Laptop Hook-Up & Settings for Virtual Calling on Zoom

The following points will help you when hooking-up your laptop(s) to call/cue on zoom with either one laptop to play the music and operate zoom or to use 2 devices, one to play the music and the other to operate zoom. *(See diagram)*

There are several ways to hook-up your sound system and audio settings for zoom but I have good luck with the hook-up and setting listed below. Depending on your equipment your hook-up and adjustments may vary. For details on how to do the Zoom settings outlined below visit:

https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/sections/200319096-Audio

Zoom Audio Setting:
1. Set both Microphone and speaker to USB sound card
2. Turn Off the setting that says "Automatically adjust microphone volume"
3. Suppress background noise (Setting on low seems to work ok)
4. Check the setting that says "Show in-meeting option to enable 'Original Sound' " Experimentation may be required to see if you fare better with Original Sound off or on.
5. Zoom Speaker and Microphone volume levels to be set at about 60%

Amplifier Setting (Assuming MA150 or MA220):
1. Auxiliary jack volume should not be greater than 50%
2. Music & microphone volumes and their tone settings will need to be tested while on zoom. It is best to pretest before a dance session starts. During the dance session you can ask for feedback if the voice/music mix is good at the start of each tip. What you hear will be different than what the dancers are receiving.
3. Either a handheld mic or wireless headset mic can be used.

Speaker Placement & Internet connection:
1. There is a possibility because of the smaller room you will be calling in the placement of your speaker needs to be positioned so that you do not get feedback. You may even need to place the speaker on the floor and muffle it with a blanket. This factor is very sensitive to the room you are calling from and will require experimentation to find the best solution.
2. Zoom can be sensitive to bandwidth and transmission speed issues. Wherever possible you should choose the fastest available option when making a network connectivity choice. For example hooking the computer running Zoom directly to the router box with an Ethernet cable is preferable to a wifi connection. If you must use wifi, try to be close to the router or a repeater.