

CALGARY ROYALS HOCKEY CLUB

Calgary Royals Athletic Association



Candidates for the CRAA Board of Directors 2024-2025 Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE

Juanita Renwick - President

Juanita, a native of Edmonton, Alberta, has a strong background in community engagement, inspired by her parents' involvement in non-profits and youth sports. She began volunteering early, notably in her son's hockey association, where she held various roles and eventually joined the Southwest Board. Over a decade with Southwest Hockey and Hockey Calgary, she held significant positions like League Chair and Director of Community Relations & Evaluations. Later, she transitioned to the Calgary Royals, moving from Director to Vice President of Operations in 2020.

For six years, Juanita served with the Calgary Minor Soccer Association, supporting thousands of players as Assistant Executive Director. She's deeply involved in initiatives like EmpowerHER, promoting soccer for female athletes, and the Alberta Soccer Diversity and Inclusion Committee, where she helps create safe spaces for young athletes.

In 2022, Juanita pivoted to a professional focus on human resources and diversity, equity and inclusion, joining Hockey Canada's People Culture and Inclusion department. With her expertise in human resources, community engagement and diversity advocacy, she continues to drive positive change in sports and beyond.

Lee Emond – VP – Hockey Operations

Raised in Fernie British Columbia Lee enjoyed playing a variety of sports, initially finding a passion for basketball where he went on to play in the Alberta College Athletic Association at SAIT. Later, golf became his passion where he became a member of the Canadian Professional Golf Association. He is the father of two sons who have participated in many different sports over the years during which he volunteered as a Head Coach for Soccer, Lacrosse, and Hockey Team Manager. His son participated in the Royals Hockey Association for five years where he made a lot of good friends and had some very positive experiences. Lee believes in the importance of team sports and is always willing to lend a hand. Volunteering is an easy way to give back to the community and Lee enjoys doing this in a variety of areas that include Stars and Spurs Gala Committee Member, PSAC Education Golf Fund Tournament, Downtown Attractions Stampede Breakfasts, former Director of Coaches at Shaw Meadows and working on the LPGA Canadian Women's Open. Lee has been a Director with the Royals since 2019 and has enjoyed collaborating with the different teams and parents.

Kris Zack – VP – Off-ice Administration

Kris has been involved with the Calgary Royals for seven years, including five as a parent with his oldest son playing through his Bantam and Midget years. He has a passion for competitive/elite level team sports and academic excellence as a priority for all three of his children. Professionally Kris has spent more than 20 years

CALGARY ROYALS HOCKEY CLUB

Calgary Royals Athletic Association



in the Calgary business community, currently working as the Chief Financial Officer of a public oil and gas company.

Brian Hernandez - Treasurer

Brian is currently Manager, Business Development at Enerplus Corporation who contributes to the Company's corporate strategy and oversees acquisitions/mergers and divestment activities. He Graduated from the University of Calgary with Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. Brian has a broad experience base ranging from running/executing a drilling program, being an executive and founding member of exploration and production company to investment banking. He has a strong belief in a good balance between athletics, academics, family, and community. He has three children that have been involved in multiple sports at elite levels. Through active volunteering Brian has stayed strongly connected with his children and has helped create a fun, competitive and enjoyable experience for everyone. He has two boys who are entering their 3rd and 4th year respectively with the Calgary Royals. Brian joined the Calgary Royals board during the 2022-2023 season.

Diana Hartford - Secretary

Diana has been involved with the Calgary Royals both as a parent and as a director since 2010. While involved with the organization, have held roles as Bingo Director, U16AAA Director, U17AAA Director, and now the Secretary position on the executive. Vice President of the Best Bingo Association, and Director at Bingo Barn.

Diana works full time with the Calgary Stampede and has been for the last 34 years, currently holding the role of Corporate Hosting and Group Sales Manager.

Her two sons played in the association right through to Junior B.

Diana appreciates the opportunity to give back to the hockey community by volunteering with the Calgary Royals.

DIRECTORS

John Mitchell

My years of experience start in Manitoba, and I was playing in the men's league at 16 years old in a small town. After going to the U of M I was very involved in the Boy Scouts of Canada; as a leader then the youngest District Commissioner and on to organizing the largest international non-Jamboree trip to the USA with 59 boys and 15 leaders under my direction. After moving to Calgary in 95 I coached mostly midgets and junior B in NE Calgary, SW in Southland then with the Buffs. After coaching Jr B Buffs for 3 years, I went on to the Board and Dale Peters was my coach. During this period, I was also a Director with Macs Midget for 12 years with hands on duties at Father David Bower and Flames Arenas in the S W. I have served 1 year on the Royals board as the Bantam AA White Coordinator. Presently I run my own legal business and have a contract with X Copper in Ontario with a local Calgary office.

CALGARY ROYALS HOCKEY CLUB

Calgary Royals Athletic Association



Robin Petropoulos

My name is Robin Petropoulos, and we are a hockey and ringette family. I have three children, a girl and two boys, all of which are still playing hockey and ringette. We have been with the Royals for the last 3 years with our youngest son playing U16AA. For the last two years, I have been coordinating the team and credit bingos for the Royals with the guidance of Diana Hartford. I have coached, managed, and have board experience with my daughter's ringette team and association. I have also organized and managed fundraising events for my children's sports teams and with the private school they attended. I support my kids in whatever they choose to do in sport, school and in life and I love watching them enjoy and play the sports that they love.

Chris Ugbaja

My name is Chris Ugbaja, I am an Engineering Technologist. For sports, I grew up competing in track & field and playing soccer. During the last nine years, I have enjoyed the game of hockey by being part of our two children's love of hockey through their relentless commitment, mentoring them to work hard and have fun in the game. Also, I have gained some off-ice experience through volunteer opportunities in their teams. We enjoy giving back to our community; my family and I are volunteer members of Friends of Kananaskis Country. We are also volunteer members of the City of Calgary Adopt-A-Park program (keeping our community parks clean). I am excited to bring value to the Royals Hockey Association.

Cam Stacy

I am currently an Energy Marketer at Heartland Generation Ltd. I have two sons - one is currently in the Royals program; the other is a U11 player in Trails West and a baseball player for Cal-West Little League.

For the past 7 years I have volunteered my time in various roles for my sons' teams. I have coached both baseball and basketball for Cal-West and was the ice coordinator for 2 years with Trails West.

I am passionate about sports and will strive to make the CRAA a successful organization.

Kevin Magowan

I'm Kevin Magowan, an engineer who works in the software industry, specializing as a Product Manager. Beyond my professional journey, the hockey community has always been a cornerstone of my life. I've proudly taken on the role as a coach within the Trails West Hockey Association for 8 years where I've had the privilege of developing young athletes on and off the ice. I'm eager to lend my expertise to the Royals and hope to help in initiatives that positively impact our hockey community and its future. I grew up playing in Ft. McMurray's AA hockey system before I moved to Calgary as a teenager. I further developed my skills in the NW Calgary Athletic Association, progressing from Bantam AA

CALGARY ROYALS HOCKEY CLUB

Calgary Royals Athletic Association



to Midget AA and Midget AAA teams. Later, I played for two years for the AJHL Canmore Eagles. I believe I can add value to the Calgary Royals Athletic Association again. Last year, I was the CRAA Jr B Royals Gold and Blue team director.

Mike Moore

Mike moved to Calgary in 1997 with his wife and young daughter for the role of General Manager, Flames Community Arenas, the position he currently holds. Originally from Newfoundland, Mike received his Bachelor of Recreation Administration degree from Dalhousie University and his Master of Sport Administration degree from the University of Ottawa. He holds an NCCP – Hockey

Advanced I level coaching certification and has considerable coaching experience at the Atom to Midget AAA levels, and Junior A. Mike coached with the Royals organization during the mid 2000s at the Bantam and Midget levels. Having retired from team coaching, Mike stays active as a skating coach for hockey players. He has completed his first year on the Royals Board as Director for U15AA Gold and looks forward to continued work with the Royals team in helping this organization be amongst the best.

Lee Morris

Born in England, we moved to Canada when I was 12. I was raised in Ontario where I played minor soccer and in the Ontario Soccer League. I also played Squash which culminated with two Provincial titles and able to play in one professional tournament.

I have served on the CRAA Board for over 15 years in various capacities including 13 years as a Team Director (U15AAA, U16AAA, U18AA, U18AA & Junior B), Ice Coordinator, & VP of Hockey Operations (U16/U18). I also served as team manager for 3 seasons, the last 2.5 with U18AAA.

We have three children. Our two sons were fortunate and had the skillset to play for the Royals and beyond. Opening the line of communication between coaching staff, board and parents is exciting and paramount for the development of youth as they discover their talents and grow. When not at the rink or thinking about hockey, I am a Fire Protection Specialist for Convergent Technologies Canada and enjoy running and biking (both road and trail).

Rachel Barnes

Born and raised in England, Rachel grew up the daughter of a sports fanatic spending many a weekend at soccer and rugby stadiums around the country or supporting her father in the various sports that he participated in.

Rachel, her husband and three children emigrated to Canada just over fourteen years ago. As a family they wanted to embrace the Canadian lifestyle so purchasing skates for their children and taking them to the outdoor rink was one of the first things that they did. Rolling forward, her two sons have both played for the Royals Hockey Association with her eldest moving into a coaching role this past season.

CALGARY ROYALS HOCKEY CLUB

Calgary Royals Athletic Association



Rachel embraces volunteering and values the opportunity to give back to the community. She has previously held roles with Hockey Calgary as a League Chair and for the past five years has been the U18 Coordinator with Glenlake Minor Hockey Association as well as managing both of her son's hockey teams. Rachel works at Ernst & Young and in her spare time (when she is not at the rink) she enjoys spending time with her family, walking their Golden Lab and reading.

Lindsay Stilling:

I grew up playing a multitude of sports and developed a deep love and appreciation for sport and all that one can learn from it. I started playing Ringette when I was 5 years old and switched over to hockey when I was 15. Growing up in a small Northern Alberta town did not provide a lot of competitive opportunities for sports but it always allowed me to spend time with my sister and friends and a lot of my favorite childhood memories have sports as the background. I was able to make it to provincials for both fast pitch and badminton and am very grateful for both experiences.

Much of my focus switched to academics later in high school and I attended the University of Alberta where I obtained a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. However sports was always a part of my life during university on intramural and pick-up teams. After graduation I moved to Calgary where I was able to make new groups of friends through recreational hockey, ringette and slo-pitch groups. In 2015 I was lucky enough to be asked to sit on the Mac's Tournament board (now the Circle K Classic) and have been a committee member ever since. In 2023 I was asked to manage a Royals U18AA team. Although I had never managed a hockey team before I was excited for the opportunity and humbled by the confidence that the Royals put in me. It has truly been a gift and the people – players, coaches, parents – that I met have left an indelible mark on me, in only the best ways.

I was never the best player on any team that I was on but I always appreciated that sports was a place where I could try my hardest and my efforts would be rewarded. It was always a place where strangers at the start of the season were good friends by the end. Unfortunately, as a female growing up in the 80s/90s in a small town, hockey was not an option for me at the start of my sporting endeavors. It wasn't until I was 15 that there was enough interested females to make a female team and that the association opened it up to a female team. This instilled in me an appreciation of those who went against the grain to include new groups and also a desire in me to do the same. I was never going to be able to do this as a player but have grown to appreciate that my involvement on the Circle K Classic and now the Royals can hopefully allow for that in a different capacity. I am committed to making these experiences the best they can be for all of the players and ensuring that spaces feel safe and inviting for every individual. I have loved seeing the different personalities that the kids on the U18AA Blue team have and strongly feel that they all came to make the team so much better than the sum of their parts.

Mark Stephen

My connection with Junior B is two-fold. Our son, John Stephen, played four years with Gold. He absolutely loved his time with the team and wishes he could turn back the clock, so he could suit

CALGARY ROYALS HOCKEY CLUB

Calgary Royals Athletic Association



up again. We attended virtually all of his games. In Johns' final year, I became the team manager and enjoyed that experience. Subsequent to that, I was involved with Hockey Calgary as the Junior B Governor on the Elite Council for the last two seasons.

My background has kept me around sports for virtually all of my life. Through broadcasting, mostly in Calgary, I have been in contact with high-paid professional athletes to dealing with high school soccer players. Those experiences have given me great insight into sports and the great impact it can have on children. My wife also was a referee co-ordinator for CRAA, in previous years.

Born in Calgary and have lived here for all but two years. I am at a stage in life where I am not retired, nor want to be. But I am not quite working full-time either. And that's good.

Byron Nelson

Byron W. Nelson is a trial lawyer and an experienced corporate and commercial lawyer and litigator. He also advises companies and non-profit organizations on governance issues. In his 26 years of practice, Nelson has appeared in all levels of court across Western Canada and at the Supreme Court of Canada. He has represented corporate and individual clients in a variety of corporate and commercial issues.

Born in British Columbia, Nelson was raised in Calgary. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Calgary in 1994 and received his law degree with honours, from the University of Wales, Cardiff in 1997. Nelson was admitted to the bar of the Law Society of Alberta at the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench in September, 1998 by Justice Rooke. In his final year of law school, Nelson was the first non-Brit to ever serve as president of the Cardiff Students' Law Society in the 100 year history of the university. Nelson was also active in the Inns of Court Society and formally dined at the Inner Temple and Gray's Inn in London, England. Byron has been a coach on the CRAA association for the past 2 years.