



FIELD HOCKEY ONTARIO
Box# 80030
Appleby Line, Burlington, ON
L7L 6B1
tel: 1 (877) 605-0855
info@fieldhockeyontario.com

Field Hockey Ontario Board of Directors Expression of Interest Package

Name: Ashley McConnell

Hometown: Orangeville

Affiliated Club: True North

of Years Involved in Field Hockey: 20+

I have served on FHO's Board before: **YES** **NO**

If yes to above, please list years and role: Director at Large (3 years)

I am a current FHO Member (Sep 1/2024-Aug 31/2025): **YES** **NO**

The following positions are up for election at the 2024 AGM (February 10, 2025):

- Chair (President) (1 Position – 3 Years)
- Treasurer (1 Position – 2 Years)
- Secretary (1 Position – 1 Year)
- Director-at-Large (3 Positions – 3 Years)
- Director-at-Large (2 Positions – 2 Years)
- Director-at-Large (2 Positions – 1 Year)

I am interested in serving on the FHO Board of Directors in the following position (check above).

Nominated By (Name & Club): June Shiraishi – Toronto

Seconded by (Name & Club): Bernie Bowyer – True North 1353674





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In 100 words or less, please provide background on your current or prior professional experience relevant to being on the Board of Directors.

I am currently Vice President of Operations for an IT Company. I oversee HR, Finance, Marketing, Legal Contracts, Project Management, Event Management, training, health and safety along with the daily management of staffing and other operational requirements. I have a PhD in Change Management with a specific focus on stakeholder engagement.

In 100 words or less, please provide background on any previous Board and/or committee experience.

I have been a Director at Large for 3 years, entering the Board at one of the most tumultuous times of FHO. Along with 3 other board members we navigated FHO with limited resources and no staff. I have learned a lot about the organization, its stakeholders and community partners. I believe my knowledge would be helpful to assist a transition to a long awaited full Board which strives to retain its PSO status.

I have sat on a Board of Directors in Northern Ireland to obtain funding for a community project as secretary. I was a board member for Women in Action, within the facilities management sector. I sit on the Canadian Council for Connex FM.

In 100 words or less, please provide background on any relevant Field Hockey or other sport industry experience.





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From the age of 13 in Northern Ireland, I was playing and fundraising for my local hockey club. I transitioned to their committee when I was a legal age. I have held roles of fixtures secretary, club development officer, media officer, chair person. I helped to grow the club, secure funding for a new playing surface, developed coaching plans, wrote press releases, managed the club website, and sourced playing uniforms. I am a qualified coach and umpire. I was a team manager for Ulster Hockey and Irish Hockey. I have participated in the FHO indoor umpiring courses, and umpired for OFSAA, Halton house league and some provincial trial games.

Witnessing how Ulster Hockey is structured for leagues and the provision of field hockey opportunities for kids aged 5+ right up to and including adults/masters; I hope that we can work together as a hockey community to grow the sport, encourage more players to try out the sport and develop players of all abilities whatever path they wish to take.

Please list your skills and competencies related to field hockey or sport. (i.e.

Knowledge of member structure within field hockey clubs and FHO, community level field hockey in Ontario, coaching or officiating requirements, volunteer sport-based organizations, Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD), high performance athlete development, etc.).

- **Current board membership has provided me with insight of member structure, the field hockey clubs and demographics of the FHO community, the importance of grass roots, I have assisted with organizing officiating requirements and training, I am aware of the LTAD and need to drive athlete development at all avenues of the player pathway. I have proudly been a member of several different clubs and understand the inner workings of each of them and all their commitment to developing players within field hockey.**
- **I have volunteered as noted above in a local hockey club, have experience of an International provincial governing body.**
- **I have a love for field hockey that drives my desire to grow the sport, improve transparency and breakdown the barriers that exist among our FHO community. Our shared common goal is to play hockey.**



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Please list your skills and competencies related to your business or professional background. (i.e. Specific industry experience, not-for-profit governance, strategic planning, risk management, accounting/financial analysis, previous board/committee experience etc.).

- **Grassroots to High Performance growth in participation and opportunities to play**
- **FHO Board Experience and Knowledge**
- **Project Management**

As a Board of Director or FHO Officer, the top three things I would like FHO to focus on in the next year are:

- **Helping to grow committees to ensure all clubs are represented fairly and have a voice which is in the best interest of its members**
- **Reviewing policies and procedures to ensure we are current and compliant**
- **Setting FHO up for the future and retention of its PSO status**

Declaration:

I hereby confirm that all information submitted in this package is accurate and correct. I also confirm that I comply with all the requirements for a Board of Director member and the additional requirements of a Chair (President), Secretary or Treasurer (if apply for one of these FHO Officer positions). I understand that the first meeting of the Board of Directors will be held sometime in February 2025, meetings are held monthly/bimonthly (and ad hoc as required) and that I must be in attendance.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

