

West Zone Report to Board of Governors
September 2026

The athletes of the West Zone excelled in 2026, earning the High Point Team award at the US Collegiate Championship, both Junior and Senior High Point Team and High Point Athlete awards at the US National and Junior Championship, the High Point Team and High Point Athlete (three-way tie) awards at the US Youth Championship (along with multiple medal finishes at the associated 12U Invitational), and multiple medal finishes at the US Junior Olympic Championship, in addition to the High Point Team award (1st and 3rd places) at the 2025 US Masters Championship.

Thank you to the Pacific Artistic Swimming association for hosting the 2026 West Zone Championship (Youth/Junior/Senior) plus 12U Invitational, an exciting four-day competition showcasing 315 athletes representing 20 clubs. We would like to recognize our WZ award winners.

Dawn and Ross Bean Team High-Point Award:

Senior Championship: Scottsdale Synchro Arizona

Junior Championship: Walnut Creek Aquanuts

Youth Championship: Santa Clara Artistic Swimming

Individual West Zone Awards:

Athlete of the Year: Sophie Lin, Seattle Synchro

Coach of the Year: Stephanie Lee, San Francisco Merionettes

Contributor of the Year: Patricia Jones, Cypress Swim Club

Also, congratulations to the Walnut Creek Aquanuts for establishing and hosting the inaugural “Aloha Cup” Invitational for Youth, Junior, Senior and Masters athletes at the University of Hawaii in June. The meet was very successful and so much fun for all of the athletes, coaches and officials participating, and hopefully will continue in the future!

I would like to thank the current WZ Board of Directors for all their hard work over the past two years, and welcome our new BOD taking office immediately following Convention:

Admin Chair – Irene Hawes, Unaffiliated

Technical Chair – Kristen Smidstra, Walnut Creek Aquanuts

Officials Chair – Christine McMaster-Shah, Arizona Desert Dolphins

Education Chair – Leslie Perez Palma, Cypress Swim Club

DEI Chair – Tina Boales, Bay Area Artistic Swimming

Coach Rep – Daniela Garmendia, Seattle Synchro

Treasurer – Marian Clancy, Unaffiliated

Secretary – Patricia Jones, Cypress Swim Club

Senior Athlete Reps

Yilian Yuan, Santa Clara Artistic Swimming

Olivia Zeng, Santa Clara Artistic Swimming

Hevin Park, Nevada Desert Mermaids

Junior Athlete Reps

Emily Yuan, Walnut Creek Aquanuts

Paige McKeever, Scottsdale Synchro

Xeni Hoang, Golden State Aquabelles

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Jones

West Zone Admin Chair