Approval of minutes from Convention meeting - Sandra, Eugenia second

 Handbook updates

* Meet bids - review by site committee
  + Update to handbook
    - Standardized meet forms to all hosts after convention
    - question on whether people can swim combo in more than one zone
    - any other event athletes can only swim in one zone
    - Adding wording about making arrangements to get awards if not at awards ceremony
    - Meet Hosts need to supply videos for key events
    - Added acrobatic routine
    - Added AWD tiers to all meet announcements
  + Unaffiliated judges proposal - receive stipend, $100 per day and travel expenses and host team provide housing
    - 2 attended EZ Combined meets
    - Results will be shared at convention 2023
  + Proposal for all EZ competitions all open to all athletes in appropriate age a member of EZ.  Competitors out of Zone can attend at discretion of host and not receive awards just honorary.  EZ Invitational can be open to anyone - Proposal Anna, Second Laura**, passed**
  + For Regional championships, acrobatic and combo don't count as part of your 3 events
  + Age group changes
    - for qualification for Junior Olympics can qualify 3 acrobatic routines and combo routines for each age category from each region - Anna proposal, Jen H seconded and **passed**
  + Deleted hospitality suite
  + added DEI chair to our board
  + Try to streamline links in the handbook
  + Site rotation plan - everyone is ok with it, especially since we often don't follow it.  Krista proposal, Jen second, **approved**
  + Meet host organization - currently providing assistance likely not sustainable for long time.  We will make a decision in March to inform bids at convention
  + Proposal to move timing for when we determine changes to fees for next season
  + Proposal to keep the plan for host organizing reimbursement and keep zone fees the same - need committee
  + with one representative from each region - see below.  They will review and bring proposal to convention
    - Laura
    - Jen H
    - Katie
    - Jen M
  + Host committee responsibility and timing needs a committee to discuss and bring to convention based on new scoring rules:
    - Anna (*missed names beyond Anna*)
  + East Zone Star Athletes - will be discussed in Athletes meeting
  + Proposal from Teena Griggs related to Kim Miller Scholarship:
* The Kim Miller Synchronized Swimming Scholarship has been awarded yearly at the East Zone award ceremony since 2007.  It is a self-supporting scholarship through the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain (where Kim and her family resided).  This scholarship was established by Kim's coaches, Krista Bessinger Karwoski and Teena Griggs after she passed away in May of 2005, at the age of 19, after a long battle with bone cancer.
* Kim was an athlete on the Hamden Heronettes Synchronized Swim Team from 1994-2005.  She was a dedicated teammate and role model.  Her love and passion for the sport of synchronized swimming was immeasurable.  She was in high school when she was diagnosed after experiencing knee pain while competing in Hawaii.  Kim continued to swim after having part of her femur removed.  She pushed herself beyond her limits as she set off to Millersville College to pursue her career in synchronized swimming.  Although her dream was cut short, this scholarship ensures the memory of an incredible East Zone athlete and teammate while helping support the continuing career of a synchronized swimmer in the East Zone on the collegiate level.
* Currently, 2K is the awarding scholarship.  I work closely with the CFGNB where an online application was put in place in 2022 after many years of paper applications being submitted by mail and eventually being accepted via email, when the scholarship began in 2007.
* Please give clubs an option of having a fundraiser when EZ meets are hosted to support this wonderful scholarship that is part of the East Zone synchronized swimming community.
* Thank you,
* Teena Griggs
* Here is what I propose:
* Section V:  East Zone Awards
* 4.  East Zone Awards
* b.  Criteria
* vi.  Kim Miller Scholarship
* 1.  Must be a graduating high school senior
* 2.  3.0 GPA, or above on a 4.0 scale, for all 4 years of high school
* 3.   Must be a current USAAS member
* 4.  Must be currently residing and competing with a club in the East Zone
* 5.  Leadership and dedication to artistic swimming in the image of Kim Miller
* <https://www.eastzonesynchro.com/kim-miller-scholarship-2023.html>
* 6.  Attend college in the fall, after graduation, and participate in artistic swimming on a varsity or
* non-varsity level or plan to start a new artistic swimming program

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | [Kim Miller Scholarship 2023](https://www.eastzonesynchro.com/kim-miller-scholarship-2023.html)  Kim Miller was an athlete on the Hamden Heronettes Synchronized Swim Team from 1994-2005. She was a dedicated teammate and role model. In 2001, after returning from U.S. Opens in Hawaii, Kim was...  [www.eastzonesynchro.com](http://www.eastzonesynchro.com/) |

* **
  + - Now scholarship is $2000
    - Add to East Zone Awards in handbook
    - And amendment to clearly state it is independently funded and administered and funded by separate entity
    - **Passed**
  + Fees currently $8 per athlete with $2 late fee if not received by January
* About Foundation from Sandra
  + Campaign for the month of March - Giving Games
    - Top three teams get awards
      * Gold
      * Silver
      * Bronze
    - This is important to enable the foundation to support more clubs, by applying to more grants
    - Key just need more members
    - Giving Games launches on Monday runs through March 31
    - All clubs eligible including masters and collegiate
    - Package available to click and send

 nomiations

* Jen M - Figures sub-committee
* Laura - rules
* Leah M - Athletes with Disabilities (1 year)
* Laura - Governance
* Anna - Competitive program
* Jen H - Member development
* Cookie - Awards committee

 Coaches card

* Start to prepare your coaches card early in the season
* Extensions from this meet are likely not going to done in the future
* Need to keep two weeks
* Need to think about the timing
* For next year we can plan ahead better
* from other zones
  + South zone made a google doc with explanation - if there is a live computer then it would not be
  + North zone - had tech watch the routine on video after the fact
  + West Zone - $100 fee for request for review

 Athletes rep feedback

* Athletes would still like to have scores
  + - Athletes would still like to have scores
  + Like to have an All-Star combo
  + Demo fundraiser
* Email list for athletes and athletes reps
* Athletes Reps
  + Sunayana Navuluri (sr rep): [navuluri.sunayana@gmail.com](mailto:navuluri.sunayana@gmail.com)
  + Isabella Sarracino (sr rep): [isabelle.sarracino@gmail.com](mailto:isabelle.sarracino@gmail.com)
  + Amber Wojenski (jr rep): [amberwojenski@gmail.com](mailto:amberwojenski@gmail.com)
  + Helen Beer (jr rep): [helenbeer222@gmail.com](mailto:helenbeer222@gmail.com)

 Proposal by Leah to have coaches cards in for Invitationals on Monday end of day this year, entries and music due today - Michal second - 7 yes, 1 no, 2 obstain **Passed and communicated to everyone that night**

 Genia - proposal to require teams to have judges - certain amount per team if not

* Committee - to make proposal
* Genia, Krista and Debbie