



Executive  
Committee

President  
Dorian Roach

Secretary General  
Lori Roach

Treasurer  
Lisa Rahming

Director  
Katherine Bowers

Director  
Joanne Cates

January 27th, 2021

## Presidents Report 2020

2020 was a year unlike any other as everyone is well aware by now, although we had very little activity this year there were a few things that we managed to get accomplished.

### Bert Bell

Bert Bell was one of the original founders of the Bahamas Triathlon Association that was formed on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1999. Mr. Bell was mostly known for his contribution as a swim coach, heading up the Freeport Swim Club for decades. Mr. Bell also organized the Conchman Triathlon, the longest running triathlon in The Bahamas, which began 35 years ago. Mr. Bell was also immensely helpful in assisting us with reforming the BTA in 2016 which was very appreciated by the Executive Board. Bert also was involved with track and field, cycling and Rugby.

His son David, was the first person to represent the Bahamas in The Commonwealth Games in Triathlon, placing 22<sup>nd</sup> in 2002 in Manchester. David also was a national team swimmer and track athlete. His other son Andrew was also a national team swimmer and rugby player. His daughter Trudi also swam growing up.

Bert Bell will truly be missed and I would like to find a way to honor and remember his contribution to our nation and sport.

**Membership:** There were 50 members in 2020 compared to 106 members in 2019, 53% decrease.

### Events:

#### *2020 Beautiful Bahamas Triathlon:*

The Beautiful Bahamas Triathlon was the only event of the year and was well attended a duathlon was added which was great as it attracted new competitors to the sport.

All other events including the Potcakeman, National Championships, Caribbean Championships and Carifta were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Development and Training**

PATCO Level One Coaching was offered to us this year which we had three coaches get certified (Jorge Marcos Aballi Borges, Justin Higgs and Sylvia Bateman). We now have six certified coaches and one certified official. Jorge Marcos and Lori Roach also participated in a Pan Am Federation sponsored Elite coaching course which began today. I was also selected by the BOC and IOC to enter the ICECP (International Coaching Enrichment Certified Program), a year long course run by the University of Delaware in conjunction with the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee. During this course I will complete a Long-Term Athlete Development Program (LTAD) as well as construct a BTA Certified Introductory Coaching Course. Erin Brown was also selected to be a part of World Triathlon's Mentor program for paratriathlon and still has a pathway to qualify for the Toyoko Games.

### **Carifta 2021**

We are currently still planning to host the 2021 Carifta Games and have set an end of March deadline to confirm if we still plan on hosting, we have been in communication with the Bahamas Olympic Committee, Ministry Of Sports and Ministry Of Tourism keeping them updated on our status.

### **The Future**

We have been working with several Caribbean countries on development of the English-speaking Caribbean. We all voted as a block in this year's World Triathlon elections and managed to get one person on a committee (from Trinidad) which is a big step for us. We are very close with each other and communicate regularly and always share resources and information. Trinidad is holding a grass roots training to which we have been invited to participate next month and Barbados has shared their Covid-19 race protocols with us which we are currently working on. Jamaica managed to get a committee formed within World Triathlon to include Special Olympic athletes within triathlon.

Once we finalize the protocols, our next step is to apply to have same events to get things going again. Thank you for everyone's support during this past year and I



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encourage all the athletes to continue to train and parents/coaches to continue to support them!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dorian Roach", written over a horizontal line.

Dorian Roach

President Bahamas Triathlon Association

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