

Vice President of Member Development  
2023 Convention

This was a successful year in building momentum and laying groundwork for the future of USAAS. I want to mention a few specific names, but first, I want to really thank each and every one of the members of our sport. Without you working diligently and committed to the organization, none of what we do is possible. I want to say thank you for all of the challenging work all of you have done and continue to do to understand and learn the new rule changes. This is a very large undertaking, and your voices and input during this learning process whether its scoring, judging, coaching, tech controlling, you are all doing your part ensuring the USA continues to flourish at the grass-roots to international level. Please continue to remain vocal about recommendations for things that are and aren't working as we continue improving the new scoring system and our services we offer to membership.

Specific shoutouts to our Foundation who supports our membership in offsetting travel costs, creating opportunities for new programs and camps, funding educational opportunities and supporting the US National Team. The trustees work tirelessly to ensure our members have the best support and access to things they need. Thank you to Shari Darst, Cheryl Cook, Betty Hazle and Patricia Jones who helped enormously in providing feedback, re-writes, and re-writes of the re-writes of various materials and appendices. Your guidance and support this year has really been appreciated. Thank you to our active members of the various membership development committees. Your contributions and feedback on behalf of the membership you represent help shape policies and materials we put together to give to our membership. Thank you to all our athlete reps, Ryan Lewis, Emma Tchakmakjian, Claire Barton, Mariya Koroleva and those serving on committees, all of you help contribute an essential voice to how we shape our culture and our sport. Lastly, thank you to our office staff for balancing competing priorities, and delivering high quality materials to our membership.

Special achievements this year include upgrades to our website that hopefully ensure an easier user experience, the club excellence program, an Intro to Artistic Swimming Guide, a more robust platform on Slo Coach, a return to the water concussion policy, and development of mental health resources for our membership.

We had only a handful of applicants for the Club Excellence Program in its inaugural year, but we are hoping for additional applicants in 2024. This year we are proud to award 4 clubs with Level 1 status and 2 clubs with Level 2 status! Thank you for all your effort and energy completing your applications and setting the example for future clubs. We are very excited to acknowledge each club's accomplishments at convention this year. We are also very excited to roll out a membership growth strategy for USAAS. Details are upcoming. Thank you to all committee members who supported this effort as well as a special shoutout to Kelly Premo our membership & athlete safety manager.

Finally, thank you to all outgoing committee heads, committee members and board members who work to benefit and push our sport forward and put membership first.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jocilyn Saylor  
VP Membership Development

