

2026 BOARD CANDIDATE PROFILES



MIKE GRAHAM

In 2009, the Park District of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, put together two used courts in an open field and welcomed residents to try out the sport. Mike Graham and his friends, broken-down tennis and racquetball types, gave it a try on a hot summer afternoon. Despite that sweltering experience, a new player was converted.

Mike has been playing at middling levels for 17 years, both in local play and travel leagues. He has been a board member, past president, and treasurer of the Glen Ellyn Platform Tennis Club for the past 13 years. Glen Ellyn, a public facility, has over 300 players, with in-house and travel leagues. Mike has also given back to the club through service as the lead fundraiser for new courts in 2016, the commissioner of a 90-player men's spring league, and a club liaison to the Chicago Platform Tennis Charities. He was presented with a citizenship award by the Park District for his volunteer efforts. He also serves as a commissioner of the Village of Glen Ellyn Finance Commission and the Glen Ellyn Park District Citizens' Finance Commission.

Mike grew up in Chicago and received his BS in Accounting from DePaul University and his MBA in Finance from the University of Chicago. He has over forty years of experience in CFO roles, including his current role as Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer of Zekelman Industries, North America's largest independent manufacturer of steel pipe and tube products. He and his wife, Christine, are the proud parents of their sons, Matthew and Adam.

ANDREW HAINES

Andrew began his paddle journey on the municipal courts of Maplewood, New Jersey, in the early 2000s. After playing for a few years with the same seven buddies, Andrew formed the first Maplewood team to play in the New Jersey Men's Platform Tennis Association (NJMPTA). Twenty-four years later, the paddle program in Maplewood is strong with six men's teams and two women's teams.

Although he occasionally stumbles deep into a tournament back draw, most of Andrew's accomplishments are off the paddle court. In addition to building the paddle program in Maplewood, Andrew also serves on the NJMPTA board focusing on league schedules and technology.

Professionally, Andrew is a "fintech guy" (financial services technology) leveraging technology to deliver innovative solutions that disrupt legacy business models. Andrew received a degree in business administration/finance from the University of Delaware and a Master of Science in information management from the Stevens Institute of Technology.

After years as a "paddle widow," Andrew's wife, Gail, finally relented and joined the paddle community. PTI conversations now dominate dinner conversations to the delight of their children, Madeline and Spencer.





JOSH KRITZLER

Josh Kritzler is the President of North American Venues and Content for Legends Global. He joined the company in 2022 after Legends acquired his agency 4FRONT. In his role as President Josh oversees a portfolio of over 200 venues including Soldier Field, The Super Dome, Allegiant Stadium, T-Mobile Arena, the LA Convention Center, the iconic Greek Theatre and many more. In addition to the managed venue portfolio Josh is responsible for the content department which works closely with global promoters, rights holders, artists and agents such as Live Nation, AEG, TKO, and FELD Entertainment.

Prior to joining Legends, Josh was Co-Founder and Partner of 4FRONT, a global sponsorship, data and analytics, innovation, and digital media agency. 4FRONT was acquired by Legends in early 2022 and became part of Global Technology Solutions. Founded in 2007, Josh grew 4FRONT, with his business partner, into a thriving organization with offices in Chicago, Dallas, and Denver, working with a diverse portfolio of sports and entertainment clients around the globe.

Most importantly, Josh is the dad of Miles (15), Lila (13), and Hudson (11) and husband to Natalie. When not carpooling to hockey, soccer, baseball, and tennis practices, Josh spends his free time on the paddle court where he currently plays in the Chicago Legends division as well as for the Michigan Shores Series 1 team where he often finds himself giving his partner Graham McNerney helpful tips. Paddle highlights include co-captaining the Winnetka Series 1 team to three straight series titles. Was Brian Compton on the team for all of those titles? Can't recall.

Josh also coaches both sons' baseball teams, holds the volunteer position of President of Old Willow Club, and sits on the Chicago Board of "Good Sports."

DEREK YOST

Way back in 1987, Derek was introduced to platform tennis by his dad, who played in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, starting in the 1970s. A tennis player since the age of 5, and an occasional racquetballer, Derek was immediately hooked on the game but sadly was too young to play in the league at the time.



Fast forward to post-college, Derek immediately joined an interclub team. In his second season, he took over as captain and, eventually, club representative, beginning his volunteering journey in the paddle community. Derek likes to joke that "you'd think I'd be better after all these years," but enjoys playing interclub and fun matches with friends.

Since 2010, Derek has been serving on the board of MAPTA (Metropolitan Area Platform Tennis Association), the Philadelphia-area league. One of the larger leagues in the country, it boasts over 3,000 men and women players, 250 teams (not counting spring league and women's weekend league), and 31 clubs. Since 2013, Derek has also served on the MAPTA Men's Weather Advisory and Rules Committee, heading it up for the past 6 years. Most recently, Derek was on the 2025 Philly Nationals Committee and is currently the Regional Umpire Captain for the Philadelphia area. He can often be found up in the chair at major tournaments.

Derek was raised in Wallingford, PA, and received a BA in both Economics and Psychology from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. He and his wife, Ann, live in Phoenixville, PA, where they raised three children, Emily, Sarah, and Justin.