



JILL GROVES

CONTINUING TERM AS

position of President
2 year term

- Passionate
- Experienced
- Determined
- Inclusive
- Organized
- Accountable

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing 2nd year of 2 year term.

Jill Groves (Richard) is a sport leader with over 15 years of management experience in provincial sport organizations. She is currently the Executive Director at Curling Alberta, where she successfully transformed the organization's financial position from a \$150,000 annual deficit into a \$175,000 surplus in 2023. Under her leadership, Curling Alberta's operating budget nearly doubled, growing from \$935,000 in 2019 to \$1.7 million in 2023.

Her career began after graduating from the University of Alberta in 2007 with a degree in Physical Education, specializing in Coaching Studies. Since then, Jill has guided both Tennis Alberta and Curling Alberta through significant growth and transformation, including an amalgamation. She is particularly skilled at building partnerships, developing new revenue strategies, and ensuring resources are directed toward growing participation. Known for her resourcefulness, integrity, and collaborative leadership style, Jill has built a strong reputation as an effective sport administrator and changemaker.

ABOUT ME

Sport has been central to my life from an early age, and I remain passionate about ensuring participation is a positive and rewarding experience for everyone. I am a competitive athlete with a 4.5 Pickleball Brackets doubles ranking and earned silver medals in Women's Open Doubles and Singles at the 2022 Alberta Provincial Championships. My athletic background also includes competitive tennis, squash, softball, hockey, badminton, and volleyball.

Raised on a small farm in Calahoo, Alberta, I grew up valuing hard work, community, and teamwork—qualities that I carry into my personal and professional life today. I'm also an alumna of the University of Alberta Softball Team and Concordia Thunder Badminton Team, and an active member at the Royal Glenora Club in Edmonton. Outside of sport, I enjoy family time, golf, reading, and supporting live arts and theatre.



CHARITY CHRISTIANSON

CONTINUING TERMS

Vice President
2 Year term

- Business Owner
- Focused
- Passionate
- Leader
- Diligent

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing 2nd year of 2 year term.

Charity Christianson has served as Vice President of Pickleball Alberta since 2023, overseeing junior programs, the Alberta Provincials, critical policy decisions, and contributing to new bylaws and updated policies. She has also played a key role in securing significant grants to support the sport's growth across the province.

Since 2015, Charity has been President of The Allied Group – Canada, leading operations across five locations with more than 150 employees, \$100 million in inventory, and annual revenues averaging \$250 million. She co-founded the company in 2000 and helped build it into the largest Canadian-owned master distributor and manufacturer of steel flanges, fittings, and pipe. With over a decade of global travel sourcing products and developing supplier relationships, she has developed strong expertise in leadership, operations, and mentorship.

ABOUT ME

I am a determined and community-focused leader with a passion for both business and sport. Through my role with Pickleball Alberta, I've worked to strengthen programs, events, and governance while ensuring resources are in place to grow the game. In business, I have always prioritized mentoring young women and supporting those who rise from the ground up into leadership roles.

A lifelong competitive equestrian, I bring patience, compassion, and an ability to "read" people into all areas of my life. Whether in sport, corporate leadership, or community service, I aim to make decisions that serve the greater good and create opportunities for others to succeed.



JEFF HOLM

CONTINUING TERM AS

as Treasurer
2 year term

- NCCP Coach
- Business Owner
- Leader
- Accounting

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing 2nd year of 2 year term.

Jeff Holm brings over 20 years of business leadership as the owner of a Manufacturer Representative sales agency, which he grew to over \$16 million in annual sales. His career has required him to manage diverse roles—including accounting, business development, and marketing—skills that translate directly to the Treasurer role with Pickleball Alberta.

Jeff has hands-on experience with financial systems, including QuickBooks, and has already contributed to Pickleball Alberta by helping modernize its bookkeeping processes over the past eight months. His expertise in budgeting, reporting, and fiscal management, combined with a commitment to transparency and accountability, will ensure strong and sustainable financial stewardship for the organization and has facilitated clinics and training across multiple sports.

ABOUT ME

I discovered pickleball in December 2021 and quickly became passionate about the game. Currently a 4.0 player, I love competing and have medaled at regional, provincial, and local club tournaments in both St. Albert and Parkland. Looking ahead, I am also interested in becoming a coach to share the game with others.

My background as an entrepreneur has taught me to balance growth with responsibility, and I want to bring that same mindset to Pickleball Alberta's finances. I believe that strong financial systems are the foundation for building programs, hosting events, and supporting players at every level. With your support, I look forward to continuing to strengthen the sport's future in Alberta.



ILSA WONG

CONTINUING TERMS

Director at Large -
Coaching
2 year term

- Previous Coaching Director, Pickleball Alberta
- Coach
- Honest
- Leader
- Experienced

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing 2nd year of 2 year term.

Ilsa has served on the Awards Committee, supported numerous coaching clinics, and contributed to the “Teach the Teacher” program. She has also been an active committee member of the EKCP HOTSHOTS initiative and has played an important role in policy and bylaw updates.

Ilsa’s background includes nearly two decades as a university-level soccer coach at the University of Lethbridge (2001-2020), where she also served as Department Chair of Kinesiology beginning in 2007. She has coached at provincial and national events, co-founded the Women’s Soccer Association of Lethbridge, and sits on the Alberta Soccer Equity Committee. A certified Level II pickleball referee and NCCP-trained multi-sport coach, she has facilitated clinics and training across multiple sports.

ABOUT ME

I am passionate about coaching as both a science and an art, blending my love of teaching with sport. My experience spans grassroots to national competition levels, and I value creating inclusive, supportive pathways for athletes and coaches alike. Pickleball has become a meaningful part of my life, not only through playing and refereeing but also by helping build programs that strengthen the sport across Alberta.

With a strong belief in mentorship, equity, and long-term development, I look forward to continuing to serve as Director of Coaching and to advancing opportunities for players, coaches, and communities as the sport continues to grow.



ALISON RAMSLEY

CONTINUING TERM AS

Director at large -
Technology
2 year term

- Passionate
- Experienced
- Determined
- Inclusive
- Organized
- Accountable

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing 2nd year of 2 year term.

Before retirement, I spent my career in the Information Technology field, most recently serving as Chief Information Officer for a global engineering firm. In that role, I worked extensively within a three-tiered organizational structure— local, provincial, and national— building collaboration across all levels to ensure a positive user experience. I am a strategic leader with strong interpersonal skills, known for fostering alliances with all stakeholders, motivating teams, and successfully delivering complex projects through effective governance.

ABOUT ME

I am a passionate pickleball player and sports enthusiast, actively involved in various activities post-retirement. I appreciate pickleball's inclusivity for all ages and backgrounds. In 2023, I became the Director of Technology on the Pickleball Alberta Board, aiming to enhance the sport's growth and success. As Vice President, I prioritize safety through certified coaching, screening, and values-based practices, ensuring Pickleball Alberta leads in safety and integrity. I'm excited about pickleball's potential Olympic inclusion and its ability to unite communities. I am dedicated to fostering the sport's growth for everyone.



ANDREW GORMAN

CONTINUING TERM AS

for Communications
Director
2 year term

- Business owner
- Creator Podcast
- Broadcaster
- Social Media

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing his 2nd year of his 2 year term.

Andrew Gorman is the owner and operator of three Subway restaurants in Northern Alberta, a role he has held with his family since 2009. He has served on multiple franchisee advertising boards within the Subway system and brings strong business and communications experience to the table. Andrew also spent four years as a group fitness instructor, further developing his leadership and community engagement skills.

Since beginning pickleball in 2019, Andrew and his wife, Aireen, have competed provincially, regionally, and nationally, earning podium finishes and achieving 4.0 ratings in both Men's and Mixed. He is the creator of The Pickleball Diaries podcast, where he shares tournament experiences, game highlights, and interviews with players. His podcast coverage of the CNPL (Canadian National Pickleball League) even led to broadcast commentary opportunities. Andrew and Aireen are also sponsored ambassador athletes with Anivia Pickleball.

ABOUT ME

I am passionate about sharing the excitement of pickleball and connecting players through media, storytelling, and competition. With my background in business management, communications, and athletics, I bring strong organizational skills and a team-focused mindset.

Pickleball has become a family passion, with my wife and I competing together and our children actively involved in sport. I look forward to contributing as Communications Director, helping to grow the sport, showcase its athletes, and strengthen the sense of community that makes pickleball so special.



GARAND JONES

EXTENDING TERM

for Director at Large-
Officiating
2 year term

- Business owner
- Referee
- Initiator
- Dedicated
- Decision Maker

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Garand Jones has served on the Pickleball Alberta Board since 2020 and is seeking to continue as Director of Officiating. In this role, he also represents Alberta on the National Officiating Advisory Council, contributing to projects that strengthen referee development across Canada.

A member of the Parkland Pickleheads since 2015, Garand has been the club's President since 2018. He began refereeing in 2016 and became certified in 2020 in Pebble Creek, Arizona. To date, he has officiated nearly 1,700 matches at all levels, from 2.5 through Pro, and has trained and supported referees throughout the province. Garand is also a Club Rated 4.0 player and a member of the Pebble Creek Pickleball Club.

Prior to retiring in 2014, he worked in business management, experience that continues to support his leadership and organizational contributions in pickleball.

ABOUT ME

I am passionate about giving back to pickleball, a sport that welcomes people of all ages and abilities. Refereeing has become one of my greatest joys in the game, often even more than competing. I value the opportunity to mentor, support, and grow the officiating community both provincially and nationally.

Through my leadership roles with Pickleball Alberta and the Parkland Pickleheads, I strive to create opportunities for others to enjoy the sport, build friendships, and develop their skills. For me, pickleball is more than competition—it's about community, connection, and lifelong involvement.



KEN DENTZIEN

EXTENDING TERM

for Competitions
Director
2 year term

- Coach
- Accounting
- Team Player
- Inclusive

BIOGRAPHY

EXPERIENCE

Continuing 2nd year of 2 year term.

With extensive board and leadership experience, I bring both sport and organizational expertise to the role. For the past two years, I have served on the St. Albert Pickleball Club board, focusing on tournaments, refereeing, and mentoring. I have directed four club tournaments and two sanctioned tournaments, including the club's first sanctioned event in 2022. Additionally, I organized two referee clinics that helped grow our officiating team from zero referees in 2021 to 15 accredited referees today.

I also developed and managed a competitive 4.0+ league for the club, which drew significant interest and provided members with new competitive opportunities. Beyond pickleball, I bring 25 years of service on the Hockey Alberta Referee Executive and 30 years as Referee-in-Chief of Sturgeon Hockey. Professionally, I work in finance and office management with a major Edmonton law firm.

ABOUT ME

Pickleball has become a major passion of mine, both on and off the court. I enjoy creating opportunities for players to grow, whether through tournaments, leagues, refereeing, or mentorship. Seeing players develop their skills and thrive in a positive environment is deeply rewarding.

I value teamwork, integrity, and community building, and I am committed to using my experience to strengthen pickleball across Alberta. With a long history of board service and sport leadership, I look forward to supporting Pickleball Alberta's mission and contributing to the continued growth of the game.