

## Nominations for PVS Board of Directors July 2016

### **Administrative Vice Chair**

Nominee: Tom Ugast

Years in PVS: 5

Bio: Tom is the incumbent in this position.

### **Operations Vice Chair**

Nominee: Tim Husson

Years in PVS: 20

Bio: Tim has been an official in PVS for 20 years. He has been a member of the PVS Officials Committee for 11 years, serving as the committee's chair for the past 3 years. He is a familiar face at PVS meets of all levels – from mini meets to championship meets. Tim is the incumbent Operations Vice Chair and looks forward to continuing to support the smooth operation of PVS meets.

### **Age Group Chair**

Nominee: Blair Piddington

Years in PVS: 14 years as a coach

Bio: I started swimming at 5 years old and grew up in Vienna, Virginia. I swam competitively growing up and went to George Mason University where I swam on the team for 4 years. I learned a lot about swimming, hard work, and perseverance through my years of college, and really continued to love the sport. As I was at George Mason I started coaching for Machine Aquatics in 2002. After my senior year of college, I stayed on as a Graduate Assistant Coach for George Mason and helped out with their team. After that I continued with Machine and coached mainly 8 and unders and 9-10's for the first couple of years. I progressed and moved into all age groups, where I worked as both a head site coach and an assistant under Dan Jacobs. I have coached Machine for 14 years and am currently a head coach of my group that swims out of Oak Marr Recreation Center and have swimmers from 6-12 years old in the practice. Outside of Machine, I was a PVS Zone coach for 5 different seasons (3 short



course, and 2 long course) and worked with both the 9-10 and 11-12 age groups. I also teach Elementary PE and have a Masters Degree in Education focusing on Integrating Technology in Schools.

### **Safe Sport Chair**

Nominee: Yvonne L Taylor

Years in PVS: New to PVS / USAS - 3 years

Bio: Yvonne joins the University of Maryland professional staff with over 15 years of experience in aquatics, leadership and providing a safe environment for young athletes. Although she does not come from a competitive swimming background, her knowledge and personal experiences with diversity, inclusion and education gives her a unique perspective on safe sport presentation. As the new UMD representative, it is imperative that Yvonne become involved in the PVS community and continue to build the great relationships that have been so carefully fostered throughout the years. I look forward to serving the PVS in any way that I can.

### **Safe Sport Chair**

Nominee: Merari Cholette

Years in PVS: 4

Bio: I have served on the PVS Board as Diversity Chair for several years and I have a keen interest in Safe Sport Education. I am especially eager to increase pro active and visible communications and training for our clubs with the new USA-S national conversation initiative.

I have been an active supporter of the Safe Sport initiative always encouraging athletes, coaches, officials and parents to educate themselves. At all the diversity events I always discuss and highlight Safe Sport training.

I have provided support related to two clubs that were seriously affected by safe sport violations. I have also assisted a coach in going through an intense review of credentials by USA-S for re registration due to background check concerns.

I have participated (even at my own personal expense) in Safe Sport training sessions online, at Zone Meetings, USA-S Convention and independent conferences for the last 3-4 years.

I am a parent of two PVS athletes, am a deck volunteer and have served as team manager, registered coach, co-meet director, LSC and Zone camp director and of course as a board member so I have varying experiences and perspectives in the sport to lend to to this role.



Should I need to be directly involved in addressing any Safe Sport Issues, I can empathize with alleged victims & their families while still maintaining a fair and balanced approach with anyone accused of misconduct.

I have relationships with staff at USA-S and several current and previous Safe Sport local and national committee members. Interestingly, the close ties between Diversity&Inclusion and Safe Sport have been discussed in recent meetings, workshops and conferences I have attended.

I am an advocate for our sport without being employed in it and not having financial ties or interests to any club (other than support and loyalty as parent volunteer for my daughters club) so there is no conflict of interest

I am ethical, professional and I have a clear understanding of the importance of privacy and confidentiality. Additionally, I have a professional background and experience in Crisis Management for Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery as a consultant for Blue Cross & Blue Shield Association.

I am passionate about our sport and ensuring that it is a safe sport for all.

Diversity of board members is also important.. I represent, smaller clubs, minority clubs, women in the sport, the voice of parents and volunteers.

Similar to several volunteers that have served in multiple roles over the years, I would like to continue to serve the LSC on the board as an advocate and representative for our sport.

### **Strategic Planning Chair**

Nominee: Dave DiNardo

Years in PVS: 17

Bio: Dave DiNardo has been a Member of PVS since 1999. He got involved as an Official when his youngest daughter became a PVS Swimmer, and has continued to be active ever since. Dave previously served an unexpired term as Operations Vice Chair when the Vice Chair moved away from the area. He has also been a Member of the Officials Committee since 2008. Over the past few years, he has become more involved with USA Swimming on a National basis, having worked several of the Championship Meets throughout the Country. Dave now has more time to devote to PVS, and would like to take this opportunity to assist the LSC. He is confident that his professional background of over 30 years in Commercial Real Estate, as well as his experience in PVS and USA Swimming will be an asset to the organization.

