restrictions, specifically relates to the General Liability Coverage. We are permitted to conduct "Online Training" and it IS covered under our General Commercial Liability Coverage as long as we follow their list of restrictions.

The Contagion Exclusion, unfortunately means there is NO coverage for any claim, caused by, arising out of, or resulting from any disease or contagion. So that would include any claim under the General Commercial Liability coverage or the Sport Accident Policy (which would be in place prior to the resumption of training). This is not unique to MB, our partners across the country are all dealing with the exact same exclusion (and many are on the same or similar policy that we are).

There would be no SECOND PAYER medical coverage through this policy, if someone were to get sick. And there would be no Liability coverage for Athletics MB or it's members for any claim made against us/them related to the acquisition of a contagious disease.

This is precisely why we need to develop appropriate guidelines for our return to sport and make sure that our members who wish to return to training sign a waiver acknowledging the risk. We (as a community) can only enforce so much. We will set up a process to protect all members, and we will do so to the best of our abilities. But at the end of the day, there is an inherent risk associated with participation in sport and we are not in a position to guarantee anything.

UPDATE FROM ATHLETICS CANADA – JOINT PROVINCIAL CALL ON FRIDAY at 11AM.

** Athletics Canada acknowledges the complexity and seriousness of the insurance issues at hand. They do not want board or individual members to be personally liable! They have drafted a waiver that is being reviewed by legal now. They will also establish a Task Force to assist with the development of the National Return to Sport guidelines. Will include P/T staff. Both Ontario and QC need these resources as soon as possible due to current Government re-opening dates and membership demands.

Noted that if facilities, clubs or other groups don't feel they can meet the requirements, or they can't get waivers completed then they should NOT resume activities.

Return to Sport Plan DRAFT REVIEW:

- Notes from looking at this:
 - “5km Radius”- This is not realistic for MB and our circumstances. Adjust.
 - “Limit of Athletes to minimum 13 years of Age”
 - WOA JD starts at 9 years old & Greg, coach of JD was thinking of having smaller groups of athletes with more training times.
 - In other words, remove the age limit but break the number of athletes younger than 13 years old into smaller than normal training groups.
 - Lanes:
 - 1-3-5-7, 2-4-6-8
 - No hanging out in groups before practice or at the finish line
 - An issue was brought up about clubs carrying over into Special O’s exclusive use time
 - Claude brought up how the track will need to be policed better and figure out how to manage the facility without a facility manager. He also speaks about how our exclusive use calendar will look different this year too.
 - **Ideas:**
 - Summer Staff working shifts to police the Outdoor Track
 - Creating a slot of training: use the morning, afternoon, and evening. (It was brought up that throwers were using the facility in the summer during the day last year).
 - One issue is that some coaches have day-jobs outside of teaching and it would be hard to make it to a day-time practice. If athletes showed up to a practice without a coach, how can we guarantee that they will follow physically distancing measures?
 - LRSD re-opened their playgrounds, including Victor Mager Schools track. Distance runners could use this as their training facility.
 - How can we regulate External Users who are not part of the Athletics MB Community?
 - Volunteers/Parents/Summer Students to patrol (Wearing safety vests to look official).

Summer 2021 Tentative schedule

- April 2021, same as normal.
- May 2021:
 - 14-15th AM Spring Open
 - Right now special O is looking at the competition calendar for Outdoor 2021. With them hosting the Special O MB Summer Games, there are rumours that they may not be hosting their May Kinsmen Games.
- June 2021:
 - High School Provincials are now in Winnipeg instead of Brandon again.
 - Special O is hosting their MB Summer Games on June 11-13th
 - The Manitoba Marathon is the 20th and it is ALSO the weekend before Nationals (which many of our athletes will be competing at).
- July 23-24th, 2021: Age Class Provincials
- **Discussion:** Hosting CSG trials after MHSAA would likely be the best weekend, it will have to be hosted at Selkirk. This would be June 11-13th, 2020. AM will follow-up with the team in Selkirk to see if the track is available.
 - **Question:** If the track is available and we host in Selkirk, we will need to consider additional high jump mats and equipment. Will be need to host trials in different parts? (I.e Multi-Events?)
- We will also need to factor in when we can host the small twilight meets

AGM reminders

- June 16th, Online through Zoom

- Alanna is sorting out the online voting process. There will be 1 voting delegate from each club and this will have to be decided prior to the AGM.
- Send new business and names to be put forward should be sent to Alanna asap.

Questions, other topics?

- Keeping athletes involved:
 - Online training-is there a way that Clubs work with coaches to maintain athletes' participation and training. We are already losing athletes in one group
 - Virtual Competition to maintain engagement in the community and to keep people involved.
 - Athletics MB has limitations in what we can do. It has to be organized and there has to be registration
 - Attendance continues to drop in both training as well as schools. Online meetings are becoming an overload for athletes and this is totally causing a disconnect between athletes.
 - What kind of different engaging online formats can be offered and utilized?
 - Virtual Competitions
 - Competitive Pieces
 - A place to vent for athletes
 - Some Bison Teams are having weekly conversations with pro athletes and coaches. Perhaps this is something we could look into for our athletes.
 - Manitoba Distance Project- Running their own distance projects