

Dear USA Synchro!

As April draws to a close, some of us shift gears into the Age Group season or to the international season. For those of you aiming to qualify for the eSynchro Age Group Championships, my best wishes. As you practice and prepare for your competitions, stay focused on “what you want to make happen,” the performance you want to have.

In the next few weeks, we will be having National Team Trials for our Junior National Team, our 13-15 National Team, and our 11-12 National Team. For those swimmers who have qualified, congratulations!! You have already demonstrated that you are among the elite athletes in our country. Good luck in the trials.

Our collegiate synchro program is a high priority of mine. For many of our swimmers, their goal is to compete with a college team. With at least 35 colleges and universities offering varsity or club programs, there are many opportunities for our high school seniors to continue swimming in college, but it is never enough. In this tough economic climate, maintaining existing programs is difficult. When I was at a University in my area last week, I learned that the University was dropping six athletic programs, and another nearby University was dropping three programs, including swimming and diving. Synchro programs are not being singled out, and I still believe we can maintain most of our programs and add programs at different Colleges and Universities. Our Collegiate Committee is hard at work, but we need the help of everyone to increase the number of our collegiate programs. Rebecca Story from Wheaton College is the chair of the Collegiate Subcommittee. If you have ideas, suggestions, or connections at a nearby college or university, please share them with her. This must be a team effort in order to be successful.

All the Best!

Duke