

AUGUST 30 2025

WELCOME BACK



NEWSLETTER

***Dream It
Train It
Live It***



IN THIS EDITION:

- Pool updates
- Coaches, Schedules & Events
- Town Hall Meeting
- Season Kick-Off
- Governance
- Looking Ahead



IMPORTANT DATES

• FOR SEPTEMBER:

- September 3rd - Town Hall Meeting
- September 11th - Welcome Back BBQ
- September 13th - First Bottle Drive
- September 15th & 16th - First Day in the Pool
- September 30th - New Parents Meeting (Airdrie)
- October 2nd - New Parents Meeting (Calgary)
- October 13th - No Workout (Thanksgiving)
- October 19th - AGM
- October 31-Nov 2 - NCSA Hosted Meet

Read More on our website

www.ncsaswim.ca

Pool Updates

Negotiations with Vivo over the summer have been very positive, and we are pleased to share that NCSA has been granted additional pool time, decreasing our need to use the Thornhill Pool with the older age groups. The installation of new diving blocks is also progressing well, and we anticipate they will be in place during the Fall season. In addition, Vivo has committed to providing on-deck dryland training space, storage for NCSA equipment, and displaying our Club banners in their facility.

Genesis Place in Airdrie has delayed the reopening of its lane pool due to ongoing construction. While the original timeline indicated an October 1st reopening, we have now been informed that **the pool will remain closed until at least October 13th**, and possibly longer.

To minimize the impact on our swimmers, we will be implementing a temporary schedule for the first few weeks of our season (with some degree of flexibility built in). Our Coaching Team is carefully reviewing schedules to ensure every NCSA swimmer is in the pool and getting their full pool time while Genesis Place remains closed. This may result in:

- Increased morning workouts during the temporary pool closure
- Higher swimmer-to-lane ratios for a short period
- Alternative training times outside of the regular season schedule, with some limited options for “make up days” to accommodate those with other commitments where possible.

We recognize these changes may cause some inconvenience, and we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate these challenges. With renovations at MNP and growing demand for pool space across Calgary, securing training time has been particularly difficult this season. Our priority remains ensuring that all swimmers are able to begin the season together with as much consistency as possible.

Coaches, Schedules & Events

The changes to our Administrative Leadership over the summer have required some adjustments to our coaching assignments. We will be announcing the full coaching line-up at our **Town Hall Meeting on September 3rd**. We're excited to share that you'll see some unexpected returning faces as well as talented new additions to the NCSA team! **Coaches Ali Can and Chad Thompson** will also present an overview of this season's coaching structure, including the lead and assistant coaches for each squad, and how we are supporting the mentorship and development of every coach and athlete. We will also share updates regarding our new Team Manager, and the coverage for our Head Coach position.

We are in the final stages of confirming the regular season schedule. Once finalized, we will post it on the website and email it to all members, along with the temporary "start-up" schedule so families can plan ahead. Our *Important Dates for 2025/26* are also being updated. Confirmed dates have already been posted on the website, and additional details will be added over the next two weeks as planning is finalized. Due to the many changes this summer, we have decided to delay the launch of the *Waves Program*. Instead, we will look to introduce leadership and team-building workshops later in the season.

The Hosted Meet Schedule is being finalized, and the full season's meet schedule will be posted soon. We will continue with the previously announced Fundraising and Social Events, with a few date adjustments. Please note that our **first Mandatory Bottle Drive is on September 13th** details to be sent out later this week, get ready for fun, team building and some great BBQ for all our volunteers!

Recognizing this may present a challenge for some families, we will also be offering a paired down alternate option in Calgary on January 3rd for those unable to attend the October event.



Town Hall Meeting

We invite all members to attend an NCSA Town Hall Meeting:



Date: September 3rd



Time: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.



**Location: The Collaboratory Meeting Room (East Entrance)
Vivo Recreation Centre - 11950 Country Village Link, NE Calgary.**

This meeting will also be available virtually via Google Meets.

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/wuf-wjmn-upw>

Or dial: (CA) +1 226-214-5438 PIN: 747 364 146#

**More phone numbers: [https://tel.meet/wuf-wjmn-upw?](https://tel.meet/wuf-wjmn-upw?pin=3741923747743)
[pin=3741923747743](https://tel.meet/wuf-wjmn-upw?pin=3741923747743)**

We have received a request from a group of members to hold this Town Hall meeting, and will be responding to the concerns brought forward in their request. This will also be an opportunity for the Board and Coaches to provide additional updates, answer member questions, and discuss the path forward together.

If you have general questions that may pertain to all members, please forward your questions **before 12pm on September 2nd to**
ncaa.sec@ncsaswim.ca

We will do our best to respond to as many questions as possible during the meeting, and follow up with individual members if there are more personal/specific questions following the Town Hall.



Season Kick-Off

We hope all parents and swimmers will be able to join us for our annual **Welcome Back BBQ:**



Date: September 11th (Thursday)



Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.



**Location: The Town & Country Centre - 275 Jensen Drive NE,
Airdrie.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - please email office@ncsaswim.ca if you are able to help out during the BBQ!

This annual tradition is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends, meet your new squad mates and coaches, and find out important details about our season start up.

This year, we are excited to host an **Open House** during the BBQ for parents to learn more about our committees, explore volunteer opportunities, and sign up to get involved. With the significant changes over the summer, some of the committees listed in the Registration Package will be revised, and a few programs and events will be placed on hold while the club restructures. We will be looking for parents interested in taking on leadership roles (some of which may include credits toward your Swim Account) as well as those who would like to help shape the future structure of our committees and events as we move forward. If you are interested in a leadership position, please email office@ncsaswim.ca.

Team Gear orders and T-shirts will be handed out during the BBQ. The deadline to complete the t-shirt and cap order included in our registration fee was August 29th. We only received 80 orders, so will be re-sending this form to anyone that has not completed it, and a second order will be placed for delivery in early October. All other gear can now be ordered and delivered directly to your home through our Team Store at

<https://www.lysports.com/team/ncsa/>

Detailed instructions and links for all Team Gear will be posted on our NCSA website this week.

Strengthening Our Governance

The Board of Directors has engaged **Greg Gilhooly through Sport Law** to support NCSA in strengthening our governance and administrative structures. Sport Law is a national organization dedicated to helping non-profit sport organizations like ours build strong leadership, effective policies, and sustainable practices.

Over the next several months, Greg will be assisting the Board with:

- Restructuring our Governance and Administration to better reflect the size and needs of our Membership
- Reviewing and updating bylaws and policies
- Developing employment contracts and HR processes
- Supporting in best practices through the AGM and onboarding the 2025/26 Board of Directors, including training for all Board Members.

We believe these steps are vital to ensuring that NCSA remains strong, transparent, and well-equipped to serve our athletes and families for years to come.

Financial Audit

This season, the Board initiated the process of engaging a Chartered Professional Accountant to complete NCSA's year-end Financial Audit. In recent years, the audit has been carried out by volunteers from within our membership; however, it has been some time since we engaged a CPA for this purpose. Best practices recommend that non-profit organizations work with a CPA every 3–5 years to ensure strong financial management and efficiency. The additional professional audit will be completed and shared with membership by December 31st 2025.

With upcoming changes to our Administration, we will also be seeking recommendations from the CPA regarding reporting documentation, as well as the frequency and timelines for communication between Administration and the Board. This will support stronger communication, accountability, and collaboration on financial decisions as we move forward.



Strengthening Our Governance *continued...*

Board Update

Due to the recent Board resignations, and to meet the minimum requirements to hold our upcoming Annual General Meeting in October, the Board is required to appoint an interim Board Member. We are pleased to announce that Lance Giesbrecht has accepted a Director position and will join us until the AGM. Lance will join us at the Town Hall meeting to introduce himself.

Looking Ahead

The start of a new season is always an exciting time. Despite the challenges we have faced recently, we remain committed to providing a safe, supportive, and challenging environment for all swimmers to thrive. We look forward to working together with you — our families, athletes, and volunteers — along with our incredible Coaching Team, to make this year a success.

Sincerely,

Your NCSA Board of Directors:

Alastair Bratton - VP/Acting President
vp@ncsaswim.ca

Jennifer Miller - Treasurer
ncsa.treasurer@ncsaswim.ca

Jennie Thompson - Secretary
ncsa.sec@ncsaswim.ca

Shawn Roberts - Director of Competition and Events
hospitality@ncsaswim.ca

Becca Ernst - Director of Fundraising, Social Media & Marketing
ncsa.fundraising@ncsaswim.ca