



East Zone Chair Report September 2020 • Virtual Convention Submitted by Jennifer Hatt, acting Zone Chair

As acting Chair, I attend conference calls with the other Zone Chairs, USA Artistic President and USA Artistic CEO. This season has proven to be more challenging than ever. All chairs have been in constant contact with each other as we have tried to navigate the Covid-19.

It was unfortunate that we had to end our season early and were unable to finish out our zone meets. We are giving the invitational and June meet hosts from 2020 the first chance to bid for our 2021 invitationals and June Champs. Using the connections with the other zones, I had reached out to see how they are handling the upcoming season. Turns out we have more zone meets than the other zones and they tend to adhere to a rotation schedule for hosting.

We are constantly updating the status of our teams and how they are training on this google doc: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RcYxZDthMw9x-4k2LxGckr4bi1aAIL02wN8KE-QbgmPM/edit#gid=399033014>

Plans for 2020-2021:

We have worked hard over the summer to plan for the upcoming season. We have set the dates for our 2020-2021 season and fingers crossed we are able to go with Plan A.

Feb 12-13-14, 2021 - 13-15 Champs - 2021 rotation chart: Metro - plus 2 bids

March 12-13-14, 2021 - Jr/Sr Zones - 2021 rotation chart: New England North - plus 2 bids

March 19-20-21, 2021 - March Invitationals - BGCB and Cambridge/Lion fish - plus - 2 bids

June 5-6-7, 2021 - June Age Group Championship - Hamden plus another bid - 2021 rotation chart - New England South

Plan A - Season as normal except meet bids for the above dates with a backup host (Plan B) in the event that there are issues with host A

Plan B - Any issue for first bid, we go to backup bid.

Plan C - If we have to cancel the February meet, If we still need a qualifying meet for US Nationals, move solos and duets from February to March. Jr/Sr would only be a solo and duet competition.

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 drop box set up that videos can be dropped and

We are working on a Zone wide virtual figure competition and we have several teams willing to send videos and try it out. Hoping to do a test before the end of convention, share with all teams and hope we can set up virtual competitions and keep our swimmers engaged.

Zone Fundraisers

Our cap fundraiser has stalled. Please consider promoting this through your team, coaches consider purchasing for prizes. Everyone always needs caps, this can even be turned inside out in a pinch when a white cap is needed! 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 do ask that each meet host designate someone to monitor the selling and tracking. 1 for \$12 – 2/\$20.

Continued



East Zone Report continued

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We still have t-shirts from our last Zone fundraiser for sale. We have child small and medium which are great for the youngest swimmers. We also have Adult Large and Adult Extra Large. Some of my crafty coaches are trying to make them into Knox pillow cases, throw pillows or draw string bags. Look for them at the Zone Meets in 2021!

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).

2020 Awards Committee members: Jennifer Hatt (chair), Diane Hunsinger, Sheila Wright, Mary Ellen Wiegand, Teena Griggs, Patty Flanagan, Betsy McGeoch, Kim Kohut, Karen McGann, Megan Tappe (athlete)

This year 2020 we had 97 scholar athletes out of about 130 swimmers. Pins are in and if your swimmer would like one please let me know. Certificates for all the swimmers were emailed out as a PDF.

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. Anna will be taking over that role following convention.)

EAST ZONE BOARD:

Zone Chair: starting after convention, Jen Hatt

Vice Chair: starting after convention - Anna Montgomery

Officials Chair: Laura Ehrenreich

Educational Chair: Katie Rice, starting after convention Kayla Parvana

Technical Chair: Patti Melbers, starting after convention Leah Pinette

Treasurer: Kris-Ann Gutenmakher

Scoring Co-Chairs: Stephanie Kuebler and Gil Sharon

Secretary: Liana Litsky, starting after convention Michal Fandel

National Nominating: Karen McGann & Karen Alvarez

National Sites: Mary Ellen Wiegand

Governance Committee: Sheila Wright, Roweena Mohammad

Rules Committee: Laura Ehrenreich

Athlete Reps: Sr Megan Tappe - NCA, Jr Colleen Hoyt - NCA

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hatt

Acting Chair/Vice-Chair

East Zone Synchronized Swimming