

Governing Board Positions

Nominations from Sheila Ritchie – ACU

This year there will be two open positions on the IPDA Governing Board - one by election and one by appointment. I am nominating two individuals who have served this organization well and have the potential and drive to support and serve IPDA in the future.

The first nomination for Governing Board is for Megan Smith from Louisiana Tech University. Megan has a long history in IPDA and a reputation for expertise as both a competitor and a coach. The winning record of her team year after year is a testament to her coaching and leadership skills. Megan is also a stalwart supporter of IPDA at both the regional and national levels. Last year, a vacancy came about in the Governing Board members, and Megan quickly jumped in and served in the position well. In the middle of a pandemic, a canceled national tournament, and many other important issues, she added wisdom and experience to the conversation and this organization's leadership. I believe the organization's best course would be to ask her to continue serving and helping grow this organization. Her knowledge, skill, insight, and commitment to IPDA will be continued assets to this organization and its leadership.

My second nomination for Governing Board is for Preston Langley from Bossier Parrish Community College. Preston also has a long history with the IPDA organization as both a competitor and a coach. Like Megan, he has served on regional leadership and excels in his coaching abilities. The team he helps to lead has been a consistent top national team through the years, and that success is in no small part due to Preston. His ability to lead will bring much to the Governing Board, but his ability to serve may be his best gift. In just the few years I have known him, I have witnessed Preston's continual support and encouragement of multiple new teams, including my own. He views collegiality as a positive function of this art and reaches out to include any new face he sees. He is quick to share his expertise, time, and energy to support tournaments, tab rooms, and the organization, and I genuinely believe he would be a great asset to the Governing Board. For these reasons and many more, I nominate Preston Langley for a position on the IPDA Governing Board.