East Zone Chair Report

2019 March Meeting

Buffalo, NY

As acting Chair, I attend conference calls with the other Zone Chairs and the USA Synchro President. Many discussions happen during these calls and it is great to hear how some of the other Zone execute different meets. The biggest topic so far has been safe sport and the NCSI background checks.

Please everyone, do what you can to be sure that all you officials are registered, have done the background check and safe sport. Below are the directions for everyone. Please please please check everyone atour local meets.

**How to Register for Safe Sport Training**

To register for training:

1. Click on the following link to register for SafeSport Training [**https://safesport.org/authentication/register?token=ef4afb93-c79a-426f-92cb-0c5ce3e0a2f6**](https://safesport.org/authentication/register?token=ef4afb93-c79a-426f-92cb-0c5ce3e0a2f6)

2. You will then be asked for your email address and create a password.

In the drop down menu for “Select Organization,” be sure to select US Synchronized Swimming.

You will then be asked for an Access Code, please enter: **4CRM-NJDP-FGLI-HWGH**

3. Next click on the green save button on the bottom right side of the page.

You will only need to register the first time to set up the account. Once the account is set-up, you will sign in using your email address and password.

Once you have registered, follow the directions to complete the courses. You will see that there are 3 – 30 minute courses, please note that ALL 3 courses need to be completed for an individual to be considered SafeSport certified. After each course you will receive a certificate of completion, the most important one is the one you will receive after completing the 3rd course and that will be titled “SafeSport Trained”.

Please download/screenshot the completion certificate and email to me and I will forward with all the others and send to USA Synchro.

East Zone Chair Report - continued

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**NCSI Background Screen Request Process, U.S. Citizen Member:**

1.[Click Here to do Your USA SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING Background Screen](https://www.ncsisafe.com/Members/SelfRegBatchCode.aspx?srb=45216070)

2. Follow the required steps

Background Screen Request Process, International Member or Non-Member:

1. [Click Here to do Your USA SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING International/Non Member Background Screen](https://www.ncsisafe.com/Members/SelfRegBatchCode.aspx?srb=25261532)

2. Follow the required steps

USA Synchro will receive notice of all completed background screens regardless of what designation is applied, if your background screen is flagged as "GREEN" and your SafeSport training is complete your membership status will be returned to good standing. If your screen is flagged "RED" your membership will be suspended immediately. If flagged "RED" and you feel that this result was made in error, you can appeal the screen through NCSI's appeal process. Appeal process information will be provided at that time.

Criminal Offenses that will trigger a read flag are as follows:

* Have you ever been convicted, or do you have a pending charge, of a felony?
* Have you ever been convicted, or do you have a pending charge, of any lesser crime involving force or threat of force against a person?
* Have you ever been convicted, or do you have a pending charge, of any lesser crime of a sexual nature or classified as a sex offender including but not limited to "victim-less" crimes of a sexual nature such as prostitution, pornography, indecent exposure; and crime in which sexual relations is an element?
* Have you ever been convicted, or do you have a pending charge, of a lesser crime involving controlled substances (not paraphernalia or alcohol)?
* Have you ever been convicted, or do you have a pending charge, of a lesser crime involving cruelty to animals?
* Are you a sex offender registrant?
* Have you ever been convicted, or do you have a pending charge, of a lesser crime involving harm to a minor?

If you feel that the offense that triggered a "RED" flag should be reviewed by the USA Synchro background screen review committee, because the offense is outside of the above parameters, ample time has lapsed or laws have changed, directions on how to do so will accompany a "RED" flag report.

We recognize that this is an additional step to be certified as a USA Synchro Coach, Judge and/or Club owner, but it is absolutely necessary to better safeguard our athletes. We hope that you understand why we have implemented these requirements, take immediate action and set clear timelines. We also hope that you recognize our commitment to you through our willingness to cover your expense in 2019 and enhance the overall quality of professionals who are a part of USA Synchro.

If you have any questions regarding required background screens or SafeSport please email [safesport@usasynchro.org](mailto:safesport@usasynchro.org). If you would like to confirm your SafeSport training is complete you can review your status by [clicking here](https://www.teamusa.org/usa-synchronized-swimming/resources/safesport).

Sincerely, Adam Andrasko USA Synchro, CEO

East Zone Awards Committee Report

2019 March Meeting

Buffalo, NY

Please continue to encourage coaches, swimmers, officials, parents, and friends to be active in the East Zone Award nomination process. Anyone may send a nomination. There are so many wonderful people who work for this sport. Please help us recognize them. Nominations can be submitted throughout the year, to anyone on the committee (names listed below).

This year (2019) we had 97 Scholar athletes out of about 121, 2018 we had 102 Scholar athletes out of about 150 compared to 116 in 2017 and 160 in 2016. Over half the athletes are receiving pins.

We will need to order more pins for next season.

I had hoped we would have enough medals to get us through this season but we will be ordering more after this meet for June. The athletes can vote on what style we continue to purchase. I had tried to order extra gold medals in 2017 but the supplier was short and couldn’t get us more but honored the discounted rate on the lower quantity. Our categories keep growing and with the addition of intermediate combos, we really go through medals quite easily. Just to give you an idea in 2017 the June meet required 56 gold medals, 2018 we doubled to 96, 2019 we could potentially be giving out 120. Almost triple what we gave out in 2017.

New this year is our cap fundraiser headed up by our Athlete Reps Emily Ma and Audrey Millar. We purchased 200, 2 color caps and began taking orders for the caps at the February Meet. The caps will travel with the medals to the Jr/Se Champs, invitationals and June meet. There is a tally sheet to track sales and the unsold caps are returned with the medals to me. Proceeds from the sales will help with our annual donations to the National teams.

I continue to track shipment of awards(now caps) for each meet in a spreadsheet, sending the spreadsheet to the host club and the Zone Treasurer. If unused new awards are returned in a timely manner, they are credited against the original cost. The host club is then responsible for sending a check to the Zone Treasurer for the balance due.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hatt

Acting Chair/Vice-Chair

East Zone Synchronized Swimming

2019 Awards Committee members: Jennifer Hatt (chair), Diane Hunsinger, Sheila Wright, Laura Ehrenreich, Teena Griggs, Patty Flanagan, Betsy McGeoch, Kim Kohut, Karen McGann, Audrey Millar (athlete)

