

Nominee Profile

Name: Wendy Cathcart

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Occupation: Sport Administrator

1. List your experiences in sport and/or recreation as a:

Participant/competitor

I have participated in numerous organized sports over the years, including badminton, squash, tennis, softball, hockey, volleyball and field hockey. Softball was probably my true passion and the sport I spent most of my sport career participating in. Currently I ski in the winter and have just recently taken up golf as my summer sport.

Coach

I was a player-coach of a Ladies Fast Pitch team from 1985-1987 in North York.

Professional Administrator

I began my sport administration career back in 1978 working with the Ontario Soccer Association as an Experience Program summer student, while completing my Physical Education and then Education degrees. When it became apparent a teaching career wasn't in the cards for me I accepted a position with Soccer as an Administrative Assistant before moving on to managing their Officials Program and then their Accounting. In 1985, I accepted the position of Executive Director with Softball Ontario, a position I still hold today.

Board/Committee member

At the local level I spent many years volunteering for the Ladies Fast Pitch League I played in. I served as the Ladies League Convenor and Executive Member. I also served on the Executive of a Recreational Ladies Volleyball League in North York for a few years.

Provincially, I have volunteered on a number of Committees within the Sport Alliance of Ontario over the years, including the now defunct Executive Directors Council and Finance Committee. In recent years I have participated in SAO's Strategic Planning Sessions, been an active member of the SAO's Building and Services Committee and Lease Committee.

As the Executive Director of Softball Ontario my job responsibilities involve being an ex-officio on the Board of Directors, Finance Committee, LTPD Implementation Planning Committee and Scorekeeping Committee. As a PSO managed in a council setting, I also oversee the Ontario Summer Games and Quest for Gold Athlete Assistance Programs for our Member Associations.

2. Describe the skills, experience, and expertise you bring to the Sport Alliance of Ontario. Please refer to the attached list of skills sets and experience.

As a sport administrator for over 30 years, with experience at all levels, I feel that I have an in depth knowledge of Sport Alliance of Ontario's programs and services and Ontario's overall sport and recreation system.

During my years as Softball Ontario's Executive Director I have been involved in new program development, developing partnerships, managing budgets and staff, governance reviews, planning (including our most recently LTPD Implementation Plan) and policy and procedures development.

I like to think that my strength is financial management and a practical and thoughtful approach to problem solving.

3. Please indicate your areas of interest with respect to the SAO's programs and services.

When I was asked to consider running as a Director on SAO's Board I saw this as an excellent opportunity to strengthen the member/tenant's perspective at the Board level. I also remembered a comment that I made not too long ago "that I wanted to be a part of the solution"!

Sport Alliance of Ontario has provided myself and my PSO with a place to interact with other Provincial Sport and Recreation Organizations and access many essential business services and programs. I am interested in working with other dedicated sport volunteers to ensure that the programs and services that SAO offers continue to operate efficiently, are financially sustainable and meet the needs of the members and PSO/PRO's.

But overall, my passion and interest is sport in Ontario and I am interested and willing to serve in any capacity that I can be of benefit.

4. What would you like to accomplish as a member of the SAO Board of Directors?

I would like to strengthen the relationship/partnership the SAO has with its members. I strongly believe that working together we can build a stronger sport system in Ontario.

As a career sport administrator I also welcome the opportunity to utilize my skills and knowledge for the betterment of all Ontario sport and to help SAO achieve their goal of assuming a much broader role in sport development in the Province of Ontario.

5. If you are interested in serving as an officer, please indicate in which role (check one or more).

Chair

Vice-chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Signature of nominee
(indicates acceptance of nomination and accuracy of information)