



2023 Annual General Meeting Board of Director Profiles & Nomination Report

Volleyball Manitoba's Board of Directors are ultimately accountable for competent stewardship and long-term development of Volleyball Manitoba. The Board provides leadership for the association through strategic planning and organizational policies that set out priorities, values and direction for staff and committee actions. The Board delegates authority to the Executive Director to ensure that these policies are operationalized in programs, finance, personnel, marketing, and administration.

There are various key skills and characteristics that are desirable for Volleyball Manitoba board members. It is not essential for each board member to possess all of these skills, but as a collective, the board should contain the following attributes: Business Acumen, Governance & Policy, Financial Budget Control, Strategic Planning and Management, Marketing and Communication, Legal as well as Knowledge of Volleyball & Manitoba Sport.

In addition to the specific skills listed above, the board acknowledges that board members should be passionate, possess leadership skills and are ambassadors for the organization. Volleyball Manitoba also recognizes the need for gender and diversity balance within the board, and desires geographic representation from Manitoba.

The board model requires individuals who will enjoy focusing on the big picture. The following describes the desirable characteristics of an ideal individual board member:

- A Member of the Board should have a broad range of experiences in volleyball.
- Understands the various inter-related elements of the national and provincial volleyball and sport systems.
- Strategic, big-picture thinker.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- A team player.
- A knowledge or experience in applying business practices in a non-profit association.
- A Director will also need to have time to commit to being a member of the Board. The board meets every two months, five times per year. Board Members are also expected to support a program committee as a chair or committee member.

The directors serve two-year terms and hold office until their successors have been duly elected in accordance with the association By-Laws.

The 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) is taking place on September 5, 2023.

Directors Entering Year 2 (of their 2-year term):

- **Roger Labossiere (Director / President)** was elected to the board in 2016, and due to his finance background was subsequently selected as Treasurer by the board and served in this capacity this past year. Roger has coached volleyball at the club, school and provincial team levels since 1987, and has also played in the Winnipeg Men's and Coed Leagues in the past. Roger is currently the CFO for GHY Internationals, has served as the Director of Finance for a marketing agency for 20 years prior to that, and is a member of the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) Board of Directors.

- **Andrei Halkewycz (Director / Vice President)** has been a VM Board Member since 2011 and has served on several committees including chairing the Awards & Recognition Committee. He has been involved in Manitoba's volleyball community since the early 1990's as a volunteer with Team Canada. For the past 15 years Andrei has been very involved in volleyball as a certified MVOA official, coaching girl's high school and club teams, and for the past 4 years as a coach and co-club director. Volleyball and its growth in Manitoba is a true passion of his. Andrei is born and raised in Winnipeg, has a degree in Public Relations and has been employed at Halkewycz Law Office as Office Manager since 2010.
- **Tim Au (Director / Secretary)** has served as a VM board member since 2012. Tim has been a lifelong active member in Manitoba's volleyball community as he transitioned from an athlete in the high school and club systems into a volunteer and coach. Tim is an NCCP fully certified Performance (Level 3) coach. Tim is currently an active coach at the grassroots and elite levels. Tim is a lifelong resident of Winnipeg, and a high school Physical Education and Sport Psychology teacher in our community and is a strong advocate for youth sport.
- **Madison Minarik (Director)** competed as a club and high school athlete for the Selkirk Royals, was a Provincial Team member on 2010 and played in the WWVL from 2011-2017. Since 2012 she has coached in Selkirk at both school and club levels. Madison is a Physiotherapist by profession working in a rural hospital and has been a medical volunteer at various events including the Manitoba Marathon, the Manitoba Games and the Saskatchewan Games. Madison represents a voice on the board for rural communities and would like to see more promotion of the sport to younger athletes to help spark their interest in the game.
- **Ted Redekop (Director)** has been involved in volleyball as a player, referee and coach at the high school, club and college levels for close to 30 years now. Ted currently coaches with both the BVC and Cats clubs out of Brandon and is very active along with his family with the Nikki Redekop Memorial Scholarship. Ted graduated with a post-secondary degree in Recreation Studies and works as a Firefighter and Paramedic Teacher with the Brandon Fire Department. Ted would like to become more involved to help enhance Volleyball Manitoba's existing programs including the improvement and involvement for boys at the club level throughout Manitoba.
- **Kevin Neufeld (Director)** has been active in the Manitoba sport community for the past 4 decades and looks to continue on the board after serving from 2014 - 2018. A fully certified Performance coach Kevin has coached for the past 38 years, including the Canada Games in 2009, and continues to do so in club and at the MCAC level as the head coach of the ACC Cougars. Kevin retired from teaching in 2017 where he was a physical education / health educator in the Brandon School Division for 36 years.

Director whose 2-Year Term is Concluding, and allowing their name to stand again for re-Election:

- **Gabrielle Wishart (Member)** has coached with the 204 Volleyball Club for the past 4 seasons and 3 seasons at the high school level and this summer started refereeing beach volleyball. As an athlete Gabrielle played 8 years of club volleyball, participated in beach volleyball, was the team captain of both the 2014 and 2017 North American Indigenous Games Teams, played at Briercrest and Red River College and continues to actively compete in indoor and outdoor leagues. Gabrielle has board experience with Seven Oaks Minor Hockey, is a member of the Manitoba Metis Federation- Southwest Region and works as a Sport Coordinator at the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Council. She would love to see volleyball grow at the grassroots level, as well as make competitive volleyball more accessible for athletes in remote or smaller communities.

Director Representing Affiliated Association

- **Azad Hosein (Referee Director)** has been involved with volleyball since Grade 6 after moving from Trinidad. The transition from outdoor sports to indoor took some adjustments. Azad played all the school sports at Hastings Junior High and Dakota Collegiate up to Grade 11. During the Grade 12 year, he focused on Cricket ultimately making the National Team. While taking his Commerce Degree at the University of Manitoba, he started coaching volleyball at Hastings Junior High. In 1991 Azad took the Level I Referee's course and became an International Referee in 2002. He has refereed over 100 International matches but particularly still enjoys

refereeing Age Class and High School volleyball. Azad was selected as the Regional Officials Chairperson and elected by the MVOA as a Volleyball Manitoba Board member in September 2015.

Directors whose 2-Year Terms are Concluding, and not letting their names to stand for re-Election.

- **Michelle Sawatzky-Koop (Director / Treasurer)**
- **Jenn Krahn (Director)**

Volleyball Manitoba would like to sincerely thank Michelle & Jenn for their contributions to the board and our sport.

Member(s) nominated and allowing their name(s) to stand for Election:

- **Tristan Hodges** has been involved in volleyball as a player and coach at the high school and club levels for the Selkirk Royals for several years. Recently Tristan has continued playing at 'The Beach' and within the Winnipeg Coed Volleyball League. Tristan has his CPA designation and is currently working at the accounting firm MNP as a Designated Professional. Being involved with the volleyball community for a large portion of his life, Tristan wants to give back and wants to see Volleyball Manitoba continue to be successful.
- **Henry Floreal** has played volleyball since 1983, including at the Royal Military College of Canada, and first started coaching in 1996 at the Greenwood military base, and has been coaching youth volleyball since 2012. Henry is a consultant and executive at multiple technology companies, has been advising for several start-up enterprises, and has been a board member of organizations including the Make A Wish and RoundTableRX Foundations. Henry believes that volleyball is a fantastic lifelong sport that helps athletes grow and feels we can improve the experience level to help our athletes better develop.
- **Taylor Basaraba** played both club and school volleyball growing up and has continued her passion for the sport through coaching. This coming up club season will be her 5th year with 204 Volleyball Club with 4 seasons in a head coach capacity and has also coached 2 years of JV girls volleyball at Dakota Collegiate. Taylor currently works at the Winnipeg Airport for the company SSP as a Shared Service Specialist. She would like to continue making the sport of volleyball more accessible to those who are less fortunate but are serious and committed to playing the sport at a higher level.
- **Ayiya Ottogo** has been a player at all levels of volleyball from 14U-18U club, high school where she played at MBCI, as a Gold Medalist at the 2017 Canada Games and for one year with the University of Manitoba Bisons. In recent years she has given back as a Head Coach with the Vision club during the 2020 season and as an Assistant Coach with the Bandits club this past 22-23 season. Ayiya brings experience in community projects as a board member for the South Sudanese Youth Association. She is passionate about creating a diverse and inclusive space within the volleyball community where everyone feels welcomed and represented.

With the six directors entering year 2 of their terms (Roger, Andrei, Tim and Madison, Kevin & Ted), the one director whose term has ended but allowing their names to stand again for another term (Gabrielle), the Referee Director (Azad), and considering the four new nominations (Tristan, Henry, Taylor & Ayiya), leaves us with 12 directors for the 2023-24 year. Our bylaws require a minimum of eight (8) and a maximum of twelve (12) directors so a motion will be made to accept the five nominations by acclamation.