

Nominating Committee
BOD Candidate Bios and Statements of Purpose

Kristin Arneson Cutler – Midwestern and First Vice President

Bio:

Kristin (Kris) Arneson Cutler has been a member of U. S. Figure Skating for more than 50 years. She began at a young age as a student on the “bus program” that provided Saturday morning group lessons, became a competitor and coach/choreographer in the Midwestern Section, and is presently a volunteer, official, and Board member. Kris is a National Singles and Pairs Judge and a Sectional Referee.

As a volunteer, Kris has served on many committees for U. S. Figure Skating, including the Judges Committee, Competitions Committee, Tests Committee, Singles & Pairs Committee (Chair), Audit Committee and Ethics Committee. She served as SafeSport Committee Chair for three years, and most recently was asked to Co-Chair the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force for U.S. Figure Skating. She is completing her second year as the Midwestern Vice President. Kris has volunteered for many Regional, Sectional, National and World events hosted by the Twin Cities Figure Skating Association and is currently a member of the Lake Minnetonka Figure Skating Club.

Kris received a B.A. in Political Science from St. Olaf College and a Juris Doctor from the University of Minnesota Law School. As a labor and employment attorney, Kris recently retired from her position as a member of an inhouse legal department for a large financial institution to pursue volunteer and pro bono activities. Kris is married to Clint Cutler, an attorney at Fredrikson and Byron, P.A. and they have two adult sons. Andrew and his partner Amanda own an acting school in Chicago and work in leadership positions for a non-profit theater. Ben and his wife Katie live in the Minneapolis area, where Ben is a teacher and Katie works on the editorial staff at a medical journal affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital. Kris has also served as a member of the Board of the Penumbra Theatre, located in St. Paul, MN and is a patron of a number of arts organizations.

Statement of Purpose:

I am so appreciative of the opportunity to serve a third year as the Midwestern Vice President for U.S. Figure Skating in its centennial year, as the organization has been an important presence in my life for more than fifty years. Our organization has had great success and faced many challenges in our first 100 years, and we have much to celebrate in the coming year, albeit in a manner that we did not expect. Most importantly, I believe our community is committed to do the work to create even more opportunity over the course of our next 100 years.

We have learned much during the pandemic, about how to quickly assess unexpected impact to the safety of our organization and its members, finding the pathways to allow our community to be safe and stay strong. We learned to lean on each other as Board members to face unique and far-reaching challenges, to be nimble and resilient and to protect the sound foundation on which the organization stands. The strong leadership of our member clubs and the commitment of our members to one another and to the sport of figure skating provided essential support.

In my service to the organization, my focus is twofold – to protect the health and safety of our athletes and to serve the mission of U.S. Figure Skating to create and cultivate opportunities for participation and achievement in figure skating – for those who are currently part of the community and for future members as well. Through my work with the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Working Group and Task Force, I have learned how critical it is that the community has at its core a commitment to provide an open, authentic and respectful place to learn and grow in the sport of figure skating for every member of the community. We have work to do on our culture, behaviors and attitudes: I am committed to be a positive force for change.

I have had the opportunity to spend more time with our athlete leaders this past year, and I have learned of their vision for the next 100 years of figure skating. It is a bold vision, united in a commitment to address the challenges of the past and paving the way to a healthy, strong and inclusive culture, with diverse representation throughout the organization and within the leadership team. I am eager to provide support and leadership for these endeavors. Having served the past two years on the Board, and previously on a number of Committees within the structure of

U.S. Figure Skating, I have seen how our current governance structure is outdated and in need of significant change. We need to revitalize the leadership and nominating committee structures, allowing for the necessary expertise and focus to meet not only the expectations of our membership and of the USOPC, but also to position the organization to grow and to thrive, no matter what challenges may lie ahead.

As always, the health of our member clubs and their support for and participation in a wide variety of U. S. Figure Skating programs is critical to our success. Continuing in the position of Vice President will afford me the opportunity to work closely with the Membership Committee and leadership to address the critical concerns facing member clubs and to promote the strength, harmony and development of and between member clubs and each member. The skating community is rich with diversity and opportunity. But there are many communities for whom we need to address and remove the barriers to participation that would allow significant growth of our membership and an openness to our culture, bringing new creativity and opportunities while also strengthening the very foundations of the organization and resulting in even greater success. I look forward to the opportunity to serve alongside my fellow members of the Board, working with the Committee Chairs, club leadership, our members and the hardworking and talented Headquarters staff of U.S. Figure Skating.

Janis Engel – Pacific Coast and Second Vice President

Bio:

Janis was introduced to skating at the age of 3 and the sport has been a part of her life ever since. She is a gold medalist in ice dance.

Her passion for skating led her to serve in various positions with U.S. Figure Skating for well over 30 years. Janis began at the local level and has served her club, the All Year Figure Skating Club as its President, Treasurer, Secretary, as a member of their Board of Directors and as a Governing Council delegate. She also has been in leadership roles on LOCs for both non-qualifying and qualifying competitions.

On a National level, Janis' experience with U.S. Figure Skating includes: Athlete Development Committee (National Vice Chair/Dance Development), Audit Committee, Dance Committee (Chair), Sanctions & Eligibility (Chair), Strategic Planning Committee, Judges Committee, Tests Committee, Memorial Fund, International Committee, Competitions Committee and Marketing Committee. Janis was on the U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors from 1999-2002 and again from 2004-2005. Janis was the officials' liaison for the 2002 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and volunteered at the 2009 ISU World Championships.

As an official, Janis has the following appointments: National Judge and Referee for Ice Dance, Singles and Pairs, National Technical Controller Singles and Ice Dance and National Video Replay Operator. She has officiated at numerous non-qualifying and qualifying competitions as well as the U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Janis is an official with the International Skating Union (ISU) where she holds appointments in Ice Dance as an ISU Championship Judge and as both an International Referee and Technical Controller. She holds the trust of ISU and as such serves on the ISU Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) where she works to uphold the highest standards in judging for our athletes. Most recently, she served in that capacity at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang, Korea.

Statement of Purpose:

It is an honor to again be nominated as the Pacific Coast Vice President. Service, dedication and a willingness to bring forth vision are a part of my commitment to this role. As I conclude my second year, I thank you for allowing me to be the voice of the Pacific Coast Section and help ensure the execution of our strategic goals. My years of service at the local, national and international levels, have given me insights and experiences that have been leveraged in this role.

Club growth and membership retention have been our most important success metrics. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were met with challenges with our membership numbers. Knowing our strength are the clubs, focus on club and overall membership engagement became a priority. As we continue to implement the Strategic Plan with the recognition on the significant impacts due to the pandemic, pivoting into new models of membership enrollment and retention is critical to the cornerstone of our association. As Vice President, I look to continue promulgating the strengths of our programs to help assist clubs in creating their identity within the skating community.

With the many strategic initiatives passed by our Governing Council and Board, I will ensure these initiatives are implemented and will strive to identify process improvements as our experience with them unfolds. As we progress into implementation, I will work with the Board to provide oversight and to ensure there is transparent feedback both to and from our members.

It is important to maintain effective communication with members and I will make certain we continue dialogue with club leaders to share ideas and concerns. The Vice President Zoom calls have been very effective in our abilities to stay connected and to report to clubs all ongoing national initiatives and educational opportunities such as changes in competitions, testing and membership focused programming. I have made myself available to the interclubs in the Pacific Coast section and have been invited to their calls. I have an open-door policy to stay connected to the membership.

By leading with consistent accountability and transparency to our members, I hope to be a catalyst for realization of our strategic goals and to help bring continued growth and success to our section and our great sport.

Victoria Hildebrand – Eastern and Third Vice President

Bio:

Victoria 'Vicki' Hildebrand has been active in figure skating since her first skating class on double runners. It was performing as a dandelion in an ice show in Massachusetts that captured her passion. Since that time Vicki has been a gold medalist in dance, PSA rated coach in both singles and dance, charity ice show producer and choreographer, test and competition official, and committee volunteer. She is currently a national singles and pairs judge, a national dance judge, and a non-qualifying singles technical controller.

Vicki is serving as the National Vice Chair of the Officials Development and Assessment subcommittee. For the past 4 years she was the Eastern Sectional Vice Chair for dance judges and prior to that, the New England Regional Vice Chair. Through the years, she's been active in her home club, the Champlain Valley Skating Club, as the Officials Liaison, New England Regionals LOC Chair, Chief Referee of the Regionals non-qual, and delegate to Governing Council. She's been a member of several U.S. Figure Skating committees including the Music Committee for the 1992 World Championships. For more than a decade, she's been on the Board of the C.Douglas Cairns Arena in South Burlington, Vermont.

Vicki is the Chief Information Officer for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Previously, she held CIO roles for the US Department of Transportation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont after spending the majority of her career leading international technology teams for Hewlett-Packard Co. Vicki has a Masters Degree from Columbia University in Technology Management and a BS in Electrical Engineering. Vicki and her husband have two adult sons and live near Burlington, Vermont.

Statement of Purpose:

I am humbled and thrilled to have been nominated Eastern Vice President to the Board of U.S. Figure Skating. If elected, I look forward to supporting the President and working with my colleagues to advance our mission, vision and values.

As a representative of the Eastern membership, it will be my responsibility to enable voices from all levels of the Section. I believe that many of the best ideas come from the base. Supporting U.S. Figure Skating initiatives, promoting grass roots ideas, and helping to see those ideas to fruition should lead to growth. Growth, in turn, can lead to new talent, added volunteerism, greater financial stability and the capacity to advance our sport. Inclusivity and safety have to be top of mind for all members and potential members. My goal will be to enable progress and growth through regular communication, speed, and simplicity, operating values that have always been important to me.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us that enterprise organizations require advanced technology capabilities to thrive. I hope to partner with our new Chief Technology Officer and the rest of the U.S. Figure Skating staff to ensure we have the ability to support our ideas through technology. Reliable, cost-effective technologies are fundamental to connecting with our members and broader communities.

Most of my time as a member of the figure skating community has been spent in a remote location. I'm familiar with the challenges associated with being outside of the primary centers. Our success as an organization will depend on reaching into all parts of our section and connecting with those that have a passion for our sport. I am energized by the opportunity to serve our membership.

Kimberley Moore – Secretary

Bio:

Kimberley's love of figure skating began in 1976, when she watched Dorothy Hamill skate her gold medal performance at the 1976 Winter Olympics. Kimberley began figure skating when she asked her parents to take an introductory skating class with a childhood friend, but it wasn't until college that she was able to begin taking lessons consistently to develop her skills and technique. Having never lost her passion for being on the ice, Kimberley still finds time for skating lessons whenever her schedule permits.

Kimberley's journey to becoming an official began in 2014, when she received her first appointment with U.S. Figure Skating as a Regional Accountant under the mentorship of Joanne Nipple. In 2016, she received her first test judging appointment under the mentorship of Sara Stephens for Singles/Pairs, and in 2017, she received her second judging test appointment under the mentorship of Frances Jesel for Ice Dancing. She is currently under the mentorship of Barbara Goodrich for completion of the Gold Dance appointment.

Kimberley also currently holds the following additional appointments: Sectional Accountant, Level 1 Technical Accountant, Gold S/P Test, Silver Dance Test, and Certified Video Replay S/P. She also currently serves as the Vice Chair of Accounting for the DORM Recruitment Subcommittee, and currently serves as Membership Chair, Carolinas FSC, Assistant Membership Chair, ION FSC and Assistant Test Chair to the SC of Northern VA, Frederick FSC and ION FSC. Giving back to U.S. Figure Skating in an official capacity, committees and clubs, and meeting fellow skaters and officials, is one of Kimberley's greatest joys and passions. As she continues her work with U.S. Figure Skating, she hopes to provide the guidance and mentorship to others that those in the organization have so generously provided to her.

Born in May 1969, and a native of central Pennsylvania, Kimberley graduated from The Penn State University with a B.S. degree in Microbiology and entered a 3-year intern program in the PSU Computer and Information Systems group, where she began her career and training in Information Technology. She currently resides in Charlotte, NC, where she is a Microsoft SQL Server Database Supervisor for Berry Global, a major manufacturer of plastics and PPE for the healthcare industry. In her spare time, Kimberley is an avid yoga, classical Pilates, ballroom dance and ballet enthusiast.

Statement of Purpose:

There are two occurrences in figure skating history that stand out in my memory. I was 7 years old when I watched Dorothy Hamill skate her gold medal performance at the 1976 Winter Olympics. When I was 19, I witnessed Debi Thomas compete at the Winter Olympics in 1988 and become the first and only African American figure skater in history to receive an Olympic medal. Immediately drawn to the beauty, artistry and athletic prowess of both women, figure skating became a love and passion for a lifetime. For different reasons, each of these women and their accomplishments left a lasting impact that would eventually lead me to become an adult skater, an official of U.S. Figure Skating and in 2021, accept the nomination as Secretary of U.S. Figure Skating.

As Secretary, my primary purpose is to influence and foster strategies for the next 100 years that will allow U.S. Figure Skating to adapt and change as the world around it changes. Assisting with the development of strategies to provide continuing education for officials through the use of information technology and increasing the knowledge base and pool of qualified individuals will help facilitate these goals. In addition, invitation to and inclusion of diverse groups across U.S. Figure Skating, and encouraging transparency by and trust in U.S. Figure Skating will help ensure the next generation of skaters and officials inherits a structurally sound organization. Accomplishing these goals will help cultivate an environment that is welcoming and inviting to all who share an appreciation for and love of the sport of figure skating.

Other important purposes as Secretary are to 1) ensure the highest level of effective communication with members of U.S. Figure Skating and supporting organizations, 2) serve in a supporting role for the members of the Board of Directors, and 3) maintain clear and concise record keeping for historical purposes through the use of information technology.

Troy Goldstein – Treasurer

Bio:

Professionally, I bring over 20 years of experience in the financial industry across three major financial centers in NYC, Switzerland and London. In addition, I hold a Bachelor of Business Administration Finance Management, a Juris Doctorate of Law and am a graduate of the Securities Industry Institute at Wharton University. I am currently the Executive Director of National Accounts at ProFunds/ProShares (a top financial asset management firm). Prior to ProShares, I have held multiple roles domestically and internationally with UBS AG/Financial Services (a top global financial firm) including Head of European Distribution, Head of US Sales for multiple product units, International Locations Business Development, and Financial Advisor.

My involvement in U.S. Figure Skating began as an Athlete. I was a proud member of the AAC and an Athlete Board Member while having a pretty successful competitive career. My skating accomplishments include U.S. Figure Skating Gold Medals in Figures, Freeskating, Pairs, Dance and Freedance; being a US National competitor for eight consecutive years at the Junior and Senior levels; winning the Silver Singles Medal at Skate Canada and two Pair Bronze Medals at World University Games. In addition, I have the distinction of being the only skater to compete at the US Nationals in all Four Championship level events two years in a row winning a Silver and Bronze medal.

Post-skating, I have continued to be deeply involved giving back to the sport within the governance of the Association, my local club, and internationally. Prior to becoming Treasurer myself, I served two treasurers with a six-year tenure on the Finance Committee and served as Vice-President and Interim President of the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation. IN addition, I have served as a BOD member, Pairs Committee Chair, along with countless other committees. Locally, I have served as VP of the Skating Club of NY for nearly 15 years. Internationally, I have served as Technical Specialist for the 2014 Olympic Games, multiple World Championships, Four Continents, Europeans, Grand Prix and Junior Grand Prix events in Singles and Pairs.

Statement of Purpose:

“Incorporating business practices and processes into the organization providing transparency, measurement and accountability will provide a base in which we as an Association together can build the future that we envision for our athletes, members and clubs.”

My focus remains on the incorporation of business practices into the organization that provide clear processes, fiscal responsibility, planning, measurement, transparency and accountability. In doing so, finding ways to leverage my global business, financial and legal backgrounds to successfully navigate U.S. Figure Skating through one of the most difficult and ever-changing times in the Association’s history. The ongoing analysis, adjustments, “out-of-the-box” opportunities, strict fiscal responsibility and expense management that has carried us thus far will drive our ability to function effectively and efficiently through these rocky and volatile times. My focus remains on the incorporation of business practices into the organization that provide clear processes, fiscal responsibility, planning, measurement, transparency and accountability.

When I look at the past few years it had been about “preparedness for the unknown,” however, this past year has clearly proven the value of our preparedness through process development and accountability budgeting implementation that we had undertaken. The “zero-based” budgeting exercise that we had implemented placed us in a nimble position allowing us to move swiftly as the environment, restrictions and opportunities quickly changed in front of our very eyes. In addition, establishment of a new and consistent funding mechanism in line with nonprofit Foundation standards have enabled us to continue operations and provide for our members, athletes, clubs and skaters with the services and support necessary. Moving forward, we will need to remain vigilant as it pertains to the implementation of sound controls and oversight management. We need to remain focused on our diversified pillars of revenue to be in a position to support our members, athletes and clubs while mitigating continuous new risks and working to assure a safe environment for our skaters. We need to continue to implement programs focused on protecting our current membership numbers and preparing for growth upon re-opening. In addition, we need to continue consistent monitoring of our ongoing technology advancements, branding initiatives, budget stability and general strategic direction of the Association. Although difficult to imagine currently, it is essential to explore new, innovative sources of revenue while focusing on cost controls and financial stability in order to safeguard a healthy growing organization. Lastly, given the need for transparency, I will continue to deliver regular transparent reporting regarding the general financial health of the Association to enhance the trust and understanding of the entire Board. This has been the backbone of my time in the role.

We must balance the needs of the association and our athletes today, investing in our future, and being prepared should our financial position change. Further incorporation of a business-type structure will bring us forward as an organization and allow us to meet and exceed our future goals.

Lynn Goldman – Athlete Services Group Coordinator**Bio:**

Lynn Goldman is a national judge and referee for singles and pairs and a national technical controller for singles. She is also a sectional pair technical controller, novice sectional dance judge, a sectional dance referee and a national data/video operator. Currently, she is the Athlete Services Group Coordinator and member of the Board of Directors. Past positions include Technical Group Coordinator (Board of Directors), VC for domestic selections on the selections committee, chair of the Competitions Committee, both a regional and sectional vice chair of the Competitions Committee, a regional vice chair of the Judges Committee, as well as a member and chair of the Nominating Committee. She was chair of the working group primarily working on the inaugural season of the National Qualifying Series and the new qualifying competition structure as well as being an integral part of test refresh project. She has been involved in several other committees for U.S. Figure Skating as well as being past president, treasurer, test chair, competitions chair and delegate for the Austin Figure Skating Club.

Lynn has passed the 7th figure test, the equivalent of the junior free skate test and the bronze dance tests. She was a performer with Holiday on Ice before attending the University of Texas. She has a bachelor's degree in clinical nutrition and a master's degree in health care education and administration. She worked for more than 20 years at the Children's Hospital of Austin as a registered dietitian, certified diabetes educator and the clinical/research coordinator of the Cystic Fibrosis Program. She is currently working as the Director of Client Services/Business Development and a scientific board member for an Independent Ethical Review Board (IRB) which is charged with approving and reviewing clinical research studies in order to protect human research subject's rights and safety from unethical practices. Many of the studies this year were regarding COVID testing and the creating of vaccines.

Statement of Purpose:

It is an honor to be nominated to serve in my 3rd and final year as the Athlete Services Group Coordinator, Board of Directors. Below is my statement of purpose for the position.

One of U.S. Figure Skating's mission statements is to define and maintain uniform standards of skating proficiency. My vision is to have all rules made fairly and in consideration of all athletes, regardless of their level and/or ability. Developing athletes is important to the success of our organization both domestically and internationally. We need to push the envelope of skating skills so our athletes can compete on the world stage but also make it safe for developing bodies. Therefore, it is my mission to guide the athlete services committees to work together to achieve the strategic plan and goals of the association.

Elise Preston – Membership Development Group Coordinator

Bio:

Elise Preston is honored to have been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors as the Membership Group Coordinator. Elise is passionate about grassroots skating. Elise served four terms as the chair of the Program Development Committee; she is a former member of the Basic Skills sub-committee and currently serves on the Program Innovation sub-committee. As the past chair of the Program Development Committee, she led the design, launch and implementation of the Excel Program and Series.

A long-standing member of the Skating Club of New York, Elise has over the last 25 years directed the skating program at the Wollman Rink in Central Park. Designing and nurturing innovative grassroots skating programs for the community, she has grown the program in Central Park to one of the largest in the country. In collaboration with Learn to Skate USA and Adaptive Skating USA, Elise launched and supported a number of adaptive skating programs, including a program for disabled Veterans. Elise has presented at industry conferences, including the North American Rink Conference and Expo, and the Professional Skaters Association and has mentored skating directors new to their positions.

Statement of Purpose:

I start with the idea that U.S. Figure Skating is as strong as its membership. Against that backdrop, I see the primary goals of the Membership Group Coordinator as supporting existing members, clubs and programs and striving to grow our membership base. My mandate is to offer leadership and guidance to the chairs and committee members of the Membership group in order to achieve these important goals. In this year, more poignantly than any other year, focused attention to the goals and mandate of the Membership group will be critical to both the short and long-term health of our organization.

As the Group Coordinator of the Membership Group, I will keep this mantra top of mind: *We must rebuild and we must reimagine.*

Rebuild: The strength of our membership will depend upon ratcheting up the scaffolding of support that we can offer to clubs and coaches. I will continue to encourage the committees of the membership group to expand their outreach and creativity and to encourage wide participation in the programs each of them are entrusted with. Newer and struggling clubs need hand-holding and tangible tools to help them thrive; coaches need assistance in building

back their clientele; and parents of our youngest members deserve straightforward guidance for supporting their children in the sport. While ‘live’ interactions trump virtual ones to be sure, we discovered this past year that connecting with our membership through creative virtual experiences is a tool that could prove vital in our ability to support and connect with wider member audiences going forward, even after the world looks more normal. I will meet with each committee chair and our headquarters representatives this spring to devise a multi-pronged approach to a membership *rebuild plan*.

Reimagine: This critical time affords a unique moment of opportunity for the Membership group. It is imperative in this moment that we step back and examine who we are and how we are serving the mission of U.S. Figure Skating. I will encourage our group to participate in a close examination of the benefits of membership, the pipeline of membership, our membership structure and how to broaden the appeal of U.S. Figure Skating membership. Among the opportunities that we will focus our attention: establishing a solid plan for capitalizing on the strong growth of the Learn to Skate USA program by translating that growth into full U.S. Figure Skating membership growth, creating and marketing new programs for adult figure skaters beyond those interested in testing and/or competing, addressing the various barriers to participation in our sport – especially the costs of training, identifying potential non-traditional membership groups along with a targeted plan for inviting them into the sport and addressing the critical issue of drop-out points through the skating pipeline where we see significant loss of member retention.

Todd Bromley – Technical and Officials Group Coordinator

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, International Referee in singles/pairs, national singles technical controller and a video operator, novice sectional dance judge 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 Technical and Officials Group Coordinator. Todd has also previously served as chair off DORM, Judges and the Selections Committees. In addition, Todd has served as the regional and sectional vice chair of judges for the Midwest section. Todd previously served 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:

It is an honor to be considered for the position of Technical and Officials Group Coordinator, Board of Directors for a second term. I have actively served as Chair of DORM, Judges and the Selections Committee. I have also previously served as the Midwest Sectional Vice Chair of the Competitions Committee and as a member on various other committees within U.S. Figure Skating. These roles have helped prepare me to serve as Technical and Officials Group Coordinator.

Initiatives in progress for the Technical and Officials Committees have direct impacts to all the committees that fall under this umbrella (DORM, Officials Training Committee, Domestic Selections Committee, Competitions Committee and Test Committee).

As the Technical and Officials Group Coordinator, I will continue to focus both on the technical aspects of our sport (competitions and tests) and our officials, which is one of our main assets. There is still a need to develop a more robust and formal recognition program for all officials. This is crucial for both those officials just starting out with the organization and for those officials that have devoted a lifetime to the sport and organization.

In addition, I will continue to push for more educational opportunities, both in-person and e-learning. With the new committee structure being in place for just two years, there is still the need to further develop and fine tune the exact roles and responsibilities of each committee.

I will continue to review the processes and procedures of each committee, streamlining or removing barriers where possible in order to make the day-to-day committee work more efficient with a focus on automating more and more processes.

It will be my responsibility to mentor the current or new committee chairs and help them achieve individual committee goals and objectives while working on the overall strategic goals of USFS. I will listen to their needs, relay each committees' activities and requests to the Board of Directors and provide the committee chairs with appropriate feedback from the Board of Directors.

I look forward to continuing to make a positive contribution as the Technical and Officials Group Coordinator.

Jaclyn Helms – Administrative/Legal Group Coordinator

Bio:

Jaclyn Helms (she/her/hers) started skating at the age of 4 and competed in the Junior Ladies event at the 1992 Championships. She is currently a national singles and pairs judge and received her pin for 25 years of officiating in 2020. Jaclyn's service to U.S. Figure Skating includes positions on various committees, including Ethics, Strategic Planning, Judges Education and Training and the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Working Group/Task Force.

Jaclyn earned her A.B. at Harvard, majoring in social anthropology, and then went to Fordham Law to earn a J.D. Immediately after law school, she worked as an Assistant District Attorney at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. After 8 years in that role, she worked as the Associate Director of Career Services and Diversity Initiatives at Brooklyn Law School and taught criminal justice as an adjunct at Monroe College. For several years she worked as the Director of the Office of Special Investigations at the New York City Department of Education.

Ms. Helms is currently the Chief Diversity Office of Guttman Community College (City University of New York). At Guttman, she plays a key role in providing strategic leadership in shaping and implementing the college's vision for diversity, equity, and inclusion. As a senior leader in the President's Cabinet and Executive Committee of the College Council, she works closely with various college offices and working groups to create benchmarks and assess institutional progress towards equity and inclusion goals.

Jaclyn lives in Brooklyn, NY. She has two daughters in elementary school and a wife who is an assistant principal in the New York City school system.

Statement of Purpose:

I am thrilled and honored to be nominated for the position of Group Coordinator –Admin/Legal, Board of Directors. I have served on three of the committees within the Admin/Legal Group and have extensive professional experience in the area of investigations, compliance and rulemaking. Among the continued need to expand membership, win medals, attract sponsors, secure media contracts; I believe that a critical issue U.S. Figure Skating faces is to increase our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion within the sport. U.S. Figure Skating is stronger if its athletes and members have a feeling of belonging. It is my desire to contribute my lived experience and professional expertise to U.S. Figure Skating. I value collaboration, speak truth into power, and am solution oriented. It is my hope to assist in accomplishing this important work, in part, by evaluating all actions through an equity lens. I am looking forward to doing meaningful work on behalf of the sport that is my true love.

Heather Paige – Coaching Member

Bio:

Heather started coaching in 2004 after competing in 3 World Synchronized Championships for Miami University. Since then, she has had the unique privilege of coaching synchro teams at every level from regional to world. She has also been given the opportunity to serve on multiple committees within U.S. Figure Skating including the Athletes Advisory, Synchronized Skating, Sports Sciences & Medicine, and Athlete Development Committees. Being a coach as well as empowering athletes and teaching them about team dynamics and collaboration provides her with enormous gratification.

Statement of Purpose:

My goal is to better foster collaboration between coaches/skaters/officials/committee members in order to create a culture shift among the entire organization that trickles down to even the youngest skaters. This way of thinking is supported by the new strategic plan. I've been very fortunate to participate in a team environment within U.S. Figure Skating for most of my life. Synchronized Skating has taught me about the benefits of teamwork and the sharing of knowledge which is sometimes naturally perceived by individuals as weakening their personal power/competitive edge. It is words like "together" (vision statement), "we" (mission statement), "integrity, respect & community" (values) that all point to the idea of collaboration and inspire me to be a part of this new chapter in U.S. Figure Skating. I am thrilled to share my experience leading a subcommittee and coaching teamwork with the U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors. It is an honor to be selected as a coaching member to represent coaches of all disciplines and levels.

Todd Sand – Coaching Member

Bio:

Todd Sand began skating at the age of seven. He is a 4-time U.S. Pairs Champion, a 3-time U.S. Olympian, and 4-time World Medalist. He has been a national and international coach for 15 years and his skaters have won 26 U.S. Championship medals. Sand is PSA master rated in both freestyle and pairs, was named PSA Development Coach of the Year in 2014 and was recently named PSA Coach of the Year for 2020.

Todd has an associate degree in Economics, as well as a BA in Kinesiology from California State University, Fullerton. He is currently head of the High Performance pair program at Irvine Great Park Ice. Todd lives in southern California with his wife and coaching partner Jenni Meno, along with their two boys Jack and Matthew.

Statement of Purpose:

It is an honor to be nominated to serve as a coaching member of the Board of Directors. My focus will be to help bring the coaching community together in sync with the board to build U.S. Figure Skating programs. I feel that we have the best coaches in the world, we have the most talented pool of athletes in the world, and we have the finest figure skating association in the world. I truly believe we have the best group of people who administer our skating community. Can we do things better or more efficiently? Can we communicate in a more concise and clear manner? Yes, of course we can! My goal would be to help the board continue to grow the sport of figure skating and nurture it to its highest potential in an ethical and honorable manner.

I would like to help bridge the gap between the coaches in our community and the board so we can all work together to help U.S. Figure Skating reach its goals in the years ahead.

Other Candidates
(pursuant to NCR 4.06 G)

Heather Nemier – Eastern Vice President

Bio:

Heather Nemier has been involved in figure skating for more than 40 years. She began skating in northern New York as a child and continued through local competitions, synchronized skating, coaching while in college and eventually judging and volunteering in clubs. She loves sharing her lifelong passion for the sport throughout the East coast.

Heather Nemier is currently serving her third term as Eastern Vice President of U.S. Figure Skating, after serving five terms as Secretary on the Board of Directors. In addition, Nemier also chairs the Compensation Committee, is one of three board members on the Governance Working Group and is an active member of the Strategic Planning Committee. During her tenure on the board, she has served on numerous working groups including the 100th Anniversary Celebration, Hall of Fame, Nominating Committee Review and Committee Restructure. Previously, she served as chair of the Rules Committee for four years. Nemier also served as both regional and sectional vice chair of the Competitions Committee, regional vice chair of the Judges Committee and she was a founding trustee of the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation.

Nemier is a national singles/pairs judge and referee and a bronze dance test judge. She has refereed and judged numerous regional, sectional and national competitions including serving as chief referee of the 2013 U.S. Adult Championships and the 2010 U.S. Collegiate Championships and assistant referee at the 2020 Eastern Sectional Singles Final and judging at the 2018 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the 2016 U.S. Juvenile and Intermediate Championships, and the 2018 and 2016 Eastern Sectional Championships and numerous regional championships.

Since she relocated to suburban Washington, D.C. in 2003 from the SC of Central NY, Nemier has been an active member of the Washington FSC and has been involved in organizing many local qualifying and nonqualifying competitions. Since 2012, Nemier has been the chief referee of the Potomac Open, which is held each August at the Ashburn Ice House. In 2010, Nemier was elected a trustee of the Capitol Skating Fund, a charitable foundation supporting the capital region figure skating community.

Organization and governance have been a particular interest of Nemier's since she first started attending Governing Council in the 1990s. She has been a delegate for two clubs: Skating Club of Central NY and the Washington Figure Skating Club. Since she began her term as Eastern Vice President, she has worked with numerous clubs on education, governance and helped them become active participants in the organization.

Nemier is a graduate of Binghamton University and resides in Ashburn, Virginia with her husband and two sons. She participated for many years in their schools and activities, including volunteer roles with local Little League International tournaments, her son's baseball teams and school programs. Last year she split time between Boston and her home in Virginia while her son participated in a specialized program at Boston University. After returning home to Virginia, she has been supporting distance learning for the local school district.

Statement of Purpose:

It has been an honor to serve as the Eastern Vice President for the past three years. I am seeking re-election for a fourth term to finish what I have been working on during my term.

If re-elected to this position, I pledge to support the mission of U.S. Figure Skating and continue to create and cultivate opportunities for participation and achievement in figure skating. Through my 40+ years of membership, I have lived in rural, suburban and urban environments and in all three regions of the Eastern Section. I have worked with small, medium and large clubs on a wide variety of programs and activities and have a unique perspective on the wide variety of club activities.

My vision for the upcoming year includes:

- Securing the financial position of our clubs and U.S. Figure Skating. The pandemic has brought huge financial challenges to all of us and I pledge to continue to seek out creative and feasible funding avenues for both clubs and the association.
- Ensuring skater safety through SafeSport education and education throughout all areas of the organization.
- Implementation of the Governance Working Group proposal at the upcoming Governing Council. This group has taken an in-depth look at all of our internal and external structures and influences and made recommendations to make us a stronger, more viable organization, that complies with recent U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee mandates. I look forward to seeing this effort come to fruition.
- Continuing my role leading the Compensation Committee through the pandemic and upcoming governance changes.
- Updating the Strategic Plan as we move into a new Olympic quadrennial.
- Being the eyes and ears for the members of the Eastern Section and maintaining two-way channels of communication. I also look forward to visiting many events in-person this year. I will continue to be available by email, text, phone or the Eastern Facebook page.
- Actively participating in all board meetings and supporting and communicating with the president regularly.
- Celebrating our last 100 years and planning for the next 100!

My philosophy includes having free and open communication during board meetings, while supporting the consensus of the group when decisions or conclusions have been made. I will make myself available to the members of the association and headquarters staff. I will continue to strive to promote the sport of figure skating in the most positive light possible and to assist in meeting the goals of the association as expressed in the mission statement and business plan.

I ask for your support for a fourth term as Eastern Vice President to finish the work I have been doing diligently for the last three years.