**2020 East Zone Tech Chair Report**

**Respectfully Submitted by Patti Melber**

**Many thanks to our 2020 Meet Hosts:**

**13/15 Zone:** ANA Synchro

**Jr/Sr. Zone:** New Canaan Aquianas

**Zone Invitationals:** Cambridge Synchro, Attleboro Y Lyonfish Synchronettes, and Wheaton College and BGC Gaviatas (**Canceled due to COVID)**

**Zone Intermediate/Age Group Championships:** Hamden Heronettes (**Canceled due to COVID**)

**2021 East Zone Meets: Bids due to Leah Pinnette (October 15, 2020)**

It was decided to give first chance at hosting our invitationals and Zone Championships to the 2020 meet hosts, due to the cancellations.

* **February 12-14th, 2021:** 13-15 Zone Championships [per 2021 rotation chart: Metro], would like 2 bids
* **March 12-14th, 2021:** Junior/Senior Zone Championships [per 2021 rotation chart: New England North], would like 2 bids
* **March 19th-21st, 2021:** March Invitationals: BGC Gaviatas and Cambridge Synchro/Attleboro [per 2021 rotation chart: Mid Atlantic/New Jersey], need 1 additional bid per Invitational location
* **June 5-7th, 2021:** June Age Group Championships: Hamden [per 2021 rotation chart: New England South], would like 1 additional bid

A comprehensive list of meet bids can be found below:

[2021 Anticipated Meet Bids](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lMrWyf6zrgvjOAmdVLnhfIL3QVYeHGFQUNIcmWXroAM/edit#gid=1657329919) and this document has been uploaded to the East Zone Website.

**Plan A:** season as normal, accept meet bids for above dates with a back-up host (Plan B) in the event that there are any issues with host A

**Plan B:** any issue for the first bid, we go to back-up bid

**Plan C:** cancel February 2021 meet. If we still need a qualifying meet for US Nationals, move **13-15 solos/duets** from February meet to March. Junior/Senior would only be a solo and duet competition for **13-15s, Juniors, and Seniors. This option would only be used if US Nationals is open for teams/combos and does not require a qualification.**

**Plan D:** virtual competitions. We hope we don't have to go here, but we are going to try some virtual competition in the fall and see how it goes. We hope this will still keep swimmers engaged in our sport. We are checking into a Dropbox setup in which videos can be "dropped" and what quality would be best to request. It looks like USA Artistic Swimming will be doing the same this fall.

FROM March Meeting:

Hamden Heronettes had a 12 year old swimmer participating in 13-15 Zones; they were listed as Honorary from the beginning, but is the routine allowed to draw into finals?

* + - Katie Rice: in the past we had a routine swimming as Honorary at Junior/Senior zones and they were allowed to place in finals (13 teams swam in finals, the 14th team was the pre-swimmer)
    - Leah Pinette: 12 & Unders are not allowed to participate in the 13-15 Zone meet--why were they allowed to participate?
      * Why do we allow our 13 & 14 year olds participate in Junior Zones if we don’t let our 12 & Unders go to 13-15 Zones?
      * Krista: teams were nervous about not having enough team members to go to Junior meets--a team with 4 15 year olds and 4 girls 13-14 years of age could still participate at US Nationals
        + If we don’t allow these “melded” teams, smaller clubs wouldn’t have a chance to swim a team event until May
      * All technical chairs from each association will discuss this and create a ruling/re-wording of the rulebook -**TABLED**

**FOLLOW UP PROPOSAL:**

## East Zone 13-15 Age Group Championship

* 1. An East Zone 13-15 Age Group Championship shall be held annually in February.
  2. A 13-15 Team Trophy will be provided by the Awards committee and paid for by the East Zone.
  3. Qualification for Entry
     1. Ages: 13-15 years of age based on the year of birth
     2. Preliminaries – Open to all age eligible competitors
     3. 13/15 teams may include 11 & 12 year olds as long as 50% of swimmers are 13/15. If less than 50% the team swims as honorary & can advance to finals but cannot place in finals.

(Discussion of placing in finals??? ) Pros/Cons