

St. Vincent's WPC Club Update

8th April 2020

To all players, parents and supporters

Strange times and regrettably the waterpolo season has been truncated by Covid-19 and finishes like a "damp squib"! Interestingly, this phrase does not refer to the fish like image below but rather comes from the damp bombs in world war II.



In terms of the main points keep you up-to-date, they are:

1. As per SI guidelines, the plan is for the outstanding 2019/20 national competitions to be held between September and mid-November. The schedule for the cups are as follows:
 - a. Senior Cups 22/23/24 October 2020 Bangor
 - b. Under 19 Cups TBA November 2020 UL
 - c. Under 15 Cups 02/03/04 October 2020 Galway
 - d. Under 13 Development Cup 26/27 September 2020 NAC
 - e. Under 13 Single Gender Cups 07/08 November 2020 NAC

There will be found-robin and play-off matches starting September for the U16 boys and men's national league while our Div 2 men's team will have a play-off match against Drogheda for the NLD2. North Dublin are already winners of NLD3. For the U16 girls league, it will be similar to the boys while the senior women's team will have a play-off with Clontarf for the league. Tribes are already the winners for WNLD2.

2. We do plan to start training again at start of September and will look at options to organise some pre-season trainings in August depending on the restrictions and pool availability. In the meantime, all our encouraged to do whatever works to stay in shape.
3. In relation to membership fees affected by the season finishing early, the committee have agreed that there will be a credit given which will be applied to membership fees for the 20/21 season. This will be applicable to any member that has paid their 19/20 season fees in full.

The credit will be calculated based on the impact of the items below and will be communicated in due course and applied to 2020/21 season fees:

- a. Reduced NAC fees as a result of the early finish to club training.
- b. Reduced match fees based on Swim Ireland's revised fixture schedule. However, some costs from the 2019/20 season will be brought into the following season (U13, U15, Senior Cup and some 19/20 league games).

- c. Fundraising events due to take place in April & May have been postponed.
4. As regards Leinster competitions, a new committee for Leinster Waterpolo was elected in late January and Joan Hynes and Mick Kelly joined this as Treasurer and representative to NWPAs respectively. They are looking at the rules and formats for the new season and the plan is to start in September in line with national season.
5. We will organise a meeting during the summer for all interested volunteers to do coaching and helping roles at sessions and suggest anyone interested lets me or Joan know so that we send them an invite once we have a date and venue for this as not likely to happen before end of June.
6. On a related point, I would like to thank all coaches, team managers, parents on duty and other volunteers in the club for their work over the past 6 months and look forward to seeing you all again next season.

On a general note, we are going through an emergency period where everything is different, strange and unprecedented even for the older club members but hopefully you will all manage to get through this period and our thoughts of appreciation go to all frontline workers in health and other areas who are active in making sure we get through this period safely and in good health.

For those of you with young children at home, here are two waterpolo links to give them to look at during "screen" time!

<https://ramonaaquatics.net/a-compiled-history-of-water-polo/>

<http://www.fina.org/content/origins-2>

Yours in hope of sport again!