

**Alberta Summer Swimming Association
Nomination Committee Report**

Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

To: Alberta Summer Swimming Association (ASSA) Board of Directors

From: Shayne Beeler & Dustin Miller – ASSA Nomination Committee

Overview of Nomination Process

The Nomination Committee undertook the responsibility of identifying qualified candidates to fill vacant positions on the Alberta Summer Swimming Association (ASSA) Board. The process involved:

- 4 open board positions for the upcoming term (current Coach Representative to let their name stand)
- A focus on ensuring diversity in both geographic representation (urban/rural balance) and areas of expertise, such as governance, finance, and long-term athlete development
- Evaluation criteria based on the ASSA's newly released Strategic Plan "Guiding Principles". The strategic goals outlined in the document include but are not limited to fostering inclusive and community-oriented swimming programs.

The committee received nominations through email submission with a deadline of October 9, 2024 @ 4:30pm MDT, conducted interviews, and reviewed all nominees based on their qualifications and alignment with ASSA's values as outlined in the Guiding Principles document.

Summary of Nominees (R) represents nomination committee recommendation Nominee

Nominee Name: John Dozeman

Position Nominated For: President

Background and Experience:

- 16+ years of involvement in summer swimming, including experience with local swim club, ASSA Region and officiating
- Experience working with municipal government with 30+ years of experience in various roles with the local fire department including Fire Chief
- Prior roles: ASSA Region Rep

- Long term volunteer at the club executive level, in addition to long term involvement with officiating. Also, decades of volunteer experience including Royal Canadian Lifesaving Society, Royal Canadian Legion and Willow Creek Firefighters Foundation

Nominee Name: Suzanne Merrills (R)

Position Nominated For: President

Background and Experience:

- 5+ years in governance roles with local swim club, region, and the ASSA Board, as
- 20+ years of experience as an Aquatics Supervisor
- 10+ years of board experience with Stony Plain Soccer, Horizon Players Community Theatre and Parkland Racers Ski Club
- Expertise working with community sport groups via role as Supervisor of Recreation and Culture/Director of Community Services

Nominee Name: Kennedy Schoepp (R)

Position Nominated For: Secretary

Background and Experience:

- 11+ years of Coaching in competitive swimming and water polo including multiple head coach and club Director positions
- 5+ years in Human Resources with Parkland County
- 5+ years of personal mentorship as a Female Mentor
- Expertise collaborating with local community groups developing policy and procedure processes

Nomination Committee's Recommendations

The Nomination Committee recommends the following nominees for election to the ASSA Board.

Nominee 1: Suzanne Merrills – President

Reason: Suzanne demonstrates a thorough understanding of the ASSA Strategic Plan “Guiding Principles” and a collaborative approach in working with the various regions within ASSA to help carry out the Strategic Plan. She possesses a poised and considerate approach that works well within a board dynamic and has a realistic vision for key priorities on how ASSA can build off its current strengths. During the multiple interviews conducted, it was identified that within the ASSA community, temperatures can sometimes run “hot”. Suzanne’s demeanor would be a positive impact providing a steady hand on the wheel and a calm approach to support its diverse members in their respective regions to shepherd the associations focus on its core objectives and building on the momentum and achievements thus far.

Nominee 2: Kennedy Schoepp – Secretary

Reason: Kennedy comes from a place of admiration for what ASSA has meant as an influence in her life, having experienced a journey from a swimmer to coach then to also assuming the role of mentor, coach, and club director in Water Polo. What stood out with Kennedy is her current role as an HR Professional for a provincial country, where her role includes developing and implementing policies and procedures. A common theme also heard during the interviews was the need to complete the update of ASSA policies and procedures. Based on this foundational goal for ASSA, we felt Kennedy would be a natural fit to add strength to this initiative as ASSA Secretary.

Conclusion

The Nomination Committee is confident that the recommended nominees will bring a diverse set of skills and perspectives to the ASSA Board. Their collective expertise in collaboration, will further ASSA’s mission to promote inclusive, competitive summer swimming programs throughout Alberta.

We look forward to working with the board to support these individuals in their new roles.

Prepared By:

Shayne Beeler & Dustin Miller ASSA Nomination Committee.

