



# MEET THE CANDIDATES



**Melissa McGarvey**  
British Swim School

[Candidate Video](#)

Since my public speaking days started, back on Earth Day when I was eight years old, I have had a passion for effecting positive change. I have always enjoyed researching and creating a dialogue for that change and for making an impact. With this wonderful group of likeminded and passionate people, and an ideal platform, I believe that we can further our mission and grow the drowning awareness and prevention industry. I am always eager to learn from others, use my current leadership skills to enable others, and overall, work with passionate individuals.

Leadership is fluid, and to me, a true leader doesn't even realize that they are one. As the Director of Aquatics for British Swim School, my work, day in and day out, is to coach and inspire a group of small business owners to do their best and make an impact with their employees, customers, and swimmers. I consider my strengths to be building relationships, communication, working to understand and learn subject matter to provide to others, and (so I have heard) public speaking.



**Matt Lane**  
Streamline Brands

[Candidate Video](#)

I am running for the board:

- 1) To make a strong, positive impact on our industry.
- 2) To help members plan for the future of our industry.
- 3) To help members learn from our experiences across multiple brands and multiple markets.
- 4) To help members develop and manage their businesses to support succession planning in the future.
- 5) To help owners in our industry create value for themselves and their employees.

I'm have a wide base of experience spanning leading very large companies (Hewlett-Packard and Technicolor), to several successful small entrepreneurial ventures across technology, real estate, agriculture, swim schools, renewable energy, oil & gas, aviation, etc. I've lead organizations doing billions of dollars of revenue & organizations doing no revenue. I sit on a range of boards of directors in several different industries today. At this point in my career I'm fundamentally focused on helping others find ways to achieve their goals and realize success (as they define success). I'm passionate about our industry and believe members in our industry have a unique opportunity over the next several years to realize the value they have created in their businesses, should they want to do that.



**Debbie Sayers**  
DoFUNSWIMAcademy.com

[Candidate Video](#)

Stepping up to become a Board of Director for the USSSA will be an honor and the best way I can give back to an association that has served my swim school for over 27 years. Being active in the association over the years gives me an historical perspective. This will be valuable and kept in mind, as I will be in contribution to expand the member(s) and the associations knowledge and professionalism in the industry as our association continues to develop and grow. I believe I bring a well-rounded perspective to the BOD.

I have owned other types of businesses which bring a unique perspective to running "the business of a swim school." Since 2009, I have served on the very active and educationally focused Infant Toddler Committee. I am a Presenter of the IT and Special Abilities Course. The leadership roles I have held that will be beneficial to this BOD are Chairperson and committees for multiple schools and non-profit fund raising events, serving on The Easter Seals liaison board for fund raising, The Advisory Board for the Salvation Army and for Women of Wealth Investments for over 20 years, in which I held all executive seats a number of times. In all of these organizations we followed Roberts Rules of Conduct and dealt with policy, financial planning, strategic planning, budgeting, association stability and growth.



**Ann Marie Sunderhaus**  
Hubbard Family Swim School

[Candidate Video](#)

Ann Marie Hubbard Sunderhaus is an integral part of the Hubbard Family Swim School. She graduated from Xavier University (1998) with a degree in Business Management and a Masters in Business Administration. Her four years coaching the Xavier University Women's Soccer team was formative in her leadership development. While in college and during her coaching career, she returned home each summer to run Camp Hubbard. She is married to Pat Sunderhaus and they have 4 children.

Ann Marie started with Hubbard when they opened their first location in 1998 and today is part of the leadership team operating four locations. She supports the General Managers of each location while overseeing the recruiting, hiring and development of people. She truly enjoys working with people; fostering a fun, engaging culture and an environment of growth and development.

Ann Marie joined the United States Swim School Association 22 years ago. She is extremely engaged, attends conferences, served on the Conference Planning Committee, presented at conferences and hosted webinars. Some of her greatest friends were made through the Association. Her diversity in education and learning includes attending the American Camp Association Conferences, holding roles on different Boards, completing the Goldman Sachs Entrepreneurship program and much more. She thrives in a busy lifestyle and loves continuous learning and development. As a member of the Board of Directors, Ann Marie will happily represent the many different swim schools by listening and supporting the ideas and needs of our members.



# MEET THE CANDIDATES



**David Gorman**  
**Swim-In Zone**

[Candidate Video](#)

David Gorman has 25 years of leadership in finance, investment, entrepreneurship, government and philanthropy. He served the Commonwealth of Australia as Senior Investment Director in New York under the governments of Kevin Rudd and Julia Gillard.

David's finance and investment career began with Morgan Stanley and Bear Stearns, where he enjoyed experience in global equities, fixed income and alternative asset class markets. In 1998, he helped his partner Jim establish their swim school, which teaches 2,500 students each week in New York City and Houston.

A graduate of Columbia University, David speaks Spanish, Portuguese and French. He has studied Italian, Japanese and Russian.

A native of Miami, David resides in New York City with Jim and their two rescued Great Danes. David serves on the Board of Stop Drowning Now, a non-profit that seeks to end drowning through education and public advocacy.



**Sara Biskie**  
**Pro Swim Academy**

[Candidate Video](#)

Sara has been working in the Aquatics Industry since the age of 15, when she began teaching at Dolphin Swim Club in IL, and immediately joined the USSSA. She is a founding partner and COO of Pro Swim Academy, a 6000 square foot facility in the Chicago Suburbs, where she created her own brand and curriculum after the tragic loss of her mentor and business partner, Tyler Brewer. With the backing of amazing mentors and partners Georgette Cutler and Lynn Ledford, who fostered her growth, Pro Swim is approaching its 10th year! She continues to grow as a partner in a newly formed children's activities management company.

Sara is also Executive Director of Stop Drowning Now, a drowning prevention non-profit focused on creating and bringing a Water Safety educational platform to schools and government leaders, creating real change and saving the lives of children. Her favorite thing about leading a Swim School is knowing that the families trust her and her staff, and making them feel at home when they open the doors.

Having gained 22 years of experience at every level from teacher, to owner, to industry representative, she knows first hand how to overcome the challenges swim industry professionals face, and credits the USSSA and its members with supporting her lifelong passion.

She is lovingly supported in all endeavors by her two daughters, Ellie (4) and Harper (6), her husband Matt, two dogs, and one cat.



**Greg Laird**  
**Emler Swim School**

[Candidate Video](#)

Our industry is dynamic and increasingly complex, and I believe I can contribute some unique perspective that will help us position ourselves well to allow our association and schools to thrive.

Many, if not all of us, will be or are making very big decisions for our businesses or decisions that are important to us personally, but the economy and the world seems unfamiliar and more complex. I have a unique background with experience in the law, private equity, government, and in other industries that I believe could provide a helpful perspective to the Board and the Association as we plan ahead for increased economic uncertainty, government regulation, new market entrants, new business models, changing cost structures and increased competition so that we, our businesses and our industry thrive. I love kids, I love coaching, and I love our industry's water safety mission.

Previously, Greg owned US Road Sports & Entertainment Group, a producer of road running and endurance events including the Miami Marathon. And before US Road Sports, Greg was counsel with the international law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP. Greg received his B.A. in economics in 1992, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and his J.D. in 1995 from the University of Texas. He received his M.S. in 2002 from Stanford University Graduate School of Business, where he was a Sloan fellow. Greg serves on the boards of several for profit and non-profit companies and is a member of Park Cities Presbyterian Church.