



## USATT Board Unanimously Elects Anne Cribbs As New Chair

The Board of Directors of USA Table Tennis (USATT) announced today that Anne Warner Cribbs has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Board through December, 2017. Cribbs, and Olympic swimmer, has served on USATT's Board as an Independent Director since 2013. She replaces out-going Chair Peter Scudner, whose term expired on December 31, 2016 and was not eligible to continue in that capacity under USATT's term limit provisions.

Peter Scudner thanked the board for its service during his time as Chair and congratulated Anne Cribbs. "It has been an honor to serve as your Chair and I know we are in good hands with Anne for the future", he said.

"I am honored and excited to serve as the next Chair of USATT Board of Directors," said Cribbs. "I look forward to working with the USATT Board and membership to continue to move our organization forward and support the great sport of Table Tennis in the United States and beyond."

Cribbs' ties to USA Table Tennis go deeper than her involvement as a member of the board. As the President and CEO of the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC), she organized the 2007 World Junior Table Tennis Championships, held at Stanford University. She also served as the Chair of the 40th Anniversary of San Francisco's Three Day Celebration of Ping Pong Diplomacy (June 2011). This historic event showcased the Chinese Olympic Committee and their delegation and the US Table Tennis Team including the original veterans who played. In December 2011, Cribbs traveled to China with the USATT Delegation for a reciprocal visit.

A part of the Olympic Movement since 1959, Cribbs captured gold at the 1959 Pan American Games and a year later competed at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games. Holder of the American records in both the one hundred and two hundred meter breast-stroke events, she placed fifth in the 200 Meter Breaststroke at the Rome Olympics and was a member of the gold medal-winning, 400-meter medley relay team. She retired from competitive swimming at the age of fifteen. Her long-standing contributions to the Olympic Movement were honored in 2015 when she received the prestigious Olympic Torch Award from the USOC recognizing her significant impact on the Olympic Movement by promoting the Olympic Ideals.

Her professional career has been dedicated to serving sport and the community. In 1995, Anne co-founded the American Basketball League (ABL), the first women's professional basketball league in the United States before becoming President and CEO of the San Francisco Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC), where she continues to serve in that capacity today. Under her leadership, BASOC was the driving force behind San Francisco's Olympic bids in 2012 and 2024. Highlights of her work include consolidating political support, including Mayors, County Boards of Supervisors, the Governor's office and State Legislature. The bids enjoyed widespread public support, leaving a huge legacy which continues to be felt today.

BASOC, under Cribbs' leadership, organized the 2006 FINA World Masters Championships — 7800 competitors from 75 countries. she served as the President and CEO of the 2009 Summer National Senior Games, - 18 medal sports, 7 demonstration sports and 10,000 competitors over age fifty,

qualifying from all 50 states - the largest multi-sport event in the United States. She led the 2012 Bay Area Senior Games/California Senior Games Championships with 2000 athletes and 25 sports, a legacy of the 2009 Summer National Senior Games. The Bay Area Senior Games began in 2006 and continues annually at Stanford and other Bay Area venues.

Other events Anne Cribbs has spearheaded included the January 2014 WFG Continental Cup of Curling in Las Vegas. This event was held for the first time outside of Canada and set attendance records. Competitors from Team North America vs Team World with 36 of the 50 competitors going on to represent their countries in Sochi in the Olympic Winter Games. The 2004 Men's World Rink Hockey Championships, Palo Alto City's Leave Your Car at Home Day, Palo Alto's Black & White Ball, The Welcome Home Olympians Dinner held every four years since 1984 — which raises funds for the Northern California Olympians (NCO) Travel and Training grant program. The NCO is acknowledged by the USOC as the outstanding Olympic alumni chapter.

With her public and community relations firm, Anne Cribbs & Company, her clients have included: The Monterey Horse Park (a legacy project of the San Francisco 2012 Bid), the 2006, 07, 08, 10, 11,12, and 13 Bay Area Senior Games, the 2008 U.S. Olympian Reunion (a three day event in San Jose, CA), the 2012 US Olympian Alumni Association's inaugural Walk to London 2012 and she coordinated and directed the Rich May Memorial Golf Classic, to raise funds to build the first full sized soccer/field in East Palo Alto.

Cribbs has a considerable portfolio of Board positions, including Past President of the Northern California Olympians, past Vice-President of the U.S. Olympic Alumni Association, San Jose Sports Authority Board Chair (1997-2000) and current Board Vice Chair, founding Chair of WISE — SF (Women in Sports and Events) a member of the Advisory Council of BAWSI (Bay Area Woman's Sports Initiative) the Advisory Board Member for the Women's Sports Foundation and she serves on the Board of USA Table Tennis. She is a frequent guest lecturer at Stanford University School of Business, the Sports Management Program at the University of San Francisco, San Jose State and the University of Pacific. She is also an Olympian advisor to NBC Bay Area.

A California native, currently residing in Palo Alto, Cribbs received her AA degree from Foothill College in 1974, receiving the President's Medal for the outstanding female graduate. Cribbs went on to earn her Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Stanford University. Cribbs was inducted into the San Jose Sports Hall of Fame in 2003, and is also a member of the San Mateo County Hall of Fame and the Menlo Atherton High School Hall of Fame. She is the winner of the City of Palo Alto's Tall Tree Award. Cribbs received the 2012 America SCORES – Bay Area 2012 Legacy Award and the 2013 Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce's Athena Award. Anne received the 2015 Golden Medallion Award, the International Swimming Hall of Fame's highest award as a "trailblazer for women in Sports". The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) awarded Cribbs the 2015 Olympic Torch Award at their Annual Assembly & Board meeting held in Colorado Springs. In November of 2015, Anne received the 2015 Athletes in Excellence Award by the Foundation for Global Sports Development. Most recent honor was bestowed in May,2016, Anne Warner Cribbs was inducted May 2016 into the San Francisco Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame.

