

2024 MWS Elections= Nominees with Bio

Non Athlete Delegate at Large

Sarah Pettit-Daniels

Greater Omaha Aquatics Leopardsharks

Sarah Pettit-Daniels is a graduate of the University of Nebraska Lincoln, with over 25 years of leadership experience. Well versed in the world of youth and elite level athletics and NGB operations as a prior member of USA Roller Sports. As an athlete, she has had the experience of training at the US Olympic Training center, and is a former national champion for inline speed skating. Sarah also comes to us with many years of experience coaching youth hockey.

As a parent of two swimmers, she has a strong passion for helping Midwestern Swimming support their mission of maximizing opportunities for the growth and the success of all current and future swimmers through competitive swimming.

Jack French

Swim Omaha

I grew up swimming competitively in Mission Viejo, CA and I have three kids who all compete at the age group level. As an active duty Navy Officer who has lived in several parts of the country, I have participated as a swimming parent, volunteer, and an official in six different LSCs. I am interested in the Member At-Large position because I see a lot of potential for Midwestern Swimming and I will bring my knowledge and experience from other LSCs here.

Steve Henderson

Unattached

I am very interested in the possibility of joining the Midwestern Swimming Board. I believe that as parents the best thing we can do to support our kids is to volunteer our time. Anyone can write a check or donate something to a cause, but being present and providing hands on support and lending our individual skills is, in my opinion, the biggest piece of the success of youth sports. I am a person who works hard for my causes and I'm always willing to learn new things or listen to a new idea. I am passionate about the success of our swimmers and think there is so much we can do to help them be successful in the pool and in life.

My wife, Rachael, and I live in the Elkhorn area with our three kids - Georgia (15), Alice (12) and Henry (11). Georgia swims with the Senior Nationals group at GOAL during club season and Elkhorn Swim and Dive during the high school season. I have previously served on the Gretna Elite Academy soccer club and ACE boards. I also lend my help as an assistant coach to my son's baseball team. Kids' sports is a big part of our family life here.

Mike Nobling

Stingray Swim Team

Renee Schomburg Lifetime – Omaha

I've been coaching for 15 years this Fall in the Omaha area, for four different teams, 6 years and two teams were USA, the other two were at the YMCA and at the JCC. Three of my teams have been in a developing and growing phase during my involvement. I understand what it is like to be both an independent team governed by a board as well as being apart of something bigger with multiple locations but one team like with the YMCA. Presently my current corporate owned and ran team has its own hurdles and intricacies. I have experience as an assistant coach and a head coach, both under USA and Recreational. The size of teams I have been apart from as small as 12 swimmers to as large as 150-170. As I have grown in my experience and understanding of the sport, I look forward to a new opportunity to be apart of something even bigger than just my team.

Finance Chair

Betsy Purcell Unattached

Most of you know me as an official and the current general chair of Midwestern Swimming. For those who do not, I would like to share a little bit of my background.

Four of my five children were age group swimmers, with 3 of them swimming at least 1 year in high school. I have been an official for Midwestern Swimming since 1997. I started officiating high school in 2000, and have done a little bit of college through the years. I have been on the Board of Midwestern Swimming for about 10 years. I was the Officials Chair for 4 years, the Safe Sport Chair for 2 years and the General Chair for 4 years now.

In my life outside of swimming I have been doing accounting for about 50 years, and with my current employer almost 25 years. I work with payroll and payroll taxes, financials, and budgets on a daily basis. I think the position of Finance Chair would be a good fit for my skills and a way for me to continue to serve Midwestern Swimming.

Thank you for your consideration.

Betsy Purcell

Jeff Steiner Brownell Talbot

Senior Chair

Anthony Miles Aquatic Club of Elkhorn

I moved to Omaha in 2016 and started coaching High School. I started coaching for iNspire in 2020 where I coached age group and senior group swimmers. I joined ACE in 2023 coaching senior level swimmers. I was an assistant coach for Zones in 2023. I will be new to the board, bringing new ideas to Midwestern Swimming. I am looking forward to implementing some ideas to improve Midwestern Swimming and being a contributing member and implementing some ideas for change of the Midwestern Board of Directors.

David Nelson Norfolk YMCA Aquajets

Has been a member of Midwestern swimming since 2002. Has been around to see the many changes that the LSC has gone through. Head zone coach 2006 and 2008. Midwestern senior coach of the year 2008. Head coach of Norfolk YMCA Aquajets for the past 22 years. Would like to help continue the LSC grow

Administrative Vice-Chair

Steve Kidder

Unattached

My daughter started swimming in 2013 and I helped as a timer. In 2019 I became an Official and am currently an N2 Deck Ref. I have worded over 400 sessions. I have worked meets in most of the LSCs in the Central Zone in addition to several in the Southern and Western Zone. I am retired from the Council Bluffs Police Department so I have the time to devote to the LSC.

Adam Ogura

Swim Omaha

Hello,

I am Adam Ogura and I have been involved in Midwestern Swimming for about 7 years. My oldest daughter Alice started with Lifetime where I eventually joined coach Jay as a certified coach. We then moved to iNspire and I began officiating about 5 years ago. My youngest daughter Stella started swimming competitively with iNspire too. When Thor decided to close the team at the end of 2023, we moved to Swim Omaha.

I am passionate about supporting the sport that my girls chose and enjoy being on deck and helping out in any way I can. I have my LSC certifications for ST, SR, and DR and N2 ST with SR application in. Alice made it to sectionals this spring and it was an excellent experience to work on a national deck. I would like to continue progressing and working at higher level meets.

I am interested in the Admin Vice Chair position to continue supporting the sport. I have extensive experience in my work career that I think I can leverage to support midwestern swimming and its athletes, officials, and coaches.

Thank you!
Adam Ogura

General Chair

Bill Haney

Unattached

My name is Bill Haney and I am running for the position of LSC General Chairman. I have been a USA Swimming official for 36 years and hold current certifications in all of USA Swimming's National certification positions. Prior to moving home to Nebraska in 2014, I spent 25 years as an official in Arizona and was originally certified as an official in Sioux City in 1987. During my time spent in the desert southwest I served 4 years as the Arizona Swimming LSC Administrative Vice-Chairman, 4 years as the General Chairman, and 2 years as it's Officials Chairman. I am currently the Chairman of the Midwestern LSC Administrative Review Board and just completed a six year stint as a member of the LSC Officials Committee.

Professionally, I am a licensed civil engineer and was the director of major water and wastewater public utilities in two different cities over 26 years – one of them being a city of over 510,000 residents with annual utility revenues of \$150+ million. I also served as the chairman of a water improvement district serving 3400 customers in a couple of Arizona mountain communities. All of these experiences have given me significant insight into both governance and management of complex organizations with different and competing interests.

I am running for the Chair position because, first and foremost, USA Swimming has been very good to my entire family for over 36 years and I continue to enjoy the opportunity to give back to the organization. As is the case with most of other LSC's, we need to continue to address issues such expanding our membership, providing an adequate budget without excessive membership fees, providing fair and equal access to quality swim meets, and recruiting/retaining competent officials to manage our competitions. These are ongoing issues that will always require our attention. In addition, and more importantly, as an LSC we need to give our serious attention to succession planning for the senior leadership of the LSC and begin the process of identifying and providing opportunities for our future chairpersons and Board leaders. This is one area where I had a great deal of success as General Chair in Arizona.

Finally, as an LSC, we need to start building and fostering relationships with our various governmental leaders and private sector "movers and shakers" with development of more and better aquatic facilities as the long term goal. This last item will definitely be a multi-year (possibly a really long term) effort. But as the experts in understanding the needs and requirements for competition pools and natatoriums, this is a task that the LSC simply must tackle now if we are ever to construct the type of facility(s) that is truly needed in Nebraska/Western Iowa.

I thank you for the time you have given to the sport and would greatly appreciate your vote.

Stephen Marchitelli

Unattached

I have been officiating swimming since the year 2000. I was also on the board of the Metro Omaha Swim Team. I have Officiated Swim meets at all levels, USA, High School and NCAA. I have officiated meets from numerous local meets, Sectionals, Zones, Grand Prix, TYR Pro, US Open, US Nationals, to the Olympic Trials. I have also supported the Special Olympics in our area. I currently serving as the Central Zone Officials Chair. I have also held the Midwestern Officials Chair position in the past. I am running for the general chair position and feel my experience will serve the swimmers of Midwestern. We should always put the athlete first in all of our decisions. I am a prior military officer with 28 years of service and this experience will help me in guiding Midwestern.

Stephanie Martinez Unattached

I am honored to be nominated as General Chair for Midwestern Swimming. My family has been involved in swimming since 2001 when my first child began swim lessons with Jeannie Neal in her Face-up First program. Each of my four children went through her program and then went on to swim at the club level. Wanting to get more involved in swimming, I became an Stroke and Turn official in 2011 and continued to advance as an official through 2015 when I became a Referee. Most recently, I have been certified on the National level as a N3 Stroke and Turn and N2 Referee. I love being on deck and being fully immersed in the competition with the swimmers, coaches and other officials working tirelessly to provide the best swim experience for the swimmers as possible.

In addition to being an official, I have been a member of the Board of Directors as a member of the Board of Review in approximately 2011 and Treasurer, a position which I still currently hold, since approximately 2014. As Treasurer, I also serve on the Finance Committee and have assisted in the preparation of the annual budget and taxes.

If elected as General Chair, I would like to work with all of our clubs and coaches across the state to make sure that all voices are heard when decisions need to be made. I am confident that we all have the best interest of the swimmers at heart, and to that end, all decisions should be transparent to demonstrate that the Board also has that same goal. The duties and responsibilities of the General Chair are matters that I handle in my profession on a daily basis and would have the competence to carry out as General Chair as well. I will listen, learn, and present all information to the Board to promote what is in the best interest of the swimmers based on all of the information that is provided to me by swimmers, coaches, officials and parents. It would be a privilege to serve Midwestern Swimming as General Chair.