

### Welcome to a Busy June!

Welcome back, Barracudas! June is here, and it's shaping up to be an incredibly busy and exciting month for our club. We're thrilled to share some big news, upcoming events, and opportunities to get involved.

# A Familiar Face Returns and Future Leadership Confirmed

We are absolutely thrilled to announce the return of **Jerzy** to our coaching team! After a hiatus, Jerzy is back, and we're incredibly excited to have his expertise and passion guiding our swimmers once again. We wish him and all his swimmers the very best in the upcoming competitions.

We also want to extend a huge thank you to **Jason**, **Magda**, **Sydney**, **and all our other dedicated coaches** for their unwavering commitment and hard work while Jerzy was away. Your dedication truly kept our club thriving.

Looking ahead, we're equally delighted to confirm that Jerzy will continue in his role as **Head Coach** for the 2025/26 swimming season, with Jason continuing as our **Assistant Head Coach**. This strong leadership team is a fantastic foundation as we embark on an exciting adventure of change next season for our organization!

## **Addressing Our Future: A Commitment to Excellence**

We understand that with changes come questions, and we want to assure our Barracuda family that your experience and our club's future are always our top priority. As we embark on this exciting journey of change next season, we are deeply committed to ensuring the highest quality coaching and a positive environment for all our swimmers.

Our Executive Leadership recently held a productive meeting with our coaching staff to discuss future season planning, strategies for continued improvement, and how we can enhance the overall club experience for every member. This marks an active effort to address past issues and move forward with a renewed focus on excellence. We will continue to work closely with our coaches, implementing changes that will foster an even stronger and more positive experience for everyone in the Prince George Barracuda Swim Club. We are excited about the positive developments ahead and look forward to sharing more details in upcoming newsletters.

#### **Prince George Aquatic Centre Update**

For those who may have been concerned about the potential shutdown of the Aquatic Centre, we have some fantastic news! We received confirmation from the city on May 30th that there will be **no shutdown of the Aquatic Centre for the remainder of 2025**. We anticipate further communications from the city as we progress through the rest of 2025 and into the winter of 2026. This is wonderful news for our training and competition schedules! Please feel free to head over to the City's Website for more information. <u>Aquatic Centre Upgrades</u>

#### **Dive into June Events!**

June is packed with opportunities for our swimmers to shine and for our club to come together:

- Kamloops TRU Wolfpack Invitational (June 13-15): We have a strong contingent of 33 swimmers heading to Kamloops for this long course meet. Many of them are aiming to achieve Provincial and Divisional qualifying times. We wish each and every one of them the very best of luck! Bring home those fast times, Barracudas!
- Development Rubber Ducky Meet (June 21, 9 AM 11 AM): Our newest competitors will get their feet wet in the world of competitive swimming at this fun development meet. It's a fantastic chance for them to experience the excitement of a swim meet in a supportive environment. I also want to provide a friendly reminder that as per the clubs volunteer policy each participant swimmer must provide a volunteer to support the event. It is a great opportunity for those new to volunteering to learn more about the officiating side of swimming. If you're interested in volunteering to support these budding athletes, please contact Christine at officials@pgbsc.org. Or, even better, come to the pool and cheer them on!
- Turn Clinic for Aspiring Officials (June 19, 5 PM 8 PM): This clinic is confirmed for
  anyone interested in officiating. This is great for those looking to support events like the
  Rubber Duckie meet, the Special Olympics, and for general preparation for next year's
  season. It's an excellent opportunity to learn more about the officiating side of swimming.
  Please reach out to officials@pgbsc.org for more information or to sign up.
- Year-End BBQ (June 21, 12 PM 3 PM in Rainbow Park): Immediately following the Rubber Duckie meet, we'll be hosting our annual year-end BBQ! There's no charge for this celebration, and I'll be manning the grill myself, so please feel free to stop by and say "Hi!" Don't forget to RSVP on the website so we can get a headcount.
- North and Interior Summer Divisional Championship (June 27-29 in Kelowna):
   Hosted by the Aquajets, this meet is the pinnacle of the season for many of our
   qualifying swimmers. It's a chance for them to showcase all the hard work they've put in
   throughout the season. We are incredibly proud of all their accomplishments up to this

#### **Support the Special Olympics Provincial Games!**

The Prince George Barracuda Swim Club is excited to support the **Special Olympics in their** swim events for their provincial games on July 11 and 12. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to practice our skills as officials and support a truly worthy cause.

Our Director of Officials, **Christine McLane**, has provided the following details for the Special Olympics meet:

- **Dates:** July 11-12
- **Times:** Swimmers arrive at 8:00 AM, warm-ups at 8:30 AM on both days. We expect the days to conclude by 5:00 PM.
- Volunteer Roles Needed:
  - Stroke/Turn Judges: Practical experience is a bonus, but completion of the certification course is sufficient.
  - Timers: High school students are welcome (age confirmation pending). Special Olympics is willing to write letters and sign off on volunteer hours for high school students.
  - Youth/Teen Swimmers (Ages 14-18): There are also roles for youth and teen swimmers, such as running, guiding athletes, and interacting with them.
  - Starters: The event will use traditional timing methods and manual lap recording.

If you are interested in supporting this event and giving back to the community, please contact **Christine McLane at officials@pgbsc.org**. This is also an excellent opportunity for students to obtain their required volunteer hours for school!

We're looking forward to a fantastic June with all of you! See you at the pool, or at Rainbow Park for the BBQ!

Cheers,

Shane Milne President, PGBSC