#### **U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors**

# Samuel Auxier, President Serving year two of a four-year term Home club: Chicago FSC





Current Skating Involvement:
Committee Member
Former Athlete
Official (Judge and Technical Panel)
U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors

Click HERE for Samuel's resumé.

#### Professional Experience: Corporate Management Information Technology Management Consulting

#### Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

The opportunity to serve as president once again is exciting for several reasons, but, in particular the chance to leverage the experience and relationships I built in this role previously. The transition to the new board structure is a chance to transform the board by implementing the new model passed by membership last year. The new model will have the board focus on execution of the strategic plan, and I will use my experience at Deloitte working with numerous boards to implement a successful transition. This transition will require significant time and effort as well as frequent communication to membership about the impact on the organization and changes to the way we operate.

In addition, there are other specific areas we need to make progress in. We have done some very good work around DEI – particularly education and training, and we need to follow that up with activities to attract a more diverse group of parents and athletes to try our sport. USFS membership needs to look more like America. That will require a broad set of initiatives including community outreach, an active marketing campaign and coordination with Ice Rink ownership to implement our programs. This will be a long-term, grass roots effort but it is vital for figure skating's future in the U.S. if we are to grow and stay competitive with other sports and activities.

We must continue to focus on Athlete Development and Support, including a review of how our different skating programs 'fit together' and how our testing programs can be updated to lead to better development of skating skills, particularly at an earlier stage of development. We need to map out the purpose and goals of each program, so it is clear to the skaters and parents how to progress in our sport. It is critical that we work with the AAC and USOPC to identify updates to the overall support structure today's elite athletes need to be competitive. Working closely with our coaches and integrating them into our athlete strategy and development approach is also vital to this process.

While much of our attention is on our elite athletes, as the National Governing Body for our sport, there are many opportunities to expand the non-elite competitive and recreational tracks emphasizing healthy activity and social aspects of participating in figure skating and I will lobby for more attention on these areas.

We also need to focus resources on is getting Synchronized Skating into the Olympics. This will require working closely with the ISU and other countries with the same goal but refreshed approach to overcome past obstacles to success. The implications of this go well beyond winning medals at the Olympics and is important for our future.

The other important area for me, personally, is that we make progress with our leadership development programs so that we can identify and develop future leaders that can take on this role in the future!

#### Jackie Chang, Independent Director Serving year two of a two-year term Individual Member: Stamford, Conn.





Click HERE for Jackie's resumé.

## Information from 2022 election Why I would like to serve:

I would love the opportunity to leverage my professional experience growing sports and their fanbases with my personal affinity towards figure skating and my desire to give back.

Professional Experience: In my professional career, I have continually sought out roles in the sports/media industry with the mission of growing both sport fanbases and revenue. I am excited by the challenge of devising new and creative means to reach audiences in the midst of changing behavior amongst all generations, particularly younger. I feel my professional experiences will allow me to make significant contributions as a member of the Board of Directors.

Personal Interest in Ice Sports: As a former amateur short track speedskater, I've always had an interest in ice sports. In my time at NBC Sports Group, I had the opportunity to develop an intimate understanding of the major events on the figure skating competitive calendar (beyond the Winter Olympics). In doing so, I also developed a further appreciation of the sport and the passion of its fanbase.

Desire to Give Back: I've always felt compelled to give back/serve. It's one of the reasons I chose to join the Army and one of the reasons why I'm pursuing this opportunity.

#### Jennifer Hartley, Director Nominated for a two-year term Home club: Dallas FSC, Inc.





**Current Skating Involvement:** Official (Judge)

Professional Experience: Corporate / Management Finance Strategy, Consumer & Retail

Former skater, club volunteer, committee member and team leader.

Click HERE for Jennifer's resumé.

#### Why I would like to serve:

I am incredibly inspired to serve on the Board of Directors because of two factors: (1) the criticality of this moment for our organization; and (2) the opportunity of adding value with my unique perspective in a new capacity.

First, the next 4 years will be critical for US Figure Skating - delivering on this Olympiad and setting up for the future. And we will do this as we on-board a new CEO. It is critical that we strike the right balance of short and long-term decisions, weighing the needs of our many stakeholders. It is motivating to play a central role in such a meaningful moment, especially for an organization that I care deeply about. Skating has given me so much and I want to continue to give back with my time and expertise.

Second, I have gotten to play many roles within US Figure Skating over the years – skater, club volunteer, official, JET, LOC, team leader, committee member. Each role has taught me something new and I have taken away a richer understanding of what motivates and drives our diverse membership base. The timing of each role has also been well matched with my personal and professional experiences. For example, as a college student providing web development and Excel skills to support my local club, or as a developing official serving as an RVC or JET to teach and mentor those newer to the officials ranks. I am at a point in my professional journey where a role on the Board of Directors would be well-matched with what I can bring – vision development, strategic and thought leadership, and financial expertise.

#### **Victoria Hildebrand, Director** *Serving year two of a two-year term*

Home club: Champlain Valley SC





Click HERE for Victoria's resumé.

**SKATING** 

#### **Professional Experience:**

Corporate
Health / Wellness
Higher Education
Management
Public Administration / Government
Technology

Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

I am passionate about driving growth and securing a strong future for our sport.

I'd like the public to be excited about figure skating again. That excitement would translate to an increase in membership, new talent, more volunteerism, and financial stability. Creating more opportunities to participate, brining awareness to existing programs, creating new events and encouraging grassroots operations in remote areas can all have a positive impact on the public's enthusiasm.

I've been working at senior leadership levels in large corporations and federal government for many years. I've been responsible for budgets up to \$3.5B and organizations as large as 16,000. While in government I had the opportunity to testify to Congress and represent the Dept of Transportation Secretary in presidential cabinet meetings. I have experience sitting on corporate boards. I believe my blend of government and business leadership experience can help U.S. Figure Skating plan for a successful future.

## Kristina Lundgren, Director

Nominated for a two-year term

Home club: Harlem FSC



#### **Current Skating Involvement:** Club Board Member / Leader Committee Chair / NVC Committee Member Official (Judge and Technical Panel)

Click HERE for Kristina's resumé.



#### **Professional Experience:**

Marketing / Communication Public Administration / Nonprofit

#### Why I would like to serve:

I have served on the Board since May 2022. And while I have enjoyed my time thus far, I believe we are just now embarking on the true work that will be required to implement the strategic plan, structure the organization to reflect the plan and any changes required to move forward efficiently and on-board a new leader. After several meetings devoted to laying the foundation, I would like to be involved in solidifying the changes to the organization and implementing the required changes.

I would like to see the organization implement the strategic plan and organize the organization to reflect the plan. I also would like the organization to adopt a CEO structure and move beyond the Executive Director title, which would align with other top NGBs and not for profits. The new structure could support well the strategic plan. I would like to see USFS continue its focus on DEI and athlete development and support. I would also like to continue exploring marketing opportunities in an outside the box type of thinking.

## Kimberley Moore, Director

Nominated for a two-year term Home club: Carolinas FSC





Current Skating Involvement: Club Board Member / Leader Committee Member Official (Judge and Technical Panel)

Click **HERE** for Kimberley's resumé.

**Professional Experience:**Database Administration

#### Why I would like to serve:

As the current Secretary of the Board of Directors, I am fortunate to have served my first and second terms in a time of significant change in the world. U.S. Figure Skating is indicative of an organization's ability to change in a dynamic environment and remain committed to opportunities for our figure skating community.

As I reflect on the past two years, my goal of acquiring knowledge of how U.S. Figure Skating functions from the local Learn To Skate programs, figure skating clubs, national and world platforms is key to my desire to serve a third term. There is more to learn. If given the opportunity, I am eager to continue supporting the initiatives of U.S. Figure Skating, and a sport I have loved since being a young child.

As an official that travels to many competitions, I would like to see us achieve our 5-year Strategic Initiative of increasing our pool of officials and increasing the diversity of our officials. We are reaching a critical time in our organization where this goal is extremely important.

#### Heather Paige, Director Nominated for a two-year term Home club: Miami University





Current Skating Involvement:
Coach
Committee Member
Former Athlete
Rink Management / Skating Director
U.S. Figure Skating Board Member

Click <u>HERE</u> for Heather's resumé.

# **Professional Experience:** Choreographer

Coach Event Management

#### Why I would like to serve:

I am passionate about the sport of figure skating and excited by the opportunity to give back to an organization that has taught me so much through, not only my skating career, but also life in general. I've been very fortunate to participate in a team environment within U.S. Figure Skating for over three decades. Synchronized skating has taught me about the benefits of teamwork, which is a different side of our sport.

In my opinion, service is an opportunity to build robust relationships and partnerships both within the Board of Directors and between the Board and the committees. Service is a vehicle for collaboration, learning, knowledge sharing and creativity. I strongly believe that my commitment and willingness for service were established and developed through my background in synchronized skating and through my experience on multiple committees. Service is an innate part of me – especially when it comes to introducing initiatives, leading change and collaborating.

#### Kevin Rosenstein, Director

Serving year two of a two-year term Home club: Los Angeles FSC





#### **Current Skating Involvement:**

Committee Chair / NVC
Committee Member
Former Athlete
Official (Judge and Technical Panel)
Team Leader/Team Physician

Click <u>HERE</u> for Kevin's resumé.

#### **Professional Experience:**

Corporate
Management
Marketing / Communication

#### Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

My overarching reason for wanting to serve is a deep belief in the vision and mission of this organization and the impact that the organization and our programs have on the lives of our athletes, volunteers, club members, officials, and families. I feel like I can help drive this vision forward.

I bring a unique blend of a deep knowledge of skating and our association and relevant professional skills, from my work as a strategy consultant. In my work, I focus on bringing our clients' visions and missions to life through the thoughtful development of strategic plans and the implementation of those plans through a series of actionable steps. I believe that this is complementary to the role of a board member. My job requires an ability to think broadly and dream about "what can be" and then to be able to pivot to create realistic solutions and approaches, based available time, money, staff, and volunteers, etc. As an outside consultant, I need to work with internal teams to implement the strategy and the connection between the Board and the committees who help design and implement the tactics. I think that this is analogous to the role a board member has in coordinating with staff, volunteers, and our membership.

Lastly, I believe in the values outlined for our organization and I aspire to live up to those values in my interactions and work in skating. To me, these values have special representation for Board Members:

- Excellence means focusing on the very best aspiration for the association, participating fully, being as thoughtful as possible, pushing our thinking and not settling.
- Integrity means understanding our fiduciary responsibilities as well as our role as oversight to ensuring a safe environment for every member of our community.
- Respect means listening to the broad range of voices and acknowledging and addressing all
  concerns and questions. It means actively looking to understand why decisions have been
  made in the past and not rapidly changing course without warrant.
- Resilience means acknowledging and addressing our many challenges head-on. Being as creative as we can be and using every tool available to our organization.

Community means finding and articulating our common purpose, looking for connections and best intentions, and focusing on shared successes.

#### **Matt Slatus, Independent Director**

Nominated for a two-year term Individual Member: Phoenix, Ariz.





Click **HERE** for Matt's resumé.

#### Why I would like to serve:

Growing up as the son of two professionals and as a national competitor myself, skating was always a significant part of my life. The sport provided me with life skills I rely on today in my professional career and these same skills are ones I've now passed onto my child.

Watching the evolution of skating, both the on-ice product and the 'business of skating', has been interesting to me, particularly twenty years into a career in professional sports. The unique crossroads that my skating background provides, intersected with my career in professional sports, puts me in a position where I believe I have the opportunity to assist the board in steering the sports over the next decade.

U.S. Figure Skating should continue to develop and support the best athletes in the world. While doing so though, the body has an opportunity to provide its internal constituents (athletes, coaches, officials, clubs) with a clearer message and path, and its partners (sponsors, media rights holders, etc.) and fans with a lifetime of memories of business growth.

As it achieves the above, U.S. Figure Skating will have an opportunity to see its Learn to Skate enrollment increase, its grassroots programs develop, and its corporate relationships become stronger. All of this will allow the sport to continue investing in its athletes, coaches, and officials. Onward and upward!

I've enjoyed my time on the board thus far and feel I can be an asset moving forward.

#### Kym Worthy, Director

Serving year two of a two-year term

Home club: Dearborn FSC



#### **Current Skating Involvement:** Club Board Member / Leader Club Volunteer Committee Member **DEI Task Force Member** Parent



#### **Professional Experience:**

Legal Management

Public Administration / Government

#### Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

I would certainly bring a unique voice. I have been involved in figure skating as a fan and parent for well over 20 years. I am a longtime, active club board member and I also serve as my club's legal advisor. I have long advocated for more exposure to our sport - especially as it relates to brining more diversity to skating, as well as trying to bring awareness to the synchronized skating discipline.

I am a longtime advocate for the mental health issues for children, adolescents, and adults. As the elected District Attorney for the County of Wayne (Michigan), I encounter mental health issues on a daily basis and would like to bring that advocacy to the board, as well as broadening the awareness for athletes with disabilities.

My vision includes diversity issues; mental health support for the athletes, staff, coaches, and others involved with U.S. Figure Skating; making the sport of figure skating more accessible for all; and bringing more visibility to the sport.

#### **POOJA KALYAN, SINGLES ATHLETE**



Elected for a two-year term Home club: Ozark FSC



Most prestigious int'l competition: Most recent int'l season : 2020 Skate America 2020-2021

#### Why I would like to serve:

I want to help build the future of US Figure Skating as the Athlete Singles Director, and I believe that my experiences and insights from my various roles within the figure skating community will allow me to do so effectively. I aim to give back to the sport and use what I learned from my struggles and successes as an athlete to develop topics in USFS strategic planning and policy.

I have been a member of US Figure Skating since I was six years old, and I am incredibly thankful for the opportunities they have provided me to grow and achieve my goals in skating. As I continue to venture into other areas within and outside of competitive figure skating, such as collegiate skating, officiating, and serving on numerous committees, I am learning about the various facets of US Figure Skating that must piece together smoothly while also evolving it to support future generations of skaters.

I feel that I am well suited to serve on the Board of Directors given my unique background and trajectory in figure skating, having trained for most of my life in a small recreation rink in Arkansas, being a full-time student, and being the only South Asian figure skater to represent Team USA. I hope that by serving in this role, I will bring a diversity of opinions and experiences that USFS will benefit from as we continue to develop the sport and organization, increase inclusivity, and produce strong athletes.

#### JENNA LONGO, SYNCHRONIZED SKATING ATHLETE



Serving year two of a two-year term Home club: Hayden Recreation Centre FSC



Most prestigious int'l competition: Most recent int'l season: 2007-2014 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships (Haydenettes) 2013-2014

Information from 2022 election Why I would like to serve:

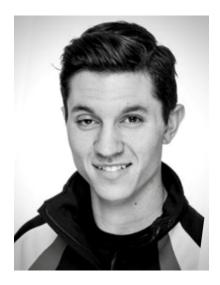
Serving on the board of directors these past four years has been extremely rewarding, challenging, and full of personal growth. Not only is it an enormous honor being an athlete representative on the board of directors, but it is also a combination of my two passions, skating and business. I wish to continue to be a member of the Board and ensure that the athlete voice continues to be at the forefront of the conversations in order to safeguard the success and well-being of all our athlete members. The past two years have brought much change, both expected and unexpected, that has required our board to be agile and thoughtful of all members. Although the Board has been flexible in our current ever-changing environment, it is our duty and responsibility to the organization to continue to better our work and practices. As our external environment continues to become more complex, I want to be a part of the board during the challenging and trying times to lead our organization into the future with continued success. As an athlete voice, my professional background is unique and allows me also to bring a set of skills that would be useful to the board of directors and the athlete voice specifically.

A highly functioning board includes rotation of members in order to include fresh voices and ideas, and that is something I deeply respect. However, this particular athlete group has made immense strides in how the athlete members fit into the larger board. With the new governance changes going in effect, we intend to build on that new success, and lay an even stronger foundation to set up our future athlete members to successfully continue to share our voices and enhance our athlete roles. My time as a ten-year athlete is coming to a close, and with that I want to continue to serve U.S. Figure Skating in other capacities where possible. With this next term being a two-year term, it is my goal to learn as much as possible in these two years to better serve our members and community both now and in the future.

#### **COLIN MCMANUS, ICE DANCE ATHLETE**



Serving year two of a two-year term Home club: Skating Club of Boston



Most prestigious int'l competition: N 2016 NHK Trophy (Anastasia Cannuscio) 20

Most recent int'l season: 2016-2017

Information from 2022 election Why I would like to serve:

It has been an honor to serve on the board over the past few years, and I truly look forward to the opportunity to continue in this role. Being an athlete director on the board is certainly demanding, but it's so rewarding to have the opportunity to advocate on behalf of the athletes. With the newly restructured board beginning this year, we are beginning to truly look at the vision for U.S. Figure Skating.

I want to continue to add my perspective to the long-term planning for this association. I want to bring my athlete experience along with my perspectives as a coach, technical official, and team leader to help shape the vision for what the athlete experience will look like for our next generation of skaters. I want to continue to push for more visibility surrounding athlete leadership and highlight the amazing work that has been done by this committee over the past two years. We deserve a supported platform to highlight our athlete programs, and to showcase the opportunity for all athletes to get involved in leadership.

#### AMANDA WILL, USOPC AAC REPRESENTATIVE



Serving through January 2024 Home club: Arctic Edge FSC



**Most prestigious int'l competition:** Most recent int'l season: 2010 Olympic Winter Games (Mark Ladwig) 2012-2013

Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

I am the USOPC AAC Representative. As a board member, I am hoping to bring to the table the perspective of our top elite athletes keeping their interest a priority in decision making, sharing best practices learned from the USOPC AAC, as well as utilizing my past job experiences and education to bring a variety of skills to the committee.

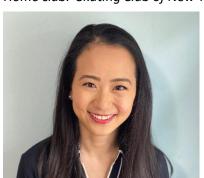
I have served on multiple U.S. Figure Skating committees since 2008 including two terms on the Board of Directors and one term on the Nominating committee. On the club level, I was also club board member at my former home club of Southwest Florida FSC for over 12 years. Outside of skating, I graduated University of South Florida with a Business degree in Management and Marketing. When I retired from competitive skating in 2012, I started coaching skating full time at all levels from Basic Skills to the Olympic level and continued a part time job as an office administrator for the company Specialty Products Holding Corporation for over four years.

Pair skating is my discipline, but my passion is working with young skaters and being a part of their athlete journey.

#### **FELICIA ZHANG, PAIRS ATHLETE**

Elected for a two-year term

Home club: Skating Club of New York



Most prestigious int'l competition: 2014 Olympic Winter Games (Nathan Bartholomay)

Most recent int'l season: 2013-2014

#### Why I would like to serve:

As your Pairs Athlete Director the past 3 years, I have learned a lot about our organization and have been able to consistently advocated for the voices of our athletes. Through the uncertainty of COVID in 2020, to where we are now, the countless hours we have put in to be able to continue to provide skating to our membership has shown the dedication and perseverance that we all have for the sport. If given the chance to serve the next 2 years as your Pairs Director, I will continue to serve as a voice for all our athlete members and maintain open communication to what we all have to offer.

#### Lauren O'Toole, Athlete Services Group Coordinator

Non-voting, serving year two of a two-year term Home Club: The SC of New York, Inc.





# Current Skating Involvement: Committee Chair / NVC Committee Member Former Athlete Official (Judge and Technical Panel) Team Leader

Click **HERE** for Lauren's resumé.

#### **Professional Experience:**

Corporate
Management
Marketing / Communication
Project / Process Management
Technology

#### Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

As Athlete Services Group Coordinator, my responsibility will be to update the Board of Directors on initiatives set forth by my committee chairs. My role is to ensure that the initiatives are in alignment with the Strategic Plan of U.S. Figure Skating.

I plan to serve as a resource and partner for the discipline committee chairs as they focus on supporting our coaches and athletes through various initiatives tailored to the respective discipline.

Additionally, I will ensure that discipline programming caters to the full spectrum of athletes, from the elite athletes focused on international success to the new learn-to-skate participants. It is also critical to understand and support the transitions of our athletes as they exit active competition. Resources such as job placement and understanding transferrable skills are items that I am passionate about implementing.

I will continue to foster and encourage more regular communication amongst the discipline committee chairs concerning best practices, current initiatives, and to conceptualize ideas for future implementation.

#### Elise Preston, Membership Development Group Coordinator

Non-voting, serving year two of a two-year term Home Club: The SC of New York, Inc.





Current Skating Involvement:
Club Volunteer
Coach
Committee Member
Rink Management / Skating Director
U.S. Figure Skating Board Member

Click HERE for Elise's resumé.

#### **Professional Experience:**

Management
Public Administration / Nonprofit
Training and Development

Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

I care deeply about the future strategic direction of U.S. Figure Skating.

I believe it is critical to the strength of our organization that close attention is paid to a restructuring of the skater pipeline with the specific goal in mind of transitioning skaters into full membership at a much earlier stage in their development than has historically been the case. This will strengthen our overall membership numbers and ensure a reliable, continuous pool of skaters flowing into the organization.

U.S. Figure Skating has many great, well-established programs available to members. Expanding awareness of the opportunities available to skaters through US Figure Skating will strengthen engagement of our members, and lead to better retention in the sport.

Having over 25 years' experience in innovative program development and working closely with all stakeholders - coaches, parents, skaters, rink management, I have a deep understanding of how each of those constituencies experience our sport, with a particular focus on grassroots development and ensuring a sustained commitment to skating.

Additionally, I want to work to ensure that U.S. Figure Skating builds upon and strengthens its commitment to ensuring our sport is safe and inclusive for skaters of all backgrounds.

#### Todd Bromley, Technical and Officials Group Coordinator (non-voting)

Non-voting, serving year two of a two-year term Home Club: Broadmoor SC, Inc.





# **Current Skating Involvement:**Official (Judge and Technical Panel) U.S. Figure Skating Board Member

Click HERE for Todd's resumé.

#### **Professional Experience:**

Corporate Finance Management

#### Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

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 USFS. These roles have prepared and equipped me to serve as the Technical and Officials Group Coordinator.

I am currently in my second year as Group Coordinator. I currently oversee the following committees: Competitions, Domestic Selections, Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management, Officials Training and Tests. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Technical and Officials Group Coordinator.

With the Covid pandemic, much of my time as been consumed in working with the Competitions Committee. For the last 18 plus months, we have been operating in very unusual circumstances. We have had to step outside of our box and reimage the entire competition and test structure that impact members from our grassroots levels to elite athletes. As a result, we have implemented virtual competitions and virtual testing to keep our membership involved in skating during the pandemic.

With input from several other key committees, we have been able to keep figure skating alive during the darkest of times. While some decisions were very hard to make, we have not compromised on our number one priority of keeping our membership healthy and safe at all USFS events.

Each committee is currently working on individual initiatives that overlap one or more other committees that fall under the jurisdiction of Technical and Officials. With seeing improvements with the Covid pandemic, more of my time and focus can be reallocated to ensure these initiatives come to complete fruition. In order to see that happen, I would be honored to serve as the Technical and Officials Group Coordinator again.

#### Pilar Helm, Administrative/Legal Group Coordinator (non-voting)

Non-voting, serving year two of a two-year term Home Club: Baltimore FSC





Current Skating Involvement: Committee Chair / NVC Committee Member Former Athlete Professional Experience:

Legal

Public Administration / Government

Click <u>HERE</u> for Pilar's resumé.

#### Information from 2022 election

#### Why I would like to serve:

I am honored to have been selected by the Nominating Committee as the next Admin/Legal Group Coordinator. Serving in the position seems like a natural next step; I have served in various roles at the Committee and Board level since 2008. I have served as the Chair of the Grievance Committee for the past two seasons. The Admin/Legal Group Coordinator position allows me to utilize my professional skills and contribute to the betterment of the sport and the organization.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I will support U.S. Figure Skating's mission and goals and will encourage the organization to continue to be a leader among NGB's in promoting diversity, professionalism, and inclusivity. I believe that U.S. Figure Skating and its leadership should be focused on supporting, empowering, and fostering a positive environment for our athletes and members.