

Key Notes from Return to Train Meeting, April 27, 2020

1. **Welcome:**

Anne Merklinger welcomed all to the meeting and reviewed some logistical information.

- a. Thanked everyone for participating. Meeting invitation was extended to NSO CEOs, HPDs, COPSI Network Presidents and Performance Directors, CMOs, COC, CPC and Sport Canada.
- b. While many regions in Canada are still in a tough place with COVID-19 there are several regions of our country wherein restrictions have been relaxed. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the process by which Canadian sport organizations can return to train.
- c. Tom Hall, National Manager for Game Plan will provide an update as well.

Anne turned it over to Dr. Andy van Neutegem, OTP's Director of Performance Sciences, Research and Innovation.

2. Andy highlighted the fact that Return to Training Protocol is a blend of technical and medical considerations embedded in the KEY MESSAGES delivered in this Town Hall.

Andy introduced Dr. Mike Wilkinson, COC CMO, and Dr. Andy Marshall, CPC CMO.

KEY MESSAGES FOR RETURN TO TRAINING:

- I. Priority remains to protect the health and safety of athletes, coaches and practitioners. Return to train must be done with this principle in mind. Must respect the public health authority guidelines in each province. In most cases, this will mean adapted training environments and schedules.**
- II. NSOs need to provide leadership in ensuring that their constituents align with the identified protocols. NSOs need to take ownership of their decisions but seek out assistance from CMOs to ensure a high level of accuracy in developing return to training protocols.**

3. **RETURN TO TRAINING ASSESSMENT TOOL**

Mike Wilkinson and Andy Marshall provided overview of the Return to Training Assessment Tool

- Modified from WHO Mass Gathering Assessment Tool
- Consists of 2 sections: Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies (59 questions)
- Provides an assessment statement at the end of the questions to determine level of risk – each user will receive email of results and a simultaneous email with your risk assessment score

KEY MESSAGES FOR RETURN TO TRAINING ASSESSMENT TOOL:

- III. COC and CPC CMOs and the four CSI CMOs are available to provide guidance and support to NSOs.**
- IV. The tool guides the decision making process and is not a legally binding tool, nor to be used in funding decisions.**

- V. Risk assessment tool is a draft only at this time. It will be finalized and released by Friday of this week. There may be a chance of the French version being released on Monday, May 4th, subject to our translation services meeting the agreed deadlines.
- VI. It will be translated and distributed to all NSOs and MSOs. Protocols identified in the risk assessment tool should be implemented across the country at all levels. CASEM will receive the tool for other CMOs to be made aware of the Tool. CATA and Sport Physiotherapy Canada will receive the tool as well.
- VII. There will be a definitive roll out over the next month (May) that will identify the athlete/teams to return to train in priority order for both Summer and Winter sports.
- VIII. NSOs will determine roll out strategy for the rest of their athlete pool following the agreed upon protocols.
- IX. OTP will work closely with NSOs, COPSIN, and national sport partners to identify priority athletes and teams, and the specific training facilities required to initiate return to training.
- X. There may be an increased cost for NSOs to implement “return to train” in accordance with the established protocols. OTP will work with all winter, summer Olympic and Paralympic sports to identify the financial impact of this approach. Once this cost is identified, we will work with the national funding partners to explore funding solutions.

Anne introduced Tom Hall

- Update on Game Plan was provided.

Questions and Answers

- Various questions raised in the chat were answered.

Next Steps:

1. Electronic copy of Return to Training Assessment Tool will be distributed on May 1st.
2. CMOs are available to provide guidance and support re medical concerns.
3. OTP HPAs will be reaching out to Olympic and Paralympic sports to provide additional guidance and support.
4. National partners, COC, CPC, OTP and Sport Canada will be collaborating to ensure we are as aligned as possible going forward and to examine any funding implications.
5. Task Group led by OTP will be comprised of COC, CPC, Sport Canada, Olympic and Paralympic HPDs from winter and summer NSOs, COPSIN, CMOs, CAC, CPC and COC Athletes Commission and others as required. Key responsibilities for the Task Group will be to:
 - a) Address technical guidelines related to facility choice and access requirements
 - b) Provide guidelines regarding athlete prioritization and roll-out of return to training for other athletes
 - c) Identify strategies and processes to disseminate return to play protocol to provincial partners

Audio File of Meeting and Chat History are attached.