

2023 Nomination Report

In accordance with the BCAS Nominations Policy, there are 4 Board of Director positions scheduled for election during the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

The following positions are scheduled for election for 2-year terms:

- Vice-President
- 3x Director-at-Large

While nominations will be accepted from the floor in accordance with BC Artistic Swimming's Nomination Policy and Procedures, individuals have been nominated in advance of the meeting and have demonstrated that they meet the criteria established in the BC Artistic Swimming Bylaws. The BCAS Governance & Nominations Committee is very pleased to announce that it received one (1) nomination for the Vice-President position and six (6) nominations for the three (3) available Director-at-Large positions.

Introduction

Upon review of the nominations, the Governance & Nominations Committee recognized an unprecedented situation where there is potential for individuals in conflict of interest with a single Member Club to have a significant representative vote on the Board of Directors. In the spirit of ensuring that BCAS has a broad representative voice of its membership and to ensure that all matters can be effectively considered and voted on by a majority of the elected Directors, the Governance & Nominations Committee recommended that the BCAS Board amend the BCAS Nominations Policy with the following clauses:

- 4.4 In order to encourage broad representation from Member Clubs as well as to avoid any situation where a majority of Directors on the BC Artistic Swimming Board of Directors may have a conflict of interest in relation to a matter, no more than fifty percent (50%) of the Directors in office at a given time may be in conflict of interest with any single Member Club.*
- 5.4 In such cases as there are more nominees than available positions in accordance with the criteria outlined in clause 4.4, all eligible nominees will be put forth for consideration for election at the Annual General Meeting, however, upon review of the votes, and if the voting permits, the Scrutineers will approve the election of the individual(s) in conflict of interest with any single Member Club up to the maximum allowed in accordance with clause 4.4 and any subsequent conflicted nominees will be deemed as not elected to the Board of Directors. If there remains a vacancy on the Board of Directors, the nominee/candidate with the next greatest number of votes and without a conflict of interest with that single Member Club will be elected to the Board of Directors and so on until all vacancies are filled.*
- 5.5 Notwithstanding 5.4, a vacancy cannot be filled by election or appointment that breaches policy 4.4.*

All current BCAS Directors who have been nominated for election at the 2023 Annual General Meeting identified a conflict of interest in this motion and neither participated in the discussion nor voted on the proposed amendments to the Nominations Policy. The proposed Nominations Policy amendments were approved by the BCAS Board of Directors and will be in effect during the upcoming 2023 election.

Meet the Nominees

As part of its governance model, BC Artistic Swimming has identified the skills set needed by Directors to effectively govern the Society. On the nomination form, each nominee is asked to rate themselves on these skills. The Governance & Nominations Committee has considered the gaps being left by outgoing Directors, BCAS' strategic objectives and risks, and the self-rated skills identified by the individual candidates to rank the nominees. The Governance & Nominations Committee and is pleased to present the 2023 nominees in order of ranking:

VICE-PRESIDENT

Anne-Marie North



Anne-Marie has a passion for our sport that shines through in her recognition of all levels and all abilities as well as in all the Artistic Swimming activities in which she participates.

Anne-Marie joined the Artistic Swimming community almost 25 years ago, initially as a parent of an athlete and shortly thereafter as a Masters athlete in her daughter's club. She soon got involved as a deck volunteer and Club Board member. Seventeen years ago, Anne-Marie extended her participation to include the role of Official and can be seen on the pool deck at many Meets. In the last 9 years Anne-Marie has included Educator of Officials in her activities and has jointly facilitated the certification of over 50 new Officials during this time. Anne-Marie has served 3 terms on the BCAS Board since 2015, most recently as the Vice-President.

Anne-Marie's previous professional experience in Supply Chain Management in the consumer products industry left her with skills readily transferrable to this role. Anne-Marie has leadership experience in safety, financial accountability, long term planning, training, and human resources. As always, Anne-Marie's passion for our sport will continue to shine should she be re-elected to the role of Vice President.

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE (in order of ranking)

Jo-Anne Emery



Jo-Anne has loved artistic swimming since 1972 when she joined a summer club with her elementary school best friend – they competed together for two summers. She was not able to continue with the sport as her family moved frequently (engineering projects) but she and her old friend still do "synchro" together each year during holidays in Osoyoos.

In recent years she discovered the West Coast Masters Artistic Swimming Club in her community and joined immediately – eventually serving on the club executive. It was thrilling for her

to return to the sport of her childhood, and beneficial as she was improving fitness, flexibility, and strength – and having a fantastic time with her teammates.

Jo-Anne felt strongly connected to the sport and wanted to learn more so she took the Competition Introduction and AquaGo! coach training programs as well as the Artistic Swimming Officials training and has recently achieved Level II.

Since being elected to the Board in 2021, Jo-Anne has enjoyed working with the Marketing and Communications Committee on new branded materials and she developed a draft fundraising concept. She is keen to support growth of Masters clubs by improving public awareness.

Jo-Anne retired in 2022 after 30 years owning a business doing web and print design and production; marketing and communications projects; plus special event coordination. She has had clients in Australia, Costa Rica, USA, and Canada.

Dana Xu



Dana Xu is a senior Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) with over 20 years of engineering design experience. During the years, she has designed a wide variety of highway projects in both urban and rural settings, with complexity levels ranging from local roadway widening to large-scale highway improvements such as the “Port Mann / Highway 1” project. She has solid knowledge and skills in engineering design and project management / delivery. During her career, Dana has worked for a few renowned consulting firms before joining the BC Government in 2020.

Since her daughter became an artistic swimmer in summer 2021, Dana has been actively involved in this community that nurtures growth and development in artistic swimming. In summer 2022, she completed Judge Level 1 training organized by BCAS. She has participated in all the BCAS (September – May season) and BCSSA (May – August season) events as an official ever since. Dana strives to improve her knowledge and skills to support the community and has received very positive feedback from the senior judges.

Dana is well versed in project management, as well as contract management. She is familiar with how government policies are made, and priorities set, as well as community consultation processes. During the past 2+ years’ involvement with artistic swimming, she has gained more understanding of the “True Sport” and “Respect in Sport” principles practiced by BCAS and its member clubs. She looks forward to contributing more effort and value to this amazing community!

Carol Stewart



Carol Stewart has been involved in artistic swimming for over 30 years, as a parent, club executive, meet manager, and official (judge and referee) at provincial and national meets. She is well known as BCAS's Chief Referee, serving in that capacity at most of our meets. Now retired from a long career in human resources with the provincial government, Carol is BCAS's longest serving current Director and serves as a member of the BC Officials Committee and Human Resources Committee.

Ling (Christina) Jiang



Christina is currently the co-founder and VP of a technology consulting company in mining and petrochemical industries in Vancouver, BC, Canada. In 1992, she received a bachelor's degree in international economics in China and MBA degree from a British university in 2003. Her family became Canadian PRs in 2003 and then Canadian citizens in 2009.

Christina has two children. Her son is 23 years old and currently working as a Scientist in Quantum Computing R&D at Waterloo. Her daughter is 13 years old, in Grade 8 at Crofton House School and a NS swimmer at Pacific Wave ASC.

Her passion towards artistic swimming started with her daughter switching from speed swimming and ballet to synchronized swimming in 2019 when she joined the BC Aquasonics. Along with her swimming through PS, PS HPD and now NS at PWAS, she began to know more about the sport and the artistic swimming community. Especially after she won the championship of PS 13-15 Solo at the 2023 Jean Peters Provincial Championships, she determined to make deeper commitments in this sport and also more contributions to its growth.

Christina is an active volunteer for her child's school and sport clubs. For the last 2 years, she was the Grant Application writer and Events Organizer for PWAS and volunteered for PS competitions when it was needed.

Since 1992, I have been working in giant international corporations in the private sector. As the VP of the current company, my role and responsibilities are in decision making, strategic planning, setting goals and direction, BD, contracting, HR Management, risk management, financial oversight, and company compliance. I believe my 31-year working and corporate governance experience can be beneficial to BCAS board.

In addition, I speak English and Chinese. I believe my cultural understanding can be an important asset to BCAS board.

In short, Christina's family loves artistic swimming. They believe in the mission and objectives of BCAS and are inspired by the hardworking of our athletes, coaches, clubs and PSO and so on. Therefore, in order to continuously create a safe and healthy sport development environment for young athletes including her daughter, Christina has a strong desire to contribute her skills, knowledge, effort and time to its growth and success.

Susan Thompson



Susan became involved with the Kamloops Sunrays in 2013 when her daughter joined their recreation program. Later, Susan volunteered for the club as their Treasurer and took the Level 1 judging course.

Privately, Susan works full-time for Premium Service Group as a customer service agent and has a secondary job working for AKT Insurance doing bookkeeping for six different companies. She spends her free time hiking with friends, weight training, and loves to read.

Edward Fan



Edward moved to Canada in 2000 and has lived in British Columbia since 2005. He is the proud father of three daughters; the eldest two display a natural affinity for Artistic Swimming, while the youngest, at only 1.5 years old, is showing potential. All of them have enjoyed water play at a very young age. Currently, one daughter is at the NS level, and another is at the PS-HPD level.

To better support and connect with his daughters regarding their sport, Edward became an official with the BCAS community. After passing the examination in November 2022, he began serving as a BCAS Judge at events throughout the province. This role has deepened his understanding of the sport and he is eager to contribute to the BCAS athletes and the broader community.

On a personal note, Edward has been proficient in freestyle swimming since his undergraduate days. He took part in his first artistic swimming performance during last season's watershow. It was challenging, but he is determined to improve.

In addition to my sporting interests, Edward holds a Master's degree in Software Engineering from the National University of Singapore (NUS) and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Technology from Tsinghua University (THU). His natural inclination is towards listening and solving technical problems. He is hopeful that his expertise in computer software will be valuable in advancing the new CAS judging computer system. Furthermore, he has served as a strata council, the experience enriched his community involvement.