

Statement on COVID-19 and Ontario Championships

March 13, 2020

Please understand this is a challenging time for all of us in the Ontario Volleyball family. As the COVID-19 situation continues to unfold the OVA would like to emphasize that all of the decisions that the OVA is undertaking are based on the health and safety of all concerned. The OVA does not want to put anyone in a position of unadvised risk. That said, in the best interest of public health, it has been decided to postpone the 2020 Ontario Championships which were to be held on April 16 – 21 at the Enercare Centre in Toronto.

Ontario Volleyball is investigating the option of re-scheduling the 2020 Ontario Championships to May 7 – 12, 2020 at the same venue and with the same hotel arrangements. As a result, the deadline for submitting hotel rooming lists, which is currently Monday, March 16, would be extended with more information to follow. At this time, there is no need to cancel hotel reservations. Instructions will follow.

Although this time frame is not ideal with the National Championships the following weekend, the OVA is still committed to offering the best experience possible for our athletes. This time slot was identified because of the availability of the venue. The details still need to be worked through with the stakeholders.

Although this is a possibility, holding the Championships in May would be by no means be guaranteed given the ever and rapidly changing COVID-19 situation. The OCs are an important milestone and a hallmark for our organization. The significance of an athlete's experience at the OC is not lost on Ontario Volleyball and we will do what we can to deliver this opportunity as long as the appropriate authorities say it is safe to do so.

The OVA recognizes with gratitude the effort that the clubs, staff, volunteers and referees have been making in preparing for these championships.

The OVA will continue to keep you updated with the latest developments. In the meantime, everybody can do their part to reduce the spread of the virus, including:

- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water
- Cover your mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow
- If you have flu-like symptoms, inform the people around you and be considerate to yourself and those around you
- Avoid unnecessary travel

Thank you for your patience in these unprecedented times. We would like to reiterate that safety is our first priority, but we are nevertheless hopeful that we will still be able to offer an event to which we can all look forward.

On behalf of The Ontario Volleyball Association,

Jo-Anne Ljubicic



Executive Director

Blair Mackintosh



President