



2024 Farmington Youth Hockey Association Candidate Application

Matt Zarras

Running For	At Large (five positions open)
Number of Years in FYHA	3
Children or Dependents in FYHA	Easton Zarras Mite 1 Grey
Prior FYHA Experience (board member, coach, volunteer, etc.)	I have not coached in FYHA. My wife and I were the Mite Team Managers the year prior
Previous and Current Hockey Experience	Played Goalie in school until 1996. Currently I am a USA Hockey Level 2 referee who works mostly adult hockey throughout the metro. I also play goalie currently in a men's league in the Twin Cities called the AHA.
Why I am Running for the Board	I have a love of hockey like many others do but I am openly admitting that I am not blessed with the talent level skill wise or the ability to transfer the hockey skills I do possess to younger players. One factor of a good leader is to recognize strengths and weakness within yourself and I am. BUT I do excel in the people business and working in teams and leading them which is why I want to join the board. Farmington is growing larger and larger as well as our association while others are shrinking or having to combine to even keep their programs going. This is our opportunity to establish this association as one of the next big premier groups; but how are we going to get there? Just because we are going to have the numbers doesn't necessarily mean it will correlate to success. We are running a larger program now on 1 sheet of ice and attempting to buy ice everywhere and anywhere. I've heard stories this year of buying practice ice 45 min away on a school night cause we couldn't get anything else. You may remember that Farmington did a survey and polling of what people want and additional sheets of ice didn't even get off the ground. We need to demonstrate and

show why adding more sheets can benefit not just our players but our city especially when it comes to wanting to spend tax payer dollars. This community is on the verge of being tapped out and people don't want to pay more; the schools couldn't get stuff passed last year so how are we going to ever get the dollars needed for another sheet if the appetite for more money from people isn't going to be there. We are going to have to get creative and really roll up our sleeves in order to do so. I can help with those types of things, raising money, leading people, helping to make positive change and impact on our association that will benefit us not just now but down the line as well. We need to have an established plan not just for this year but the years to come.

**Other information you
should know about me
as it relates to my
perspective position
on the FYHA board**

I currently am a VP of Recruiting & Orientation for one of the top 100 transportation companies in the US. I'm used to leading a large team of people and operating on tight budgets while not impacting growth. My employees and I are a team and I don't sit down with my title and snap my fingers. Being a leader is about working side by side with the ones who drive the results of an organization and developing an understanding of the pain points and challenges they face day to day which is causing a lack of success. As the leader it's your responsibility to clear the road blocks preventing success. I can help FYHA with those road blocks and get them cleared.