



Ann Marsh-Senic

I've been involved in fencing for more than 38 years – fencing is my passion. I started fencing in 1984 at the age of 13 in the Midwest and soon began competing at national events. I am a three-time Olympian, four-time junior world team member and ten-time member of the US senior world team. I was also a three-time first team all American at Columbia University. For three years I trained full time for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta where I placed 10th. I paved the way for US Fencing International success, making the podium at World Cups 10 times and holding a ranking in the top ten in the world for five years, new territory for USA Fencing at that time.

I've served two previous board terms for USA Fencing. I'm currently in charge of the private club - Renaissance Fencing Club - I'm also a coach and parent of two fencers.

I'm running for the board because it's important to have a representative that understands fencing from the inside, and the critical needs of fencing clubs, parents and coaches when making decisions that affect their finances and future. I travel regularly to competitions, not only NACs, but also RYCs, SYCs, and ROCs. I'm in the club daily, trying to make improvements, communicate with parents, and organize schedules.

Youth fencing is critical to the success of USA fencing and the future of the sport. The board should have representatives who work daily with youth fencers, who attend youth competitions, who understand the needs of various age groups and levels. The sport of fencing offers a tremendous experience for fencers, including making friends at the fencing club and at competitions, providing a positive and strenuous training environment, the opportunity to travel to competitions, and the thrill of intense bouts. I have a genuine interest in making the experience even better for everyone involved including the fencers, the coaches, the referees, and the clubs. Every day new people come to fencing – only a small percentage have the chance to become champions, and even fewer have a chance to make an Olympic team and represent Team USA. However, they all can have the experience of a lifetime and hopefully continue in the sport for their lifetime. Fencing is growing in popularity in the United States, and we have a rare chance to bring fencing to schools, to transform into a mainstream sport, to start a nationwide high school program. NCAA fencing is crucial to fencing's stability - we need to continue to expand collegiate programs.

Fencing is my passion - I have been involved in the sport for more than 38 years as a fencer, parent, coach and club owner. I am applying for the USA Fencing Board of Directors At Large Position because I can bring my experience to the issues from a wide range of different perspectives. If elected, I will do my best to represent the clubs, coaches, fencers, parents, and referees.