

Candidates for the At-Large Board of Directors

Jackie Hildebrand

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- I wish to continue to help expand and improve Omaha Hockey at all levels. In the past year (of the 2 that I've been on the board) the board has really improved its vision and has a strong and collaborative leadership. I would like to continue to be a part of this team as an at-large member or girls commissioner.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- I've been on the board for 2 years and I feel that in those years I have helped improve the communication and highlights of the club. Before being on the board, I never knew when meetings were held and since then, I (we) implemented emailing the membership and posting on Facebook information for the OHC community to stay informed. I feel communication as a whole has improved tremendously. I created the monthly newsletter, which is now a highlights email that shows updates in each OHC area and important information/dates. I feel that this was viewed very positively since everyone enjoys seeing what is going on at all levels of the OHC community.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- If elected I will continue to serve the OHC community the best I can by trying to grow the development of players and coaches. I will continue to be the voice for parents and address issues, concerns, ideas or anything that helps improve the program and resolve conflicts. I want to ensure players and parents are having an enjoyable experience since this is an expensive sport and these years fly by.

Tony Desciscio

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- I wish to continue growing the Omaha Hockey brand and seeing our organization expand at all program levels. I believe that with the right leadership we can find new and innovative ways to keep us on pace with the rest of the country and make Omaha the premier association in the region.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- I have served on the board as the Omaha High School Hockey League Director for 3 years now and filled in as the Vice president for the past year. Prior to my time on the board, I worked for USA Hockey as an investigator along with assisted coaching with both of my boys during their younger years. Previous to my time with Omaha Hockey, I served on the Nebraska Youth Rugby Association board along with coaching and refereeing. I also have several years' experience on the Omaha Police Officers Association Board giving me vast experience and knowledge about organizational boards and processes. I also am the Safe Sport coordinator for OHC and have a strong and beneficial working relationship with the MWAHA.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- If elected I will continue to serve and steer the association towards growth and development of players, coaches, and the board giving our organization the best chance possible to stay competitive regionally and nationally.

Bruce Cady

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- My family and I have been an active part of the hockey club for close to 5 years, and I feel it's time for a bigger role. I have an interest in the growth of our club for the youth of the area and hope to be a part of helping see that to fruition.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- I have coached or volunteered for 4 years, which gives me insight into what keeps the players engaged and wanting to continue involvement. Being in this role has also allowed me to view from points not all have and develop different insights into ways and formulate plans to help the club grow and run efficiently.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- Structured and confident leadership, focused and driven towards a common goal is something all people want. My service to the country and now to the club will help bring these things to the forefront.

Mark Bush

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- I am interested in serving on the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors because I believe my vision for the organization, combined with my dedication to the players and families, can bring positive forward momentum. With my extensive experience in youth athletics, and leadership, I am committed to fostering an environment that prioritizes player development, organizational growth, and an enhanced experience for all participants. My goal is to contribute to the long-term success of the club by promoting a culture of excellence, inclusivity, and continuous improvement.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- With over 30 years of experience as a player, coach, and administrator in youth athletics, I bring a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities within sports organizations. My background includes years of formal leadership training, equipping me with the skills to effectively manage teams, foster positive organizational culture, and drive strategic initiatives. Additionally, I have served as a leader in multiple nonprofit organizations, where I have overseen operations, program development, and community engagement. My extensive experience in risk management further enhances my ability to contribute to the organization by ensuring safe environments, implementing effective policies, and proactively addressing potential challenges. With a strong foundation in leadership, organizational management, and risk mitigation, I am confident in my ability to make a meaningful and lasting impact on your organization.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- I have a strong belief in and commitment to instilling confidence in players, encouraging them to take risks, and empowering them to pursue success wherever they may find it. My goal is to promote a culture that teaches players to believe in themselves, trust in their teammates, push their limits, and embrace challenges as opportunities for growth. By fostering an environment that values resilience, teamwork, and personal development,

I hope to help each player reach their fullest potential both on and off the ice.

Brian Sauser

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- I am currently the General Manager at Moylan Iceplex and I would like to help contribute to the club and its continued success. Helping OHC grow and excel is not only important to Moylan Iceplex but to all ice rinks in Omaha. By being on the board there will also be opportunities for me to learn what I can do better as a rink manager to help facilitate the growth of hockey. This past year was also the first time I have had a child in the program.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- While my hockey knowledge is very limited, I have worked with OHC the last 15 years as a rink manager. I think that being a rink manager and a former CPA gives me a unique perspective and maybe some knowledge that would be beneficial to the club.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- I have been married to my wife Amy for 18 years and we have 5 children together.

Rachel Rybinski

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- I have been a part of the youth hockey community for the past 9 seasons. During that time, I have managed multiple teams, sometimes more than one team per season, and served as the Peewee Commissioner. The growth and lifelong lessons I continue to see the players experience, is not only a significant passion of mine, but it's why I feel so strongly about serving on the board. I look at my potential role as a multifaceted job with service first to the players & coaches, but also to their families. For an organization to be successful, the players and coaches need to feel trusted, advocated for, informed, and empowered. Families have similar needs, with one additional caveat. They need to trust us with their family members and know their best interest is a priority.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- I will bring to this board the same offerings I have brought to my past teams. I am passionate about OHC being a positive household name. We need to highlight the positive changes that have been made in recent years and continue to explore new and exciting opportunities. I want to earn the trust of new & established parents and players by working to build board familiarity. I want our families to have the opportunity to get to know us as board members, as fellow hockey parents, and as their advocate. I am a realistic, trustworthy, confidential person, and I will advocate for your player and your family.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- I'm a Nebraska native and a lifelong hockey fan. I'm married to Bob, and we have 2 children, Morgan (30) and Hayden (13, currently a 14U player). I work full-time for TELCOR as a Medicare claims resolution specialist, which means I unpack issues and find solutions for those problems on a daily basis.

Craig Longua

Why are you interested in being a part of the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors?

- I am interested in serving on the OHC board to help grow the club, help with the transition to the new organization and to help ensure equal access to the club for both boys and girls. I want to help with the development of the next phase for OHC and have a desire to see the reorganization to the new board position to be successful.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

- My family has been part of OHC for twelve years with my son finishing out his time playing high school hockey and my daughter playing in the girls program. I have been involved with the house, boys travel and girls travel program over the years. My experience outside of the hockey world includes oversight of multiple different groups, helping work with outside agencies and organization, running numerous projects over an extended period of time.

Please let us know anything else you would like the membership to know about you.

- I have been able to watch my children learn the game of hockey, understand how to win and lose with grace, develop the talents to be a good teammate and most of all develop great friendships which is all part of being a member of OHC. OHC has been a good fit for my family and I have a desire to give back to OHC and its supporting community.