**Thursday, September 14th:**

* Welcome – Betsy McGeoch
* Approval of March minutes (EZ March Meeting 2017)

**MOTION -** to accept March Meeting minutes

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Laura Ehrenreich - **APPROVED**

* + Chair Report – Betsy McGeoch
    - Report posted on website

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Svetlana Malinovskaya - **APPROVED**

* + Vice Chair/Awards – Jen Hatt
    - There is a $0.75 version of neck ribbon awards available that we could charge at $1.50 (the previous price) as a fundraiser
    - Raising GPA requirement to be a scholar athlete

**MOTION** - to raise GPA requirements to 3.7 or 92.5% or A

MOTION - Karen McGann, second Anna Montgomery - **APPROVED**

* + - Issue of late submissions of scholar athletes - any late submissions will not be included, a deadline is a deadline
      * Mechanics of entry - may change to a Google form to avoid any errors from manual entry

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

* + Education Report – Katie Rice
    - Report posted on website
    - 2017 Silver Clinic will be October 14th-15th in Hamden, CT, led by clinician Paola Tirados. The topic will be new figures. Intermediates are invited on Saturday and 12 and Unders and 13-15s are invited on Sunday
    - Proposed Tier structure:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Tier** | **Athletes** | **Clinic** |
| 1 | Athletes on National Teams | No Clinic |
| 2 | All Star Athletes who are not in Tier 1 | All Star Camp |
| 3 | 16-19 Age Group Athletes who are not in Tier 1 or 2 | Gold Clinic (Lake Placid) |
| 4 | 13-15, 12 & Under and Intermediate Athletes | Silver Clinic |
| 5 | Determined by Region | Bronze Clinic |

**MOTION -** to create an official Tier structure for East Zone Athletes

MOTION - Katie Rice, second Dale Mohammed - **APPROVED**

* + - East Zone Website - contact Katie if there is anything missing or wrong

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

* + Treasurer Report – Kris-Ann Gutenmakher
    - Report posted on website
    - How can we make Convention more affordable?
      * Will discuss in Laura’s Membership Fee Committee

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

* + Scoring Committee Report – Pete McGeoch
    - Report posted on website

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

* + Officials Report – Patty Flanagan
    - Report posted on website
    - Contact Patty if you would like to become a judge
* **Extra Items:**
  + Split Bonus Requirements: Do we need to change requirements to silver and gold?
    - JO athletes who pass the highest level no longer have to test their split so having a split test makes them stretch their split. Athletes need to weigh in

**MOTION** to make the split bonus requirement a bronze level split for 12 under and a silver/gold level split for 13-15

Motion - Emma Tchakmakjian, second - Carly Charvenak - **APPROVED**

**Friday, September 15th:**

* + Technical Report – Svetlana Malinovskaya
    - Separate 13&Over Intermediate category into 13-15 Intermediate and 16&Over Intermediate categories.
      * Due to the new Grade Levels some teams that aren't going to Junior Olympics or that have limited pool time are deciding to stay in the intermediate category.
      * The 13 & Over Intermediate category is starting to see more 16 & Over swimmers that are staying in it through their graduation

**MOTION -** to separate 13&Over Intermediate category into 13-15 Intermediate and 16&Over Intermediate categories

MOTION - Svetlana Malinovskaya, second Jenn Hatt - **APPROVED**

* + - Have 13-15 and 16&Over Intermediate swim 12&Under Age Group figures
      * Intermediate figures:
        + Compulsory: ballet leg, barracuda
        + Group 1: walkover front, kip
        + Group 2: tower, walkover back
      * 12&Under Age Group Figures
        + Compulsory: ballet leg straight, barracuda
        + Group 1: walkover front, ballerina
        + Group 2: kip, swordfish
        + Group 3: swan, water drop

**MOTION -** to have 13-15 and 16&over Intermediate swim 12&Under Age Group figures

MOTION - Svetlana Malinovskaya, second Anna Montgomery - **REJECTED**

* + - Move date of Jr/Sr Championships one week earlier
      * To allow teams to have more time to prepare for Senior Nationals

**MOTION -** to move the date of the Jr/Sr Championships to one week earlier

MOTION - Svetlana Malinovskaya, second Krista Karwosky - **WITHDRAWN**

* + - Align with National rules for Junior, 16-17 and 18-19 AG swimmers to swim Technical Routines at all Zone, Regional and Association meets, except Zone Invitationals and 13&Over Age Group Routine Only Open.

**MOTION -** to align with National rules for Junior, 16-17 and 18-19 AG swimmers to swim Technical Routines at all Zone, Regional and Association meets, except Zone Invitationals and 13&Over Age Group Routine Only Open.

MOTION - Svetlana Malinovskaya, second, Anna Montgomery - **APPROVED (amended)**

**MOTION** - Amend the proposal to competition will consist of technical and free routines at Jr/Sr Zone Championships in place of figures

MOTION - Laura Ehrenreich, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

* + - **Additional Technical Proposals:**

**MOTION** - for all technical routines will be performed in black suits, white caps, and no goggles

MOTION - Jen Wilczynski, second Anna Montgomery - **TABLED FOR DISCUSSION**

(Failed at Board of Governors)

**MOTION -** for intermediate figures to be: ballet leg single, barracuda (compulsory); walkover front, kip (group 1); tower, walkover back (group 2)

MOTION - Dale Mohammad, second Jen Muzyk - **APPROVED**

* + All Star Committee Report – Krista Karwosky
    - Two All Star Camps: November 3rd-5th at the Spire Institute in Cleveland
      * Early bird registration is open from September 18th - October 5th and costs $350
    - How do we determine All Stars without figures?
      * Will discuss with All Star Subcommittee - Krista Karowsky, Katie Rice, Svetlana Malinovskaya, Leah Pinette, Karen Alvarez, Emily Ma, Aleah Davidsen, Anjali Tanna, Rosemary Bain

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Sheila Wright, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

* + Athlete Report – Emma Tchakmakjian and Audrey Millar
    - Report posted on website
    - Request for meet management to try putting Athlete Zone Meeting before the Parade of Athletes
    - Betsy - Thank you to all the athletes who are representing the East Zone

**MOTION -** to accept Report

MOTION - Krista Karwosky, second Anna Montgomery - **APPROVED**

* **Extra Items:**
  + Membership Fees
    - Meet entry fees have been $10 for the past 3 years

**MOTION -** to increase meet entry fees to $12

MOTION - Laura Ehrenreich, second Krista Karwosky - **APPROVED**

* + - Increase zone athlete fee to $5 or just collect $5 from everyone who attends convention - to help offset the expense of convention

**MOTION -** to increase zone athlete fee from $3 to $5

MOTION - Laura Ehrenreich, second Mary Ellen Wiegand - **APPROVED**

**Saturday, September 16th**:

* + All Star Committee (Continued) – Krista Karwosky
    - **All-Star Athlete Selection Procedure**
      * Up to 16 athletes will be named to the East Zone Junior All-Star Team. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. Top 8 Junior Solo athletes based on final placement (free and tech routine aggregate total)
2. Athletes in the top 4 Junior Duet\* routines based on final placement (free and tech routine aggregate total)
3. If the roster is not filled after these two groups have been selected, Junior solo athletes, up to place 12, will be selected to the team.
4. If the roster is not filled after the additional Junior solo athletes have been selected, Junior duet\* athletes will be selected starting with place 5, then place 6 and so on, until up to 16 athletes have been selected to the team.

\*If a reserve competes in either the free or tech duet competition, that athlete will also be named to the All-Star team.

* + Technical Report (Continued/Sites Committee Report) – Svetlana Malinovskaya
    - **2018 EZ 13-15 CHAMPS**

FEBRUARY 10-11, 2018 - NORTON, MA

Pool: Wheaton College, 26 East Main Street, Norton, MA 02766

Host: Cambridge Synchro, Attleboro Lyonfish Synchronettes, Wheaton College

* + - **2018 EZ JUNIOR/SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

MARCH 9-11, 2018 - KENMORE, NY

Pool: Tonawanda Aquatic & Fitness Center, 1 Pool Plaza, Kenmore, NY 14223

Host: Tonawanda Aquettes

* + - **2018 EZ INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS A**

MARCH 16-18, 2018 - NEW CANAAN, CT

Pool: New Canaan YMCA - 564 South Avenue, New Canaan, CT 06840

Host: New Canaan Aquianas

* + - **2018 EZ INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS B**

MARCH 16-18, 2018 - CHEEKTOWAGA, NY

Pool: TBC Maryvale High School - 1059 Maryvale Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Host: Swimkins Synchronized Swimming

* + - **2018 EZ CHAMPIONSHIPS AND 13 & OVER OPEN**

JUNE 8-10, 2018 - YORK, PA

Pool: Central York High School Pool - 601 Mundis Mill Road, York, PA 17406

Host: York Synchro-ettes

* + - **2017 SILVER CLINIC**

October 14-15, 2017, Hamden, CT

Facility: Hamden High School, 2040 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

* + Lake Placid Report – Mary Ellen Wiegand
    - Dates for Gold Clinic are December 8th-10th (second weekend)
    - Facility: Lake Placid OTC and Paul Smith’s College Pool
    - Open to all 15yrs and up - rationale they will be swimming the tech routines
      * **Friday night** - teaching tech elements on land, transitions, view element videos
      * **Saturday** - Paul Smith College pool - Water work on Elements transitions teaching on elements.
      * **Saturday night** – Pairing girls in writing routines based on what they will be swimming
      * **Sunday** – Viewing/critiquing written routines and tweaking
    - FINA Clinic for national judges is the first weekend in December, all judges have to be updated by the first meet EXCLUDING figure meets. Everyone must be updated by the first meet in January
    - If you have something you would like covered in the Lake Placid agenda – contact mary Wiegand - [maryewiegand@verizon.net](mailto:maryewiegand@verizon.net)
    - **Looking for someone to video this for the judges that are doing the national judges update**
    - FINA won’t make a decision until 1st week of October regarding the FINA judges update.
* **Extra Items:**
  + **New East Zone Secretary Email address**
    - All members must submit their contact information on the Mailing List Request Form to transfer the East Zone email to a gmail account. Please respond no later than October 15th to stay on the mailing list. The link has been sent out.
      * Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/dYNJ9WTM77KQbpgw1>
  + **Kim Miller Scholarship** - Patty Simell
    - 4 athletes applied in 2017 – awarded to Caitlin Klauer $1,500. Many fundraising ideas for the scholarship. All seniors are encouraged to apply that will be attending a synchro school.
  + **UC Berkeley trying to start synchro team**
    - Chair of the West Zone wants to know if there is anyone at UC Berkeley - they are looking to start a collegiate club team. Contact West Zone Chair if you know anyone there willing to swim or help.
  + **Association chair meeting at convention –**
    - Reminder about safe sport, free online, put what team you are on and what role you perform and you should not need to be a member of USA Synchro. Certification is good for 4 years.
    - **Transfer forms** are updated and goes through the club representative. And the representative is aware of the policies.
    - **6 marketing posters** are accessible by the club rep and they are aware
  + **Levels testing**
    - Anna- CT has decided that they will host early grade level meets and have a few spots
      * GR 1 & 2 Oct 22nd – pending approval of their pools
      * GR 3-4 New Canaan Nov 22nd – pending approval of their pools
  + Routines/Championships

**MOTION –** Proposal to add 13-15 combos to the East Zone invitationals

MOTION - Katie Rice, second Joe Alwan – **APPROVED**

* + - Tech Routines are now at JOs and Jr Zones – We will be adding them to Jr Championship

**MOTION –** Proposal to follow the format that USA Synchro adopts regarding Junior tech routines.

MOTION - Mary Ellen, second Anna Montgomery – **APPROVED**

**Amendment to the motion –** In the case of INTERMEDIATE tech routines, the event referee may decide to waive the review by video.

MOTION - Anna Montgomery, second Laura Ehrenreich – **APPROVED**

**MOTION –** Increase penalties for routines that are more than 30secs under the time limit.

MOTION - Katie Rice, second Jen Muzyk – **DEFEATED**

* **Action Items**
  + Review the Regional notification system in regards to grade levels and notify the next level down.
    - **IDEA**: Keep regional qualification as it is now, but add the stipulation that if any number of those top 3 who are not grade level qualified to attend JO, however many needed to have 3 routines with the appropriate grade level qualification can be brought to the regional competition as an honorary routine to qualify for JO’s. This is a regional issue to discuss with your regions. At Convention, we will discuss how each region dealt with this issue
  + Laura’s Proposal for $5 per all registered USA Synchro members to offset suite costs.
  + Krista – All Star housekeeping
  + Jen Hatt/Karen McGann– Zone Fundraiser - Sticker

**MOTION –** to adjourn meeting

MOTION - Jen Wilczynski, second Anna Montgomery – **APPROVED**