

Dear MTU Members, Club owners, Tournament Hosts and Families

By now everyone is aware of the health concerns of the COVID 19 virus and the effects on communities of all sizes, schools, businesses and events across the region and around the world. The MTU has been kept abreast of the responses from governments and various agencies and has received numerous recommendations from the Province and Sport Nova Scotia about how to protect our members and families and to slow or prevent the spread of the virus. These recommendations have been public knowledge for some time and include proper hand washing, controlling the size of gatherings and taking responsibility for self isolation if that is warranted.

**To all MTU Affiliate School owners:**

Today we received the following from Sport Nova Scotia

From: Sport Nova Scotia <[communications@sportnovascotia.ca](mailto:communications@sportnovascotia.ca)>

Date: March 15, 2020

Subject: Provincial Sport Organization Update: COVID-19

Dear provincial sport organizations,

Following the most recent information provided by the Province of Nova Scotia regarding COVID-19, it is our strong recommendation that provincial sport organizations cancel all sports activities that were planned for March Break and the following two weeks after the break. Sport Nova Scotia staff are now required to work from home if they have the ability to do so, and we recommend that our provincial sport organization staff members do the same.

Please see the message (below) that went to all SNS staff and take note that Ceilidh & Casino and the education session that was scheduled for this week are now cancelled. For the most up-to-date information about COVID-19, please keep an eye on the [Province of Nova Scotia website](#) .

We will continue to monitor the situation, and keep you informed as we receive updates.

Take care,  
Jamie Ferguson  
CEO Sport Nova Scotia

As a result of this message, along with the revealing that there are now three cases of COVID 19 in Nova Scotia and from information coming from around the world, the MTU is making the following recommendation:

*It is strongly suggested that all Taekwondo clubs in Nova Scotia either cancel or severely limit the size of classes for the foreseeable future. We acknowledge that this is a difficult business and personal decision to make but the health and safety of students, athletes and families must be our first priority.*

**To all Tournament Hosts**

The Spring schedule of tournaments and events within the Taekwondo community is a busy one and includes gatherings that have typically numbered far more than 100 people. These are exactly the situations that can foster the rapid spread of the virus and have been strongly discouraged by both the Province and SNS.

Given the rapidly changing situation around the virus, the MTU is strongly recommending that all provincially sanctioned tournaments and events scheduled between now and June 1 be postponed for a minimum of 30 days or cancelled. As these events are private business activities the MTU does not have the authority to cancel the event outright, we will rely on the discretion of the host to make that decision. It is understood that the organization of a tournament involves considerable investment by the Host and that the cancellation of an event comes with significant cost. To date we have been notified of two such postponements - Inner Strength and IMAC have both announced that the dates for their tournaments will be rescheduled.

That said, Tournament hosts should be aware that as world, national and provincial responses to the virus unfold, and in response to the almost inevitable spread of infection across NS and the region, the Board will carefully weigh whether sanctions will remain in effect for tournaments and events that are NOT rescheduled. This will not necessarily result in the withdrawal of a sanction but the primary concern in this environment is for the health and safety of our members and the MTU will act on those interests first and foremost.

The success of tournaments across the province are of utmost importance to the growth and promotion of Taekwondo and the preparation of our athletes in Nova Scotia. The MTU will do whatever is possible to make rescheduled tournaments and events as successful as possible once the threat of the virus has passed.

**To all Taekwondo practitioners and their families.**

The highest priority of the MTU has been for the safety and success of our members. To that end, we encourage everyone to exercise caution, follow the direction of governments and those experts you trust. As best you can support each other, your community and your club and when this situation passes, return to class with renewed enthusiasm and energy and do what you can to help Taekwondo flourish in our province.

As always I am available to all members to answer questions and discuss options and opportunities.

Be safe and take care

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