

Zone 3/4/5 AGM Report
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With everyone experiencing the last few months differently, we decided to poll the membership within our zone to get a better understanding on how others are doing. The following is a summary of the responses.

- 1. Has your club started practices or plan to start practices? If no, why not?**
 - a. Yes, clubs that responded have all started up or are in plans to start back up for cross country for some age groups.
- 2. What age groups are practicing?**
 - a. Most clubs are training all age groups while some are choosing 13+ for the moment
- 3. Are you accepting new registrations?**
 - a. Generally, all clubs are accepting new registrations currently while some are restricting membership to the age training.
- 4. How are you dividing up space and practice times?**
 - a. Clubs came up with a wide variety of solutions based on their needs and requirements. Most selected to have multiple groups spread out over different days and time periods. They separated themselves with cones from other groups and the public. Other clubs decided to eliminate certain training groups all together as space and time was an issue.
- 5. What are some challenges you are facing?**
 - a. Each club is experiencing different challenges here are some of the responses;
 - b. Some coaches do not choose to coach so there is a need to find more coaches. Many athletes go on holidays. Sanitizing makes everything take longer. It is difficult to train beside another club which has different COVID-19 standards and other groups who are not even social distancing.
 - c. Partitioning off space is both labour-intensive and time-consuming.
 - d. Group size restrictions, public access to track
- 6. What is some advice you can provide to other zone clubs regarding returning to training?**
 - a. Every club that responded seemed to be in agreeance, but Valley Royals had some stellar advice;
“Contact your city, make sure your club and your city are on the same page with all of your COVID-19 health and safety expectations, plans, and requirements. If possible, have your local track closed to the public during your practice times. Our city wouldn't allow this. Further, make these same plans clear with all of your athletes and parents. For jumps (high and PV) training, look into having a separate tarp for each individual jumper to land on.”

7. What do you anticipate the practices/competitions will look like in the next 6 months or year?

- a. "Probably no indoor training in school gyms. Scaled down cross country meets with time trials only and only if venues are allowing use. I will be surprised if we are back to regular track and field meets next summer unless we have a vaccine."
- b. "practices same, competitions non-existent except for inhouse."
- c. "I expect that for at least the next 6 months, we will be following the same health and safety protocols. Wouldn't be at all surprised if we're still following them next summer."
- d. "Depends on limitation and restrictions set by AC and BCA."

8. Other comments

- a. "One of our more pressing challenges will be securing indoor training venues during the cold/wet fall and winter months. Typically, many of our training groups take advantage of indoor training spaces at rec centres and schools. It's currently unclear if we will have access to these same facilities because of COVID-19."

We hope that by highlighting this info, other clubs can find new ideas and opportunities to navigate to a new normal.