

**Nominating Committee  
Committee Chair Bios and Statements of Purpose**

**Adult Skating – Aviva Cantor**

**Bio:**

As a pigeon-toed four-year-old, Aviva’s orthopedic doctor recommended skating lessons for therapeutic reasons. What was meant to be a short-lived hobby became a lifelong passion, as Aviva has now been skating regularly and competitively for nearly 28 years. As a lifetime skater who never took breaks throughout childhood, college or adulthood, it is Aviva’s goal to encourage other skaters to also pursue longevity in the sport. Aviva has competed at the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships five times (six as of 2019), National Showcase twice, and Midwestern Adult Sectionals once. She has passed intermediate moves in the field, adult gold free skate and pre-silver partnered dance. She is currently working on novice moves in the field, silver partnered dance and novice solo free dance.

Named “Miss Congeniality” by her adult gold competitors, Aviva’s mantra is to “be serious about your skating, but don’t take yourself too seriously.” Aviva embodies this advice through her entertaining, character-based showcase programs. She also has a strong interest in choreography, music editing and costume design. Aviva’s mother, Janice, is also an adult skater. Janice began skating at the age of 44 with aspirations to learn a crossover. Recently, she passed two silver partnered dances at the age of 71. It is Aviva’s goal to be an advocate for adult skaters in the United States by representing “class I” adult skaters like herself, “class V” adult skaters like her mother and absolutely everyone in between.

Aviva is a seasoned skating volunteer who enjoys performing in charity ice shows and assisting with Compete USA competitions as a judge, referee, announcer and ice monitor. She is a certified Special Olympics figure skating coach with Special Olympics of North Carolina. In addition to her involvement as a competitor and volunteer, Aviva is an avid figure skating fan, a devoted IceTalk podcast subscriber and a first-place winner of U.S. Figure Skating Fantasy Skating. She has been an audience member for six U.S. Figure Skating Championships, four Skate Americas and one U.S. Collegiate Figure Skating Championships.

**Statement of Purpose:**

I’m grateful to have been selected to serve as Chair of the Adult Skating Committee. During my two years on this committee, I have enjoyed being part of an amazing, intelligent and resilient group of volunteers who serve as advocates for the adult skating community in the United States. As I think about the significance of our committee, I’d like to draw your attention to the mission statement on the cover of the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan: “Together we foster fun and inspire a lifelong passion for skating while developing champions on and off the ice.”

Every ounce of this statement relates to adult skating. Let’s break it down:

*Fostering fun*

As a lifelong skater, I have always said that the day I stop having fun will be the day I stop skating. This is our recreational activity and the rink should always be our happy place. For some skaters, this is our therapy. For others, this is our gym. And for every skater, this is the place where we have come to achieve goals and have fun along the way.

*Lifelong passion*

For every amount of time, money, energy and effort that I put into skating, it gives something back to me that is worth so much more than whatever I put into it. Keeping up with skating throughout college and adulthood is incredibly rewarding. U.S. Figure Skating members are privileged to have so many opportunities to stay involved with the sport throughout their lifetime. I want to help everyone embrace these opportunities.

### *Developing champions on and off the ice*

One of the primary goals of the Adult Skating Committee is to maintain the unique culture of the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships as both the premier competitive event and annual “family reunion.” Our organization and our committee provide the opportunity for adult skaters to work hard throughout the year and attend an annual event where they not only have fun (see above), but also become champions. I look forward to seeing the continued success of the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships as our “family” continues to grow.

I would not be in this wonderful position if it weren't for our exiting chair, Lori Fussell. Thanks to Lori, I feel prepared, as she's taught me so much over the past year. I know that I'm starting this new chapter with the Adult Skating Committee in an excellent state in terms of its leadership, membership, vision and financial stability. This is all because of Lori, and I have big shoes to fill. It is my goal to carry on her outstanding work and to do whatever I can to help the committee continue to thrive and grow.

I look forward to working together with U.S. Figure Skating's staff, volunteer leaders, committees, clubs, and members in the upcoming season as we work together to promote a lifetime love of figure skating in the United States.

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### **Coaches – Phillip DiGuglielmo**

#### **Bio:**

Phillip DiGuglielmo has been in the world of figure skating for over 40 years. He has been a national competitor, show performer and an active coach for over 20 years. He is a double gold medalist in figures and freestyle and as a competitor has had the pleasure to train with some of the greatest coaches in U.S. history, including Hans Gershwiler, Peter Burrows and Carlo and Christa Fassi. After his competitive career he toured with Dorothy Hamill's Ice Capades and then returned to school where he graduated from the University of Colorado at Denver with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Chemistry.

As a coach, Phillip has coached skaters at the National Championships, International competitions, Four Continents and Worlds. He holds a PSA Master Rating in Freestyle and a Certified Rating in Moves in the Field. He began his teaching career at the South Suburban Ice Arena in Littleton, CO for six years before moving to the Bay Area in 2004 where he has been teaching at the Oakland Ice Center in Oakland, CA. Phillip currently teaches all types of skaters including beginners, adults and competitive skaters. He has taught the arena's figures class for many years and has been active with the local therapeutic skating program.

Phillip is a National Tech Specialist and a Sectional Data Operator and has had the privilege of being on the Championship Men's event at the 2017 U.S. Championships. He has served on many U.S. Figure Skating committees including Grievance, International, Singles Development Subcommittee, Technical and Coaches (as Vice Chair for Singles). Phillip has served on the board of the St Moritz ISC as a member and the Vice President. He also developed and chaired a beginner level competition (Rising Stars) with SMISC and the Oakland Ice Center.

#### **Statement of Purpose:**

The coaches' perspective is one of the most important in our sport. I will use my voice and strong personal relations with other U.S. Figure Skating leadership in order to help provide our coaches with the tools they need so they can be successful, and their athletes can reach their full potential. Specifically, I will work towards a more coordinated and transparent effort between various committees such as Technical and Membership. I will strengthen the bonds with other U.S. Figure Skating initiatives from Learn To Skate USA through to high performance development to identify and address problems and concerns; while being mindful to leverage new forms of technology to achieve this goal.

I will seek to expand engagement with our grass roots level coaches, working with the PSA and other U.S. Figure Skating committees, as well as Learn to Skate USA, to further develop teaching of solid basic skating techniques. For our Regional through National coaches, I will continue to support our webinars and build greater understanding of

the IJS system and rule nuances. The committee will continue to recognize our elite coaches in conjunction with PSA through the EDI awards, including Coach of the Year, in addition to addressing communication opportunities with the High-Performance Development team. Finally, I will work with other committees to help our coaching ranks (and our entire membership) move into this new territory of Safe-Sport compliance.

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### **Competitions – Kathleen Krieger**

#### **Bio:**

A former skater and busy official, Kathleen Krieger has served on multiple committees, most recently as Midwest Sectional Vice Chair of the Competitions Committee for 5 years and before that as Midwest Sectional Vice Chair of the Judges Committee. Kathleen officiates as a judge, referee and technical panel official at numerous non-qualifying and qualifying competitions throughout the country on an annual basis.

Kathleen holds a Bachelor of Science and Pharmacy degree from Purdue University and has been a pharmacist for Walgreens for over 43 years. Kathleen resides in Arlington Heights, Illinois and is married to Bob Krieger with a daughter, Kelly, who is also a former skater.

#### **Statement of Purpose:**

With the restructuring of the Competitions Committee, every effort will be made to ensure a smooth transition and collaboration with the chair of Domestic Selections in the assignments of regional and sectional officials for the 2019-2020 season. The committee will be working closely with headquarters to ensure the success of the National Qualifying Series with monitoring by the committee to make sure all rules are being followed and that it will continue to provide our clubs and athletes with flexibility within our competition structure. Recruitment of referees is a top priority, especially with the NQS in place and the need for regional level and higher referees to serve our clubs and competitions. With IJS being utilized more than ever within our competition structure, keeping up with technology and updating video equipment is a priority for our officials.

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### **Dance Development and Technical – Elyse Matsumoto**

#### **Bio:**

Elyse Matsumoto is a National Dance judge, Regional Singles and Pairs Judge, and Gold Test judge. She also serves as Eastern Vice Chair of the Tests Committee. Matsumoto skated competitively and passed her senior moves, gold dance, and nine international dance tests. She currently resides in Boston, Massachusetts and works in marketing for NESN (New England Sports Network).

#### **Statement of Purpose:**

The objective of the committee is to work in partnership with the high performance and skating programs to foster growth, development, and long-term success of ice dance athletes in the U.S. This will require overseeing technical rules relating to ice dance competitions and tests and collaborating with representatives from the international group to ensure the rules and development programs throughout the competitive pipeline support achievement at the high-performance level.

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### **Domestic Officials – Todd Bromley**

#### **Bio:**

Todd Bromley is a former competitor in both singles and pairs. He has been a U.S. Figure Skating judge for more than 30 years. Todd currently holds the following appointments: ISU Championship judge in singles/pairs, national technical controller and a video operator, novice sectional dance judge, national referee singles/pairs and a sectional

dance referee. Todd has served on numerous committees throughout his years of service with U.S. Figure Skating. Most recently, Todd served this past year as chair of the Judges Committee. Todd has also previously served as the regional and sectional vice chair of judges for the Midwest section. Todd was previous chair of the Selections Committee. Todd also serves in the capacity as a team leader for Team USA. Todd is one of a select few that have had the honor of serving as the Chief Referee for two different U.S. Figure Skating Championships (2009 – Cleveland, OH and 2014 – Boston, MA). Todd graduated with a BSBA in marketing and finance from the University of Denver. Todd currently resides in Carrollton, Texas.

**Statement of Purpose:**

As Chair, Domestic Officials, I would continue to focus on the recruitment of new and qualified officials (judges, technical panel, accountant, technical accountants, announcers, music officials, and referees) for all disciplines and establish common guidelines and standards for improving the overall quality of all officials at all levels. This would be accomplished through some of the following initiatives: evaluate and assess the overall effectiveness of the specific training schools for each type of official; review and update current appointment guidelines as needed to fit into the new competition structure; establish a standard evaluation and assessment process to assess the core competencies and performance of all officials. I would partner with the Chair, Domestic Selections to ensure our best officials are being utilized and have adequate active throughout the year; making recommendations for assignments for all qualifying U.S. Figure Skating events. I would also work in tandem with the Chair, Officials Training Committee to further develop on-line continuing education and interactive training modules for all officials to stay current throughout the year; as well as, to assist those officials that have been identified as needing further educational opportunities to improve their core competencies in order to excel in their current role.

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**Domestic Selections – Wendy Enzmann**

**Bio:**

Wendy's skating background is extensive, both as skater and as an official for U.S. Figure Skating. She competed at the National level in singles, pairs, and synchronized skating and was an international competitor in singles and synchronized skating. Wendy holds official appointments as an ISU (World) Judge for Singles, Pairs and Synchronized Skating. She is an ISU (World) Singles Technical Controller, an International Pairs Technical Controller, and an International Referee. Additionally, she is a National level Technical Specialist in Singles, Pairs and Synchronized Skating, as well as a National level Data & Video Operator. Wendy is also a Team Leader for U.S. Figure Skating in all disciplines. She has served on numerous committees including: Technical Panel, Judges, JETs, Competitions, International, ICMS, Selections, IJOC, Nominating, Pairs, Tests, Strategic Planning, Synchronized Skating and Membership as well as the Board of Directors for US Figure Skating over the last 25 years. Wendy currently resides in Stow, MA where she lives with her husband and former pair partner, Alexander. They have three grown children- Robert, Duncan, and Johanna. Wendy currently works as a preschool teacher at the Early Learning Center in Acton, MA.

**Statement of Purpose:**

It is an honor to be nominated as the Domestic Selections Committee Chair and I look forward to serving U.S. Figure Skating in this new role. I envision working closely with the Domestic Officials Committee and the various subcommittees to coordinate the recommendations for our official's domestic assignments. Additionally, it will be necessary to work closely with the International Officials Group to align assignments necessary for the talented pool of officials seeking advancements. With the various changes in the governance structure of U.S. Figure Skating as well as the many changes to our competition structure, it is important to also take into consideration the reduction and limitation of assignments for our talented pool of National level officials. With that in mind I hope to explore the possibility for expansion of domestic events that recognize officials at the National Qualifying Series (NQS) competitions and possibly seek additional opportunities for our officials.

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## **Ethics – Steve Wolkin**

### **Bio:**

Steve Wolkin has previously served as the Administrative/Legal Group Coordinator for three years. Previously, he served as Chair of the Grievance Committee for three years. After his term as Administrative/Legal Group Coordinator, he once again served as Chair of the Grievance Committee. Steve is currently a Trustee of the Shaker Figure Skating Club and is President of the Board of Directors of the Greater Cleveland Council of Figure Skating Clubs. He has been an officer of the Shaker Figure Skating Club and the Garfield Heights Figure Skating Club. He currently serves as Vice President for Ohio on the Tri-States Council of Figure Skating Clubs.

Steve has two daughters who have continuously been involved in figure skating since they were young children; both are involved in synchronized skating. The oldest is a coach and an adult skater in San Francisco and attended the 2019 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships with her team this year. Steve's youngest daughter skates on a masters level synchronized skating team and also attended the 2019 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships this year.

Steve is a test judge and a National Synchronized Skating Competition Judges. He is a National Referee for Synchronized Skating. Steve has been practicing as an attorney in the family law area for over forty years in Cleveland, Ohio. Steve resides in Fairview Park, Ohio with his wife Connie, to whom he has been married since 1976.

### **Statement of Purpose:**

The chair of the Ethics Committee interprets, administers and applies The Code of Ethics and The Code of Conduct found in the General Rules of U.S. Figure Skating to issues raised by the membership. Additionally, the chair of the Ethics Committee is to continually update and develop the principles of ethical behavior and Conflict of Interest forms applicable to members of U.S. Figure Skating as well as member clubs. The administration of the U.S. Figure Skating Conflict of Interest Annual Disclosure Process is one of the duties of the chair of the Ethics Committee. Additionally, the Ethics Committee reviews matters submitted by the president, vice presidents and/or members which involve alleged violations of the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct.

The chair of the Ethics Committee will review and provide suggestions for modifications to the Conflict of Interest forms used by U.S. Figure Skating. In the past seven years, the Admin/Legal Group Coordinator, together with the chair of the Grievance Committee, the chair of the Ethics Committee and the chair of SafeSport, have worked closely together in reviewing complex issues that have come before each committee in order to determine whether the issues raised impact one or more of the committees and in determining the procedure to address the complex issues raised by the membership. It is the intent of this nominee to continue that practice should he be appointed as chair of the Ethics Committee.

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## **Grievance – Cynthia York**

### **Bio:**

Cynthia (Cindy) York has been a member of U.S. Figure Skating since 2001 and a member of the Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club since 2002. She started skating in an adult basic skills class, shortly after entering her then-toddler son in Kinder Skate. Thereafter, she skated her way into private lessons, onto an adult synchro team and she has taken standard dance and adult moves tests over the ensuing years. In 2009, she started trialing for various test judge appointments and is now privileged to be able to serve the sport as a Gold Test Judge in Singles, Pairs and Dance. She also began getting more involved in other volunteer efforts within the skating community and has served in the past as Secretary of the Tri-States Council of Figure Skating Clubs, and as Vice-President and then President of the Detroit Metro Skating Council. She has also served her home club from time to time on its various competition committees and as Co-Test Chair. She currently serves on several U.S. Figure Skating Committees – the Grievance Committee, the Tests Committee and as Vice Chair of Interclub Councils for the Membership Committee. Cindy is

an attorney by education and training, being a member of the State Bar of Michigan since 1986. She is retired from the active practice of law; she and her husband currently reside in New Orleans and maintain their second home in Ann Arbor.

**Statement of Purpose:**

The most critical issue to be addressed by the Grievance Committee – always – is to strive to provide our membership with a prompt and equitable resolution of the grievance presented. That mission involves making sure that all persons who come before the Committee are treated fairly, and with respect, and that due process be accorded. A subsidiary critical issue is to make sure that the rules and procedures in place are reasonably designed to achieve that mission, despite the constraints of the current system. There is always room for reflection on what we are doing, and how we can improve the process to better serve the membership. My area of legal expertise has been litigation, with an emphasis on the procedures used to resolve conflict. In all disputes, I tend to focus on process first – so that all parties to the dispute are given timely and adequate notice of the problem, and a full and fair opportunity to be heard, whatever the issue(s) may be. Protecting our athletes is primary. Protecting all of our members, and protecting the integrity of our member clubs, however, can be equally important. But in conflict resolution, protecting the rights of those accused of misconduct is essential – every person involved must be accorded due process – a prompt and full and fair opportunity to explain their perspective. I would be honored to have the opportunity to use my best efforts to uphold this mission in service to U.S. Figure Skating.

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**International – Samuel Auxier**

**Bio:**

Sam is currently the International Committee Chair and the immediate past president of U.S. Figure Skating. He was a competitive figure skater and a gold medalist in figures and free style. Sam has served on many committees including Judges, Competitions and International and is an ISU Championship judge and International Referee for Singles and Pairs. Sam judged the Men’s and Men’s Team event at the 2014 Olympics in Sochi and has judged at numerous World, World Jr, Four Continents and U.S. Championships. He lives in Glen Ellyn, with his wife Lynn and as four adult children. Professionally, he recently retired from Deloitte, where he was a partner in the Financial Services practice. He currently serves on multiple Boards, including that of the Scott Hamilton Cares Foundation.

**Statement of Purpose:**

The International Committee’s purpose is to support our athletes as they compete internationally and to maximize the number of medals they win while representing U.S. Figure Skating. This will be achieved by working closely with U.S. Figure Skating’s high performance team to develop athletes at all levels by selecting the best international events for each athlete and helping them prepare, providing feedback and monitoring their progress.

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**International Officials – Peggy Graham**

**Bio:**

Peggy Graham is a double gold medalist in figures and free skating and a former singles competitor at regionals and sectionals. She began judging over 35 years ago and is currently an ISU judge for singles and pairs, an International and National Referee and a regional technical controller. She served as the Chief Referee for the U.S. Championships in St. Paul in 2016.

Peggy has served on numerous committees for U.S. Figure Skating over the years and is currently the Chair of the International Judges and Officials Committee and a member of the Singles Discipline Group of the International Committee.

Peggy graduated from Smith College with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and received her law degree from The Boston University School of Law. She practiced civil litigation with Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher for many years and then became a Senior Attorney for AT&T. She happily "retired" from law upon the birth of her first child. She has served on many non-profit boards primarily related to education. She and her husband, John, have three daughters and live in Denver, Colorado.

**Statement of Purpose:**

This position requires exceptional organizational skills, interpersonal skills and an ability to listen and balance the input of the various members. I will keep records required to maintain, evaluate and recommend appointments, promotions, demotions and removals of International and ISU officials. This will require closely monitoring officials' activity ensuring they have the assignments necessary to maintain and pursue International and ISU appointments where appropriate. I will also communicate with International/ISU officials regarding rule updates, feedback and evaluations and facilitate training and seminar attendance required by the ISU for ISU/International judges, referees and technical officials. I have formed a small working group of the IJOC (soon to be the International Officials Committee) to evaluate our long-term needs and make recommendations to the committee at large.

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**International Selections – Deveny Deck**

**Bio:**

Deveny Deck is a double gold medalist and a former competitor in singles and pairs. She and her partner were the 1985 U.S. National Junior Pair Champions and competed internationally as members of Team USA in senior pairs. Deck has been a U.S. Figure Skating judge for 30 years, currently serving as an ISU singles and pairs judge, an international technical controller, national specialist, sectional referee and sectional synchronized skating judge. She has judged many international competitions including the ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships, the ISU Grand Prix Final, the ISU Junior World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, and the 2018 Winter Olympic Games, PyeongChang, KOR. She has also been a team leader for Team USA at many international competitions.

Deck has served on numerous U.S. Figure Skating Committees including the Athletes Advisory Committee, Board of Directors as a Member-at-Large, and Chair of the Pairs Committee. She has participated as a faculty member at judge education training seminars (JETS), national technical panel seminars, and participated in several Team USA Champs Camps. Deck was a member of the Board of Directors for the 2003 ISU World Figure Skating Championships, Washington, DC, and currently serves on the Capitol Skating Fund that provides support to skaters in the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC area.

She holds a B.A. from the University of Michigan and a J.D. from the University of Detroit. She lives in northern Virginia with her husband and daughter.

**Statement of Purpose:**

It is an honor to be nominated to serve as Chair of the International Selections Committee for U.S. Figure Skating. I will work with the committee to facilitate the selection of officials and support staff for international competitions and championship events. It is imperative that we select our best officials and team support staff for U.S. Figure Skating and Team USA. I will strive to uphold high committee standards, and diligently manage the work of the committee to help achieve the strategic goals of U.S. Figure Skating.

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**Membership – Patrick O'Neil**

**Bio:**

Patrick has over twenty years of coaching experience and has had the privilege of working with athletes of all ages and abilities, from the grassroots through national level. He holds his B.A. in Political Science and Public

Administration from The American University, Washington, D.C. and his Masters in Social Work from Syracuse University. Patrick maintains his licensure as a Child and Family Therapist and has worked with children and families off the ice, in many capacities, over the years.

With U.S. Figure Skating, he holds his gold medal in Freestyle and Dance, and is a Technical Specialist for the organization. Patrick is the current Membership Chair and has actively participated in numerous committees including the Membership Committee, Parents Committee, Grievance Committee, and the SafeSport Committee. He works closely with member clubs around the country on a variety of issues including bylaws and conflict resolution. He had the pleasure and responsibility of directing a large competitive program in the Midwest for thirteen years, and has extensive experience working with athletes and coaches, both domestically and internationally. He thoroughly enjoys conducting seminars with coaches on the “hows” and “whys” of teaching.

With the Professional Skaters Association, Patrick has attained his Master Ratings in Freestyle and Moves in the Field and dedicates his time as a ratings examiner for the PSA in those two disciplines. He is a current board member, Ratings Prep faculty, member of the Committee on Professional Standards, member of the National Education Committee and Chairs the Seminars/Webinars Committee.

**Statement of Purpose:**

Through the continued great work of the current Membership Development Group Coordinator, Alan Wolf and the Senior Director of Membership, Susi Wehrli, membership is fortunate to be on solid footing. The membership department continues to have a successful rollout of Learn To Skate USA, and our sectional vice chairs of membership continue to provide a critical resource to clubs across the country.

Moving forward, my vision for the Membership Committee is as follows:

1. Continue to focus on programming that retains and grows our membership
    - a. Work closely with and support membership staff at headquarters
    - b. Work closely with Learn To Skate USA Business Development Specialists to ensure they have the necessary tools for rolling out the Learn To Skate USA program
    - c. Work closely with Program Development on programs that benefit all levels of skating
    - d. Continue to find areas of the country that require our Learn To Skate USA workshop and provide the necessary programming
    - e. Revamp and roll-out new Bridge Programing
    - f. Promote and grow our Adaptive Skating Program
  2. Continue with Club Education and Club Ed Plus Seminars
    - a. Work with the membership department to identify areas of the country that can benefit from Club Education Seminars
    - b. Identify interclubs/metro councils in the country that can afford to help offset the cost to bring club education to their area
    - c. Run Club Ed Plus Workshops in markets that can support it
  3. Continue to offer support to our members and member clubs on the wide range of issues they face in the current marketplace
    - a. Offer support and guidance on how to utilize “best business practices”
    - b. Continue outreach to clubs that need support
  4. Explore options on providing stronger resources to help clubs through conflict resolution
    - a. A great deal of time is spent on conflict type issues by the membership department taking away their focus from member retention and member programing
    - b. We need to find ways to address the conflict within clubs with more interaction between and among other committees; specifically with grievance, SafeSport and ethics
  5. Work collaboratively with the Professional Skaters Association to provide quality education to the grassroots coach
  6. Reach out to clubs throughout the country to establish what their needs are and how best the membership department can serve their needs
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## **Memorial Fund – Kitty DeLio LaForte**

### **Bio:**

Kitty served as Memorial Fund Chair for the past 2 years, and Vice Chair Memorial Fund for three years prior. She has her U.S. Figure Skating Gold Test Figures/Freestyle and competed Pre-Juvenile thru Senior at Regionals and Sectionals. Skated as a principle performer with her sister Heidi DeLio Thibert for three years (shadow pair) with Ice Capades (Continental & East Companies), as well as did chorus line and understudy work. Prior to becoming a U.S. Figure Skating judge, she coached figure skating for 13 years (Basic Skills-Senior level skaters). Kitty has served as a U.S. Figure Skating Judge since 1993 and is currently an International Singles/Pairs Judge, National Judge Single/Pairs & Theatre on Ice Judge, and Gold Test Judge Singles/Pairs. She is a Regional Referee and has served as Chief Referee for several non-qualifying competitions over the past 20 years as well as judged many non-qualifying and qualifying competitions. Kitty has served on the following U.S. Figure Skating Committees: Judges, Selections, Competitions, Strategic Planning, Nominating, Competitions, International Pairs Discipline Group, Pairs Development Sub-Committee and Memorial Fund. Kitty has served as a Team Leader for U.S. Figure Skating for 18 years at various assignment locations. She has attended Governing Council as a delegate for Colorado Skating Club for 19 years and served on the Board of Colorado Skating Club since 1998 and currently serves as Treasurer/Past President. Kitty currently works full time for KUSA TV (NBC Affiliate) in Denver as Research Director (Sales Department) where she has been since 2006. She has her BSBA from University of Denver.

### **Statement of Purpose:**

We are in year two of the revived annual fund raising for Memorial Fund at the Regional Championships which creates awareness of Memorial Fund to our younger skaters and raised funds. I believe the Chair of Memorial Fund is responsible for leadership in fund raising activities and programs to support the Memorial Fund with increasing donations to the Fund. As Chair I would also work with U.S. Figure Skating staff to administer the applications for eligible skaters as well as lead the evaluation process for the selection of scholarship awards as well as creating/updating fundraising events each year. The Memorial Fund's endowment earnings are used to help young talented skaters, our elite Olympic hopefuls with funds to help with training expenses. Qualified skaters can also apply for education academic tuition scholarships. I believe working on continued outreach to members and fans will result in additional donations to The Memorial Fund which will continue to help our athletes for years to come. If nominated and selected, I would happily serve as Memorial Fund Chair.

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## **Officials Recruitment and Training – Whitney Luke**

### **Bio:**

Whitney Luke has been a member of U.S. Figure Skating for more than thirty years after she began skating at the age of two. She is a triple gold medalist (Figures, Moves in the Field, and Freeskating) and competed twice at the Sectional level and once at the National level. Whitney is a National Singles/Pairs Judge as well as a Regional Technical Controller for Singles.

Within U.S. Figure Skating, she has served on many committees including the Grievance Committee, the Singles Committee, the Judges Committee (Eastern Great Lakes Regional Vice-Chair for Singles/Pairs and Midwestern Sectional Vice-Chair for Singles/Pairs), and the JETS Committee (National Vice-Chair). She has also served as the team physician for U.S. Figure Skating for the Nations Cup (Theatre on Ice) in Paris, France in 2015.

Outside of figure skating, she is a board-certified physician in physical medicine and rehabilitation and subspecialty board-certified in pain medicine as well as addiction medicine. She currently works as a clinical assistant professor at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and holds various leadership roles within the university including Clinical Vice-Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Medical Director of Oncology Rehabilitation, Admissions Committee member for the OSU School of Medicine, and a member of the Medical Education Committee.

In her free time, Whitney loves to travel, try out new restaurants, and spend time with her family, friends, and badly-behaved, but adorable dog Sawyer.

**Statement of Purpose:**

It is an honor to be nominated for the role of Chair of the Officials Recruitment and Training Committee. Critical issues for this committee to address include ensuring the quality of officiating that is occurring at all levels and disciplines, augmenting the availability of educational resources for our officials for both promotion and continuing education, and ultimately increasing the volume of officials across all disciplines and areas.

First, to ensure quality of officiating across the continuum, I would like to work on implementation of expansion of educational opportunities and competency assessments amongst all committees. Currently, we do not consistently assess and provide feedback on individual officials' performances unless they are actively pursuing promotion. Like in any area of professional development, one is not able to improve and succeed without feedback and mentoring along the continuum.

Specifically, to ensure quality of judging across the continuum, I would like to implement required competency assessments in all fields. As Vice-Chair of JETs this year, we have been working towards the goal of implementation of a required judges' exam to be completed prior to the beginning of qualifying competition for the upcoming 2019-2020 season. I feel that we have a duty to ensure our judges have access to multiple educational opportunities, are staying up-to-date on all guidelines, and are able to apply judging criteria on a consistent basis.

Other ways of increasing available educational activities include expanding local judges' and technical official schools as well as initiation and expansion of online learning modules and webinars. I feel that there are many platforms for education that we are not fully utilizing. These platforms, such as online learning modules, webinars, and assessments would allow us to disperse information to a large group with low cost.

Specific areas of education that we can begin to target would be additional judges' schools specific to GOE and component marking, re-initiation of a pairs school at U.S. Championships, initiation of a synchronized skating judges' school, and expansion of the continuing education schools for technical panel officials to include testing up through the National level.

Ultimately, I feel that with the addition of more educational experiences we can increase the volume of our officials while ensuring their competency within each discipline. With the quantity of competitions and test sessions throughout the US, we need to make sure we are increasing the number and capacity of officials available to participate while ensuring the highest quality of officiating.

I feel that my experience as a physician who participates in medical education both nationally and internationally directly translates to the new Officials Training Committee. With the recent strategic realignment, I look forward to working closely with other committee chairs within this new role and am excited at the opportunities to grow our officials' education and training program.

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**Pairs Development and Technical – Danielle Hartsell Minnis**

**Bio:**

Danielle Hartsell Minnis is a former pairs skater. Along with her partner, Steve Hartsell she was the 1999 U.S. National Pairs Champion and 2007 World Junior Pairs Champion. Danielle and Steve represented the U.S. internationally for nine seasons. After retiring from competitive skating Danielle coached singles and pairs for six years and went on to become a National Singles and Pairs Judge. She continues to serve as a judge and is also a Regional Referee and USA Team Leader. Danielle has served on various committees within U.S. Figure Skating for the past 21 years. From 2004-2007 she served as chair of the Athletes Advisory Committee representing the athletes on the Board of Directors. She also served as the figure skating representative to the USOC Athlete Council for four

years. Since 2016 Danielle has served on the Pairs Committee and the Athlete Development Committee as chair of the Pairs Development Subcommittee. Professionally Danielle is a certified personal trainer. She resides in Charlotte, North Carolina with her husband and two children.

**Statement of Purpose:**

I am honored to be recommended by the Nominating Committee to serve as the chair of U.S. Figure Skating's Pairs Development and Technical Committee for the 2019-20 skating season. This committee will continue to support current pair programming and will help create new programs to encourage the development of our pair teams. We will look to increase exposure of pairs skating in the U.S. and peak interest in our discipline. The Pairs Development and Technical Committee will need to identify and address current issues in our pairs program and continue to explore ideas that will drive U.S. Figure Skating towards future success in pairs.

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**Programs and New Program Development – John Cole**

**Bio:**

I have been involved with skating for over 50 years as an athlete, coach and official. I have just completed my 25th year as a judge. I am a World Judge and an International Referee in Ice Dance. I am a National Singles and Pairs judge and referee. Additionally, I hold National appointments as a Dance Technical Controller and Technical Specialist in Ice Dance, Data Operator and Video Replay Specialist, Theatre On Ice judge and Referee and National Showcase Judge and Referee.

I have served as a contributing member on 15 U.S. Figure Skating committees and in a leadership role as Chair or Vice Chair of 8 different Committees. This will be my 5th committee for which I will be the chair. The others were Competitions, Dance, Nominating and Theatrical Skating.

I have been involved with my local skating community through my 20 plus years on the Baltimore Figure Skating Club Board of Directors where I have served in several capacities including Coach Liaison, SafeSport Chair and currently as President. I was also a part of a group of individuals who established the club's annual successful summer non-qualifying competition Chesapeake Open which will celebrate its 24<sup>th</sup> year in June.

**Statement of Purpose:**

This committee falls in direct line with one of the strategic goals of U.S. Figure Skating for the 2018-2022 quadrennial - membership growth and retention. For years it has been a known fact that there are a finite number of seats at the table designated as Olympic hopefuls and potential National Champions at any age or level. What has changed significantly over time is the patience that parents have for investing time and money into a child's sports activities. We live in a world of the need for instant reward. Without it, parents move on to a myriad of other possibilities available for their child's time and their checkbook. We have done a great job over the recent years of identifying and encouraging participation in such endeavors as are included within this committee's list of sub-committees in an effort to keep the interest of the child and the satisfaction of the parents.

My vision statement for the first year is:

1. Learn about all of the sub groups for which I have limited knowledge;
  2. Interact with each of the 7 NVCs under this committee to determine what the strengths and weaknesses are within each group;
  3. Work with each sub-committee NVC to identify 1-2 specific goals for the year;
  4. To determine how, if possible, to use opportunities of one subcommittee to assist any other sub-committee;
  5. To begin a thought process in identifying where the next new idea(s) will come
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## **Rules – Lisa Erle**

### **Bio:**

Lisa Erle began skating as a child – competing, participating in shows, and taking tests over an eleven-year period. She was always interested in volunteering and participating in the organization of events, which she continues to do regularly for her club and interclub association. Lisa was also a volunteer at the 1996 & 2018 U.S. Championships and a Committee Chair with the 2012 U.S. Championships, all held in San Jose, CA. Lisa is currently a National judge and referee for singles/pairs and showcase. She is a member of the St. Moritz ISC and has served on their Board for 15 years, including terms as President, Vice President, and Treasurer during that time. Lisa is presently the chair of the Rules Committee as well as past chair of the Sanctions & Eligibility Committee and a member of the Competitions committee for U.S. Figure Skating.

### **Statement of Purpose:**

As Rules Committee Chair, I understand and take seriously the role of oversight for the rules of our organization. I will assist our committees and member clubs with any proposals for rule changes and ballots that they submit in accordance with the rules. Along with my committee members and headquarters staff, I will review and update the U.S. Figure Skating rulebook with any and all changes approved by the governing body and work to ensure that our rules are as clear and orderly as possible.

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## **SafeSport – Patricia St. Peter**

### **Bio:**

### **Statement of Purpose:**

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## **Singles Development and Technical – Stefanie Mathewson**

### **Bio:**

Stefanie Mathewson has been involved in figure skating since 1978. After retiring from amateur and professional skating in 1993, she has served the sport in a number of capacities. Most recently, she served as Chair of the Athlete Development Committee. She worked closely with her committee and discipline chairs to enhance domestic programming to assist and support young athletes. Stefanie is the National Vice-Chair of Judges Exam Development. She also sits on the Referee Education and Training Sub-Committee and collaborated to draft the handbook for non-qualifying referees. Stefanie is a past president of the All Year FSC and served as the SafeSport Compliance Chair of the Club. She is an International Singles and Pairs Judge, National Singles and Pairs Referee, National Singles Technical Controller, National Singles Technical Specialist, National Data Operator and National Video Replay Operator. Additionally, she is a Sectional Technical Controller in Pairs. Stefanie has served as a U.S. Figure Skating Team Leader for Junior and Senior Grand Prix events as well as for the Novice and Junior Challenge Skate. She has served as faculty for numerous athlete, parent, coaches and judges seminars.

As a competitor, she was Swiss National Champion in 1987 and 1988. She competed at the International, European, and World levels from 1984 through 1991. Stefanie competed in the ladies figure skating event at the 15th Winter Olympic Games in 1988 in Calgary, Alberta. She is a public school teacher in Santa Monica and staff developer for the UCLA Math Project. She was also a professor at California State University at Northridge. She lives in Northridge, California with her husband and two children. Stefanie looks forward to enthusiastically continuing to serve the sport of figure skating.

**Statement of Purpose:**

I am honored to be considered for the position of Chair of Singles Development and Technical Committee. Thank you to the members of the Nominating Committee and the Board of U.S. Figure Skating for your consideration. It would be my distinct honor to serve in this position as our organization restructures. As past chair of the Athlete Development Committee, I am accustomed to the working in close collaboration with a number of other committees as well as with U.S. Figure Skating staff. We are fortunate to have positive working relationships that result in programs that have meaningful and lasting impact on developing athletes in the United States, as well as their coaches and parents.

As U.S. Figure Skating restructures, my vision for the Singles Development & Technical Committee is to:

1. Maintain communication with other discipline and development committees to continue collaboration and make sure that we are all working in a symbiotic fashion in our committees. Close communication with Pairs Development and Technical will be particularly important as many skaters cross disciplines, as do coaches and officials. Our committee will also work with the Dance and Synchronized Development and Technical Committees to help articulate fundamental skills and physical literacy faculties (both on and off the ice) that position young skaters to enter ANY figure skating discipline.
2. Work with committee members from Athlete Development (Past) and Singles (Past) to streamline our objectives and clarify our new roles in the restructure. We will continue regular conference calls to discuss rules, initiatives and concepts for future implementation.
3. Evaluate the data results of the Program Component weighting on Novice athletes and below. We will also examine the data generated from the bonus structure through Junior domestically. We will continue to work to position our athletes for success later in their careers. We remain flexible and responsive to the data and the changes in our sport.
4. Examine foundational skating skills and related exercises that our top tier coaches find critical to long term success.
5. We continue to discuss maximizing the use of technology and social media to best inform developing athletes of key components in their journeys.

Should I be selected as Chair, trust that I will work tirelessly on behalf of athletes and their education in the sport of figure skating. Thank you for taking the time to consider the above.

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**Sports Sciences and Medicine – Kristin Abbott****Bio:**

Kristin started volunteering to provide medical coverage for U.S. Figure Skating competitions and championship events in 2009 and has been a team physician for U.S. Figure Skating since 2013. In addition to providing medical services while traveling with Team USA athletes and synchronized teams, she served as the Chief Medical Officer for the 2016 ISU Grand Prix Skate America in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Kristin's love of figure skating started early in childhood when she learned to skate on public sessions with her family. She is a U.S. Figure Skating gold medalist in Dance, Solo Dance, and Moves in the Field. She also competed with the Ann Arbor Hockettes junior synchronized skating team in high school and then attended Miami University, where she was a member of the varsity senior synchronized skating team. She had the honor of competing as Team USA with both the Hockettes and Miami, including 3 World Synchronized Skating Championships and many other international events over 6 years. It was her experience as a student athlete at Miami University and competing with Team USA that inspired her to pursue medical training in primary care and sports medicine and join the U.S. Figure Skating National Provider Network. Kristin also holds an appointment as a National Technical Specialist for synchronized skating and is the current Vice-Chair for Synchronized Skating on the Technical Panel Committee.

Kristin lives in Park Ridge, IL with her husband and 2 young children. She currently practices sports medicine at Northwestern University and serves as a team physician for varsity athletic teams on campus. In addition to her

clinical practice, she holds an appointment of Assistant Professor of Family and Community Medicine at Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine and teaches family medicine residents and sports medicine fellows.

**Statement of Purpose:**

I am honored to be nominated to continue to serve as Chair of the Sport Sciences and Medicine Committee. U.S. Figure Skating is fortunate to have a network of experienced and dedicated health and exercise science professionals who provide countless hours supporting our athletes, caring for their injuries and illness and helping them to meet their competitive goals. I look forward to continued collaboration with this vast network to keep our athletes healthy and support their training with the increasing technical skills and athletic demands of competitive programs. I will work closely with High Performance and Sport Science staff to promote research and development and share best practices as it relates to training and injury prevention with our coaches and network of healthcare professionals. With the ISU's current campaign and U.S. Figure Skating support for the inclusion of synchronized skating in the Olympic Games, I have a special interest in expanding the sport science and high performance model to our synchronized skating programs with a goal of identifying unique training needs to move the sport forward and achieve success on the World and Olympic stage. I look forward to this opportunity to continue to serve our athletes and families, coaches, staff, and network of sport science and medicine providers.

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**Synchronized Development and Technical – Lauren O'Toole**

**Bio:**

Lauren O'Toole has been involved in figure skating since 1995. She is a former competitive skater in singles and synchronized skating. Following her amateur career, Lauren skated professionally with Disney On Ice. Lauren has served as a U.S. Figure Skating Official since 2012, earning appointments as a National Judge and Regional Referee for Singles/Pairs. Additionally, she is a National Judge and National Technical Specialist for Synchronized Skating as well as a Sectional Technical Controller. Lauren is also a National Theater on Ice Judge and Synchronized Skating International Team Leader.

In addition to officiating, Lauren has served on numerous U.S. Figure Skating Committees including: Eastern Vice Chair of Synchronized Skating, Judges, Grievance, Sanctions & Eligibility, and Athlete Development. She has facilitated Test Refresh Seminars in partnership with the Professional Skaters Association (PSA) as well as serving as faculty at Synchronized Skating Dream Camps.

Lauren holds a B.A. in Communications from Northeastern University in Boston, MA. She is currently employed by Apple, Inc. as a Program Manager in Human Resources.

**Statement of Purpose:**

It is an honor to be selected to serve as the Chair of the Synchronized Skating Development and Technical Committee. As the Chair, my goal is to support the synchronized skating community through fair and logical rule additions and adjustments. I am looking forward to the new committee structure with opportunities to work with the newly created vice chair roles. Additionally, I will work with my partners in International Selections to continue the quest of Olympic inclusion for the 2026 Games.

My specific goals include increasing participation in our IJS qualifying categories and preparing athletes to be internationally competitive as they strive for inclusion on Team USA. Projects to be led by this committee will include the following:

- Incorporating IJS scoring for additional developmental levels,
  - Review current U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook and consolidate any redundancies,
  - Costume guideline modifications,
  - Enhanced camps and learning opportunities for coaches and officials,
  - Continued opportunities for athletes after their competitive careers. (i.e. officiating)
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## **Tests – Lori Osborne**

### **Bio:**

Lori has been an active member in the figure skating community for over 20 years. She is a Sectional Singles & Pairs Competition Judge, Sectional Referee, and Sectional Singles/Pairs/Dance Data and Video Operator. She has served as a judge or technical panel official at many regional championships, adult sectional championships, and adult national championships. She was the Chief Referee for the 2017 Upper Great Lakes Regional Championships and 2018 Collegiate Championships. Lori is currently serving as the Regional Vice Chair of Competitions for the Southwestern Region and is a member of the Tests and Adult Skating Committees.

Over the past 15 years, Lori has been very active in Kansas City Figure Skating Club. She's held various board positions, including President (4 years), Vice-President (2 years), and Secretary (1 year). She has participated in many club committees including Website (6 years) and Test Chair (10 years). In addition, Lori has extensive experience in chairing large scale competitions and held various leadership positions in both qualifying and non-qualifying competitions and ice shows over the past 20 years. She was the co-chair for 2016 Southwestern Regional Championships, 2005 Adult Nationals, 2005 North American Challenge Skate, 2003 Southwestern Regional Championships, and 2002 Adult Midwestern Sectionals. Most recently, Lori led the 2017 National Figure Skating Championship Steering Committee. This committee was comprised of key leaders from each of the figure skating clubs in Kansas City, members of the KC Sports Commission and U.S. Figure Skating. This team was responsible for Opening Ceremonies, Presenters, Sweepers, and local volunteer chairs for Hospitality, Ice Monitors, Accreditation, and Practice Ice Music & Announcers.

Lori currently resides in Overland Park, Kansas, with her husband and two adult daughters. She is a Program Manager for AMC Theatres, managing a team of Project Managers and Business Analysts. Her team is responsible for large scale web and mobile application software development projects. Lori earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Business Administration with a focus on Computer Information Systems and Organizational Development. She has been in the workforce for over 25 years, working for major clients such as Koch Industries, Harley-Davidson, ESPN, Burger King, Microsoft, KPMG, Quest Diagnostics/ExamOne, and Hallmark Cards.

### **Statement of Purpose:**

I am honored to be selected by the Nominating Committee as Tests Committee Chair. Being a member of this committee for the past 3 years and being the Test Chair of my club has given me insight to the issues clubs are dealing with.

I believe it is important to continue to evaluate options for testing outside of standard test sessions. Working with the Domestic Officials and Officials Training committees, I would like to work on new ways to provide training for test level judges. I would like our team to work on developing tools for test chairs to help them setup and efficiently run test sessions. Finally, I'd like our committee to brainstorm ideas on ways for clubs to quickly and easily recognize skaters who pass tests (for example: year-end review of test accomplishments by skater, printing test certificates vs. mailing them, etc.).

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