



# CLITHEROE DOLPHINS A.S.C

Dear Members,

As you will be aware from our social media updates over the last few days the club has been working closely with Swim England, Ribble Valley Borough Council, and Stonyhurst college to monitor and react to the ongoing Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

From the outset the club has tried to balance Government advice and the need to act responsibly with the desire of our members to continue swimming. With this goal in mind we have tried to retain a normality to our swimming programme for as long as possible and have explored every option available to us.

Immediately after my update at 5pm today (March 17th) we were informed by Swim England that they were changing the advice given to clubs earlier that day. After considering the Government advice in depth, it has been deemed that running club activities now constitutes a 'public gathering' and as a result this is not in line with Government advice on containing Coronavirus.

Given this new advice the Club has made the decision to suspend all training activities with immediate effect. We will review this on a regular basis and as the situation changes but sadly we are expecting this suspension in activities to last for a significant period.

The club committee are working hard to mitigate the disruption and will be issuing regular updates to our members over the coming days, weeks and possibly months. As a volunteer run club I am appealing for your patience and understanding during this time to allow us to process the implications and consider the best course of action to allow the club to survive and continue to grow. In order to achieve this, we are asking our members not to cancel their standing orders for fees immediately.

As a not-for-profit volunteer led organisation, we are committed to minimising costs and providing value to our members. Given the rapidly changing nature of the current situation we are currently working through our costs, commitments and obligations to minimise the financial impact of this closure on the club and we will be issuing out further guidance in the coming days. You have my commitment that the club will not profit from this situation and we will mitigate where possible running costs, passing any savings and benefits back to our members. We appreciate this is a difficult and uncertain time for everyone so we will conclude this review as a priority and feedback to you all as soon as possible.

Finally, I would ask our members to follow us through our various social media outlets to keep abreast of the current situation. We will be sending out important updates through our mailing list and website, but we will have training tips, videos, updates and a lot more being sent out through our social media outlets. You can follow us on Twitter and Facebook (both @DolphinsCDASC), Instagram (clitheroedolphins) or join our facebook members group ([https://www.facebook.com/groups/221175964575497/?ref=group\\_header](https://www.facebook.com/groups/221175964575497/?ref=group_header)).

If any member has concerns or comments as a result of this announcement, then please address them to me via [cdascchairman@gmail.com](mailto:cdascchairman@gmail.com).

We appreciate this is a worrying time for all at the club and wider community so we are appreciative of your support and understanding at this time.

Kind regards,  
Lee Scanlan  
Chair  
Clitheroe Dolphins ASC