



May 1, 2015

To: All Provincial Swim Organizations & Swim Clubs

From: Ahmed El-Awadi

Subject: 2016 Swim-a-thon



In an effort to ensure clubs have time to budget and plan for next season's Swim-a-thon, we are pleased to provide you with the key points for the 2016 Swim-a-thon campaign.

As we strive to continue to offer this great fundraising program for our clubs, *and* meet our legal obligations as a Registered Canadian Amateur Athletic Association (RCAAA) with the Canada Revenue Agency, please note the following key points for 2016 Swim-a-thon:

Club Participation in Swim-a-thon Program:

In order to host a Swim-a-thon, swim clubs and their swimmers must be registered members of Swimming Canada and their affiliated Provincial Section and comply with all Swimming Canada Rules and Procedures governing Swim-a-thon. Swim clubs must register and participate through Swimming Canada's official online Swim-a-thon system platform only. Swim-a-thon is a registered trademark of Swimming Canada.

No tax receipts for parents/legal guardians of Swimmers or Participant/Swimmer:

As in 2015, no parent/legal guardian (or a parent-owned company) of a swimmer (Swimming Canada member), or swimmer will be eligible to receive a tax receipt for a Swim-a-thon donation under any circumstance.

Clubs with mandatory Swim-a-thon assessments:

As in 2015, any club with a mandatory swim-a-thon assessment or a mandatory fundraising assessment which includes Swim-a-thon may participate in Swim-a-thon, however no donors to the club's Swim-a-thon will be eligible for charitable tax receipts. We are working with Raising Spirit to modify the online Swim-a-thon donation sites for these clubs so that potential donors are made aware of any circumstances in which a tax receipt will not be issued *before* they donate.



We strongly encourage clubs to eliminate mandatory swim-a-thon assessments from their fee structure. Instead, provide incentives for your members to participate or have a fundraising assessment which cannot include swim-a-thon.

Club Grants:

Same as in 2015, clubs will receive a grant for 90% of the amount raised through Swim-a-thon. These grants are only to be used for club operations as outlined in the affidavit that must be signed by the club upon registration for Swim-a-thon, in order to receive their grant.

For-profit clubs:

For-profit clubs as identified by their Provincial section may not participate in Swim-a-thon, nor can their affiliated parent booster clubs.

2016 Swim-a-thon dates:

Swim-a-thon campaigns may take place between January 1, 2016 and May 31, 2016.

Swim-a-thon training webinars:

As we look to move up the planning for the 2016 Swim-a-thon, we will also run the training webinars earlier. This year's webinars will be mandatory for club Swim-a-thon coordinators and take place in late September/early October.

Swimming Canada is required to ensure compliance with the RCA's charities directorate. We will continue to make adjustments and improvements to the Swim-a-thon program to ensure the program continues to flourish well into the future.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ahmed El-Awadi'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Ahmed El-Awadi
CEO
Swimming Canada