USA FENCING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2023 Election At-Large Directors **IGOR CHIRASHNYA**

For the last decade, I've been on the ground as a member of the fencing community, helping guide <u>AFM</u> families and coaches through training and competition, as welt as being a voice online through the top-rated <u>AFM blog</u> to support the fencing community all over the country and beyond. I have the unique perspective of being on multiple sides of our sport because I am a former fencer, co-owner of one of the largest clubs in the US, a coach, and a parent of four competitive fencers with different aspirations.

I've seen what positive things fencing can do for people's lives and how problematic structures can make things needlessly difficult. Balancing change while maintaining our firm foundation is a challenge, but it's a challenge we need to embrace.

Being in the thick of it in training and competition for so many years has allowed me a level of understanding that we need right now on the board. Through the support and experience gained right here in our community, with our fencers, families, and coaches, I've built a strong foundation that USA Fencing can benefit from. I want to use what I've learned to support each and every one of you.

Experience & Community

Before starting AFM, I was an executive in the tech world for 25 years, overseeing multiple transitions at top companies. After founding and eventually selling my own tech business, I was able to realize my dream and put my primary attention to fencing through AFM. My philosophy in business and sport is decidedly anti-inter-organizational politics, as I believe that any organization must serve its members in their interests.

We can only forge the future of fencing if we balance our strong beliefs with an open ear for the people whom we serve - you, our fencing community.

Fun Facts About Me

We are a household of 10: Irina and I, our 2 sets of twins less than 2 years apart, 2 dogs, and 2 goldfish. Looking at this list, I think that everything in my life comes in pairs.

I love skiing, playing piano, reading a lot, and my long-time love is writing (most probably you are familiar with the AFM blog). But now I have expanded my love of writing to fiction, and my debut novel, "*Breaking News of Tomorrow*," will be published on May 23, 2023, and will be available on Amazon and wherever books are sold.

Vote on May 15, 2023

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