

## National honor for ANA Synchro head coach

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ANA Synchro head coach Leah Pinette won the Developmental Coach of the Year Award at the USA Synchro 2014 National convention last month in Jacksonville, Fla.

The award, given out by USA Synchro, the national governing body of synchronized swimming, is presented annually to the top coach in the country who has made a significant impact in helping athletes progress to higher levels of the sport within the last 12 months.

“This award reinforces what all of us at the Y know already – that Leah inspires confidence in young girls and helps them achieve great things,” Alex Turek, executive director of the Andover/North Andover YMCA, where ANA Synchro is based, said in a release.

“She is dedicated to the girls on the team, she is passionate about her sport, and she understands how positive coaching helps young girls achieve performance and build character.”

Pinette took over as head coach of ANA Synchro in September 2013. Prior to that, she was a nine-time member of the U.S. National Synchronized Swimming Team and served as captain of the 2011-2012 U.S. Olympic Selection Team.

In addition to her work with ANA Synchro, Pinette also serves on the Athletes Skill and Development Coordinating Board of USA Synchro, where she works with other coaches across the country to help USA Synchro implement its Long-Term Athlete Development Program.

“I am truly honored by this award,” Pinette said in the release. “It’s very rewarding to work with our young girls and to advance this sport that has given me so much.”

ANA Synchro is the competitive synchronized swimming team of the Andover/North Andover YMCA. The team is open to girls ages 6 to 19. Girls wishing to join the team or try the sport for the first time may contact Pinette at 978-685-3541 or [lpinette@mvyymca.org](mailto:lpinette@mvyymca.org).



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COURTESY PHOTOUSA Synchro recognized Leah Pinette, head coach of ANA Synchro at the Andover/North Andover YMCA, as its Developmental Coach of the Year.