

Vice President

Joe Colombari

My name is Joe Colombari, and I am running for Vice President of Quad City Hockey Association. I have been a part of the QCHA since 2019 when my Wife Nikki started coaching. I have 3 kids in the association, Sophia a Pewee, Bella a Squirt and Joe a Mite. I have lived in the Quad Cities most of my life with deep ties to the community. I am a local business owner. I have been in similar roles both in my own organization as well as a few charities. After reviewing the duties and obligations required of the Vice President I believe that I can fulfill them. My goal is to help improve as many aspects of the QCHA as possible. My youngest is 7 so I plan on being part of the organization for at least a decade to come. My priorities are: The Kids, The Teams, The organization. I plan on helping grow this organization through parent and community engagement for years to come.

Steve Drissel

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Nomination information for QCHA – Vice President



QCHA Member Since:
June 2021

QCHA Player:
Henry Drissel

- 2017 – 2021
Lakeville Hockey Association
- 2021 - 2022 QCHA
PeeWee Travel Team
- 2022 - 2023 QCHA
Bantam Travel Team
- 2023 - 2024 QCHA
Blues High School Team

Personal Bio:

I grew up in Kenosha, WI on a small dairy farm. My childhood instilled a strong passion for agriculture and hard work. I spent considerable time on the farm working with my dad and uncle milking cows and tending to the crops. I was fortunate to participate in numerous team and individual sports growing up (wrestling, football, soccer, baseball and fastpitch softball). These experiences, on the farm and off, taught me personal accountability and what it meant to be part of something bigger than myself – a team.

I am a graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison with a B.S. in Agriculture Business Management. My wife, Angie and I have been married for almost 20 years and have two children both students at Pleasant Valley High School in Bettendorf. Nora is a Junior and is active in dance at school and through a dance studio. Henry is a Freshman and has been playing in the QCHA for the past three years. Our family also includes three dogs, Luna (Bichon Mix), Reggie (Golden Retriever), and Brewer (English Setter).

Professional Experience:

I have worked for John Deere for over 25 years, predominantly in product management and channel development functions. During my career, I have held 10 different positions. Over the past 15 years I have had the opportunity to lead teams ranging in size from 2 to 50+ on a global basis. My most recent roles have been in positions of sales leadership for various parts of the Ag & Turf Divisions. These roles have allowed me to work with many different businesses and personalities while learning to drive change with and through others.

Interest in Serving as QCHA Vice President:

Our family was introduced to hockey while we lived in Lakeville MN. Since neither Angie nor I ever played the game ourselves, it was a LONG learning curve that was surrounded by great people helping us along the way. That has only continued here in Iowa with the QCHA. Because of our great hockey experiences, I want to find a role in the association that will foster a similar experience for others. I understand the Vice President role comes with a considerable time commitment and important responsibilities, such as SafeSport coordination and connections with MWAHA. I am ready for and committed to take on the challenge. I am a straightforward communicator, analytical, and enjoy working with others to achieve a common goal. I will bring a "newcomer" perspective to the association and leverage my personal and professional experiences to provide a fresh point of view. I look forward to working with the QCHA to help hockey continue to grow for our kids and our community.

Secretary

Natalie Pszenyczny

I am running for QCHA Secretary. Hockey has been apart of my life for the past 30 years. For me hockey is more than just a game, it is our life, and our family. My family has been in the area since 2018 and in 2022 we decided to make the Quad Cities our permanent home. My son is currently a member of the Squirt Travel Team. It is my desire to do more than just cheer from the sidelines. I want to give back to the game and the community that means so much to us.

I have years of experience between coaching a high school cheer team and youth soccer. I recognize the importance and value of community and belonging to a team. I've witnessed this through my own personal experiences and through the eyes of my players. Our decisions can either positively or negatively affect our "teammates." I hope to help create a positive environment for the QCHA board, all of its members, and most importantly our children.

Through my experience leading a nonprofit organization as Vice President for a professional hockey team I know I have the skills needed to succeed as Secretary of this organization. Having owned and operated a family restaurant in Michigan I have strong organizational and management skills.

Additionally, I have experience and connections in the merchandising community. I would love to share my contacts to bring in fresh ideas and maximize the profit for the organization. Furthermore, I have experience planning and managing large fundraising events.

I am extremely passionate, persistent, and driven. I am excited for the opportunity to strengthen our organization and grow our numbers. I believe we can compete with any organization we rival with the help and support of our members and players. It is my goal to the help bridge the gap between the board and the community through proper communication and transparency. Please trust my experience and character to make a positive difference in our organization. Vote Natalie Pszenyczny for Secretary.

Director Travel League

Josh Orr

My name is Josh Orr, and I'd appreciate your support as a candidate for Travel Director for our QCHA. My family has been involved in the organization since 2016 and my son Brenden is a 2 nd year Peewee. When not serving as bus driver for Brenden's hockey and volunteering with our travel team, I'm a Director of Digital Aftermarket & Customer Support @ John Deere where I'm experienced in leading large organizations, managing projects, and driving improvements.

I'd be honored to serve as the organization's Travel Director – I'm a strong believer in competitive hockey building life skills for the young men and ladies in our organization and leveraging success in our travel programs as a way to also build and sustain QCHA membership. While I'd be a first-time board member and haven't served as a QCHA coach, I believe I can bring a unique skillset to the role to structure and organize the travel programs, helping our coaches be successful focusing on what they do best – develop your kids on the ice.

Priorities in this role for me would be to continue what Kerry and our coaches have been developing with strong NIHL and MWAHA success and membership growth. In addition, I'd seek to improve our developmental skills programs, including adding some focus on goalie skills programming, and investigate bringing in a tournament director to focus on adding QCHA tournament options given our recently added 2 nd sheet of ice.

Thanks for your consideration & support, I look forward to serving our players and the organization.
Josh

Justin Montenguisse

My Name is Justin Montenguisse and I am running for Travel Director. I hold a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Iowa State University and have been an Engineer for the past 19 years. As a member of the Worldwide Row Unit Team at John Deere, I am responsible for developing complex systems on planters and air seeders for accurately placing seeds and chemicals from concept through production. I interact with many different departments in multiple countries daily.

My involvement in ice hockey began when the rink opened, playing house league and travel hockey as a kid. I even officiated for a short time, but luckily, I got my vision back. I continue to play hockey 2 to 3 times a week in a few adult leagues. Typically tending goal, however, I'll play whatever position lets me get on the ice. Over the years I've developed many friendships through hockey.

I started coaching as a student coach, helping my dad coach my younger brother's teams. I continued coaching in 2017 when my 2 boys started in the one goal program, and I have been very involved on the ice ever since. My oldest boy, Max, plays on the Bantam travel team and my younger boy,

Luca, plays on the Peewee travel team. Each year I have helped coach both age groups in some fashion. Besides being an assistant coach, I have been the head coach of the Mite house and select teams, hosted goalie clinics, and I am currently the Bantam travel head coach. I hold a USA Hockey Level 4 Coaching certification and hold a Goalie Coaching Silver certification.

I would like to use my skills and experience to continue to support the association guiding the development of more young hockey players and continuing to improve our placement in NIHL leagues. Thanks for your consideration.

Director at Large – Volunteerism

Tera Peterson

My name is Tera Jackson. I am asking for your vote for the position of Volunteerism for the QCHA Hockey Club.

Currently, I reside in Bettendorf and I am firefighter/paramedic for Davenport Fire Department. I have been with them for 14 years. I have 2 boys. My youngest, Camdyn, has been involved with ice hockey since he was 3. He started with the learn to skate program and now is a 2nd year Mite on the Mite Select Travel 1 team. Matt Lawson, (significant other), has been very involved in the past years as both his boys worked up through the levels, ending their careers playing for the blues.

This year, I took over the position of team manager for the Mite Select 1 team. With this came many challenges as I was faced with new obstacles, but through cold calling, using a few references and the help from Matt, I was able to round up a solid hockey schedule for the boys to have the most rewarding experience they could. I also coordinated friendly games for our home ice, several 50/50 raffle nights, weekly emails to families on the team, hotel blocks and overseeing the team expenses.

This challenge has been nothing short of a learning experience that has driven me to want to be and done more for the kids and this organization. I am a person who is determined, passionate and loves to be around people. I will do my utmost best to fulfill this position and continue to make the QCHA a quality program that is both safe and enjoyable for all ages of hockey players to grow into the best hockey player and person they can be!

Thank you for your consideration in trusting in me to help take the QCHA Organization to the next level.

Director at Large – Community Engagement

Kate Oswald

Hello, my name is Kate Oswald and I am running again for the position of Community Engagement. I have been involved with the Quad City Hockey Association since 2015 when my son started One Goal. My son is a 2 nd year PeeWee Travel player. I have held the role of Community Engagement for the past two years, and we have seen significant growth in our community presence through consistent social media, engagement with the Quad City Storm, and other activities. I, along with Heather Tysma, have ran and organized the 50/50 with the Storm, raising over \$35,000 for the organization and our teams over the last three years. I have also chaired the Trivia Night that raised over \$5,000, and have been on the golf committee in the past. This year, I am the chair of the upcoming golf outing benefiting the organization. I currently serve in the treasurer and fundraising role on our travel team. My family and I volunteer at most QCHA events. This next cycle, my goal is to work with area schools to try to get hockey as a recognized high school sport, so our players can receive varsity letters. I would also like to continue to work with our local news and radio shows to increase the coverage of our programs, and what we have to offer. Word of mouth and exposure is the best way to continue to increase our numbers. Thank you for your consideration and vote.

Sarah Stringer

Hey QCHA! I'm Sarah Stringer, afternoon radio host at 99.7 B100. I would like to be considered for the Director At Large- Community Engagement position. I am already increasingly involved in the QCA community and would like to help grow youth hockey in our area. I am used to planning, promoting, and executing promotional events for the radio station, being part of fundraisers, and maintaining social media posts for our pages. I promoted last fall's Try Hockey For Free session on air and online and was thrilled to see it was the largest turnout the event has had.

When I'm not on the radio, I'll probably still be at the rink working on my own figure skating skills or with Coach Eric 'Rocky' Houy. I am also a part of the Junior League of the Quad Cities. I don't have a kid playing for QCHA but I have helped run the music for a few House games. Hockey has long been my favorite sport and I would like to help the sport grow and promote it in the QCA.

Director at Large Girls Hockey & QCHA Recruiting

Nicole Colombari

My name is Nicole Colombari, or Nikki as most people know me, and I am running for Girls Director. I have been a part of the QCHA since 2019 when I started coaching. I have 3 kids in the association, Sophia a Pewee, Bella a Squirt and Joe a Mite. I coach all 3 of them along with coaching the girls 10U/12U select team, refereeing, and trying to help out with the one goal/learn to play group when time allows. I started playing hockey when I was 10 years old, and I still play Ice and Dek Hockey. I grew up playing hockey without a lot of girls on teams with me so to gain this role I will work hard to grow our girls' program. If elected I plan to get the VP of Sports Development of the Quad Cities involved with promoting girls' hockey and hockey in general in the Quad Cities. I will also use my connections with other organizations to help grow our girls' program and work to keep girls' hockey going in the Quad Cities, so all girls have an opportunity to play this amazing sport. Communication is key, I will make sure any and all communication about girls' hockey is sent out to our families, so they know what is available for girls' hockey and upcoming events. This means more communication about all levels of girls' hockey from 8U mites all the way up to High School Girls. I will make sure the girls are supported and encouraged.

Eric Houy

Hello Quad City hockey families. My name is Eric Houy, but I am better known as Coach Rocky to QCHA players. I am looking to step up and make a greater impact in our hockey community as the Director at Large for Girls Hockey and QCHA Recruiting.

I have been coaching Ice Eagles youth hockey since 2013, with players at all age groups and all skill levels. I proudly coached the Girls 10U team in 2020-21 and Girls 12U team in 2021-22. In April 2023, I coached the Team Midwest Girls HS hockey team for America's Showcase, where I learned a lot about the current college recruiting process and helped players through that process and meet with recruiters. I also work as a Skating Coach at River's Edge with the Learn to Skate program. Through all this experience and my success in more recent years, I believe I am the best candidate for this role. Should I be elected to the position, I will apply the same level of fun and challenges that I encourage as a coach to develop and grow the entire girls hockey program. I aspire to grow the program to be one that Quad City area girls want to be a part of, including my own daughter in the next couple years. With recruitment, I would look at better utilizing relationships with the other members of the hockey community, like the QC Storm and QC Dekhockey, to gain more recruitment and promoting opportunities for the QCHA. I will also work closely with the Director of Community Engagement to increase recruitment.

Overall, I am wanting to step up and do what it takes to improve and grow youth hockey in the Quad Cities, so that I may continue to enjoy coaching here for many more years to come and have a lasting home for my daughter to grow her own love for hockey.