

Board of Directors: Candidate Profiles

Coaches' Director



Manzar Iqbal

My interest in serving on the USA Field Hockey board is to give back to the sport the benefits of my experience as a Field Hockey Olympian, businessman, and hockey parent and coach. USA Field Hockey has helped me achieve personal success, lifetime friendships, and a career. I represented USA Field Hockey for 14 years internationally from 1977 to 1991. I have been an assistant coach to the 2003 Indoor World Cup. I have run and coached girls U-12 to U-19 club teams for 6 years from 2006 to present. I have played adult club hockey for 35 years on the West Coast, East Coast and overseas. I have a daughter playing college Field Hockey. These experiences allow me to personally understand the needs of our field hockey community. Through both my field hockey and business experience I can provide a perspective on what we can do to assist our athletes and coaches to improve our international standing in the sport. I have the current knowledge on the issues related to developing and nurturing field hockey at the junior and senior level. Field Hockey is a passion of mine and I want others to experience what I have experienced.



Christine Reinprecht

I love hockey. And I am not afraid of hard work. I traveled the world with my club team for two reasons. While my players experienced and learned from playing against club teams from Argentina to Australia, I observed how hockey cultures operate around the world. I want an Olympic medal for Team USA. I firmly believe that in order to achieve that lofty goal, USAFH must have a healthy, robust, head to toe organization with impeccable integrity and honesty that understands the participation pyramid of USAFH needs foundational strength and stability to support the Olympic podium dream. It takes a village to grow a child, and it takes an entire NGB to create Olympic accomplishments. Where ALL USAFH membership is supportive and proud of the accomplishment and where transparency continues to be the rule of the day and not be the exception. In my mind the Road to Rio began August 10, 2012, 9:30am London time, the moment the final whistle blew of the USA vs Belgium, 11/12-classification match. I am ready to roll up my sleeves and begin paving that road, inch by inch. Or whatever it takes.



Mark Vittese

I believe that my experience as an attorney, assistant field hockey coach in high school, futures coach, regional futures tournament assistant, regional club tournament assistant, parent of a national team player and a U21 player, and as a Board Member of USARS (US Association of Roller Sports - the national governing body (NGB) as declared by the USOC of roller sports), provides me with a perspective that would allow me to serve as a valuable board of director member for USAFH.

Official's Director



Kevin Parker

Hockey is for life. Hockey is for all.

In many ways our sport is unique in its ability to embrace all ages, all skill levels and all abilities. Nothing delights me more than to see the 10 year olds playing the game at CalCup, or the local club sides battling it out on a summer's weekend, or the nation's best high schoolers at Festival, or the spirited fun of the mixed teams, or the intensity of the adult team competition at the Atlanta cup, or well-disciplined and well-drilled skill and sophistication of the college teams, or our national teams taking on the world's best on the international stage.

And a crucial part of that success is our umpiring community. I've been an umpire now for more than 25 years. I've umpired at club level and tournament level in the United Kingdom; I've done games in Division 1 of the Northern Ireland League and the Irish Intervarsity Championships, as well as here at College Division 1. High school umpiring and club team umpiring and a lot of tournament umpiring here and in Canada have given me a chance to get to know umpires, from many walks of life, all of whom I call my hockey friends and family.

As umpires we are often overlooked and sometimes neglected. Thankfully US Field Hockey made the investment in hiring Steve Horgan to be our umpiring director. That gives us a fantastic start. But we need more.

We need to be consulted about the direction US Field Hockey is headed in? We need to make our feelings known about the conditions and care we receive when we are out working for US Field Hockey at Festival, Futures, Disney and at a myriad other tournaments.

We need to know about the appointments that are coming up for umpiring opportunities and for work on the technical side of our profession. We need more information about what is going on and how it affects us.

I've not heard anything from our current director in the last four years about anything and that includes about umpiring. That is not my style at all. I communicate; ask the umpires in the NORPAC West division for whom I work as assignor. They get weekly briefings from me about their assignments, feedback from the coaches, stats and ranking of the teams playing in the week ahead, and all the news coming from the National Umpire Director.

And we will not go another year without any reference to umpires in the USAFH annual report.

I became an umpire manager to ensure that I did my part for the umpires. At Disney and Festival I worked long hours to make sure every umpire got the feedback and encouragement they needed and all of their problems solved. I was very lucky to work with some excellent umpire manager partners to get this done.

As we all know US Field Hockey is in a state of transition. Our national team did not achieve what it hoped to achieve in London and finally steps are being taken to understand why. But what about our best and brightest umpires? Where is the investment in them? Where are the programs, open to all our umpiring colleagues, that enable us to make an impact on the international stage?

Upon election I can promise you this: umpiring issues will be heard and you will get direct feedback from me about all matters that concern us, umpiring and otherwise. I will strive to secure better treatment for the umpires so that we don't end up out of pocket for the events that we invest so much time and effort in. I will push for more umpire managers and more technical officials at games so that we can do our job to the very best of our ability as the players deserve. I will attempt, working with my coaching colleagues on the board, to improve understanding between the bench and the officials.

Now I am assigning in the NORPAC West and have been able to bring umpires from across the country to guest umpire in the division. I believe strongly that assignors should not assign themselves to games (I do not) and that assignors should pick the best crew for the game not the crew requested by the coaches.

Steve Horgan has made a great start; and with your vote for me, I will be able to continue to get him the resources he needs to make umpiring the best it can be.

Thank you for your support. Please vote for me.



Rene Zelkin

Over the past four years as a Board member, I have seen USA Field Hockey grow and prosper in many ways: financially, membership numbers, office staff, youth program development, umpire director position and increased umpire numbers, playing opportunities with new tournaments, task forces to improve USA Field Hockey and increase member participation to mention a few. I feel my work on the NFHS Rules Committee, the PAHF Umpiring Committee and as an International Technical Delegate keeps me current in all levels of hockey throughout the world proving me an asset to the USA Field Hockey Board in many venues. I am deeply invested to continuing to work strengthening USA Field Hockey as a premier NGB in the USA and a dominant force in the International Field Hockey World.

A note from USA Field Hockey:

Current USA Field Hockey Coach Members and Lifetime Members with current Coach Upgrades are eligible to vote for the Coaches' Director. Current USA Field Hockey Umpire Members and Lifetime Members with current Umpire Upgrades are eligible to vote for the Official's Director. These Members can vote by logging into their USA Field Hockey membership from Friday, October 26, 2012 at 12:00am MST to November 16, 2012 at 11:59pm MST.