

Hi, everyone – my name is Will Shortz. Traditionally, one seat on the USATT Board of Directors is earmarked for a "club representative," and I am asking for your support to be that person on the newly constituted USATT board.

I am the owner and co-founder of the Westchester Table Tennis Center, in Pleasantville, N.Y., just north of New York City. It is one of the premier table tennis facilities in North America. We recently expanded to 21,500+ square feet, with 30 tables, open seven days a week. We have three full-time coaches and approximately 200 members of all skill levels.

Westchester hosts monthly 4-star tournaments, the country's largest, averaging more than 160 players per tournament (pre-pandemic). Since we opened in 2011, we've awarded more than half a million dollars in prize money.

Our club has many special programs. Perhaps the one I'm proudest of is Ping Pong Parkinson, a weekly gathering of players with Parkinson's disease. There is lots of evidence that table tennis is beneficial to people afflicted with Parkinson's, delaying and reducing the disease's effects. As an outgrowth of our local group, last year we hosted the 1st ITTF World Parkinson's Table Tennis Championships, which attracted players from all over the globe.

On a personal note, I believe I am the only person to have played table tennis in all 50 states (246 clubs and counting). And I believe I have the world's longest table tennis streak -- having played every day for almost 3,000 days (not missing since Oct. 3, 2012).

Should you elect me to the board, I will bring the same enthusiasm, professionalism, creativity, and good governance to the USATT that I bring to everything else in life. My goal will be to represent the interests of all table tennis clubs in this country and to help grow the popularity of our sport.