



12005 Performance Drive
Orlando, FL 32827
Telephone: 407-545-8940
www.ustaflorida.com

USTA FLORIDA NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee of the United States Tennis Association - Florida Section, Inc., d/b/a USTA Florida, presents the following nominees for positions on the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee for your consideration. If elected, they will serve two years beginning at the Annual Meeting in December 2026 and ending at the Annual Meeting in 2028.

2027-2028 USTA FLORIDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS SLATE

Officers

President: Marcelo Gouts, Orlando (Region 4) ♦

President-Elect: Adam Ross, Parkland (Region 8)

Treasurer: Lezita Davis, Saint Johns (Region 2)

Secretary: Meika Ashby-Thomas, Palm Beach (Region 6)

Delegate: Chuck Gill, Wellington (Region 6) ♦

Past Experience

President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Director at Large;
Committees/Councils: Tennis Management Advisory Team, Hispanic Outreach Project Team, Public Parks;
Other: Numerous roles in the Community including involvement with Kids Play Days, 10 and Under Tennis, Tennis Festivals and Junior Team Tennis. Operates multiple tennis facilities in the Orlando area.

Director at Large, Secretary, Treasurer; **Committees/Councils:** Budget and Finance Committee, Grievance, and Bylaws Committees.

Treasurer; **Committees/Councils:** Budget and Finance Committee; Leadership Academy Project Team Co-Chair.
Other: Malivai Washington Youth Foundation Board Chair

Director at Large; **Committees/Councils:** Awards Committee and Task Force; **Other:** Volunteer System Project Team Member, Leadership Academy Graduate.

President, President-Elect, Director at Large, Vice President,
Committees/Councils: Tennis Management Advisory Team, Advocacy Program Project Team; **Other:** 10 and Under Task Force, Tournament Director, USPTA & USTA National Boards

According to the USTA Florida Bylaws, the President, President-Elect and Section Delegate may only serve one term in that office.

** Nominee will be serving first term.*

***Nominee will be serving second term.*

♦ *Informational Only. Automatically selected due to prior position as indicated in the Bylaws.*



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Directors at Large

Jane Wahl, Ponte Vedra (Region 2)**

Tracy Singian, Indialantic (Region 6)**

Trishna Patel, Ormond Beach (Region 4)**

Scott Pukys, Fort Lauderdale (Region 8)*

Past Experience

Secretary; **Councils/Committees:** League Committee; Leadership Academy Graduate

Director at Large; **Councils/Committees:** Women in Tennis Project Team **Other:** RSPA FL Board

Director at Large; **Council/Committees:** Tennis Management Advisory Team; **Other:** Operator/Director, Ormond Beach Tennis Center

Councils/Committees: Leadership Academy Graduate. **Other:** Director of Tennis at the Jimmy Evert Tennis Center

USTA Florida Bylaws allow for Directors at Large to serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

**Nominee will be serving first consecutive term.*

***Nominee will be serving second consecutive term.*

****Nominee will be serving last consecutive term.*

2027-2028 USTA FLORIDA NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE

The Nominating Committee shall consist of the President-Elect, who shall serve as chairman, and four additional members selected from applications by the Present Nominating Committee, in conjunction with the selection of the members of the Board of Directors in even-numbered years. The Nominating Committee shall be selected so as to have a composition with members from at least four regions.

A First, Second, and Third Alternate to the Next Nominating Committee shall be selected by the Present Nominating Committee, in conjunction with the selection of the members of the Next Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee Members

<u>Adam Ross, Parkland (Region 8) ♦</u>	Chair (President-Elect)
<u>Donn Davis, Punta Gorda (Region 7)</u>	Committee Member
<u>Kevin Johnson, Miami (Region 8)</u>	<i>Committee Member</i>
<u>Chris Nyholm, Tampa (Region 3)</u>	<i>Committee Member</i>
<u>James Davis, Daytona Beach (Region 4)</u>	<i>Committee Member</i>

Alternates

<u>Jennifer Gelhaus, Fort Myers (Region 7)</u>	<i>First Alternate</i>
<u>Valerie Berrin, Miami (Region 8)</u>	<i>Second Alternate</i>
<u>Jerrell Lowry, Tallahassee (Region 1)</u>	<i>Third Alternate</i>

***Nominee served in the previous term.*

♦ Automatically selected based on role as President-Elect.

We respectfully request the support of all member clubs, schools, and/or associations for this slate of Officers, Directors at Large, and Nominating Committee Members and Alternates.

The Nominating Committee

Marcelo Gouts, Chair
Phil Girardi
Dede Allen
Mary Conaway
Lynn Ford



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USTA Florida Delegates and Organizational Members

The previous pages listed the Nominating Committee's submission of the nominees for the 2027-2028 Board of Directors and 2027-2028 Nominating Committee.

Also enclosed is a form which may be used by your organization and five other organizational members to nominate any other person to a position on the USTA Florida Board of Directors or Nominating Committee if you oppose any person on this slate. Listed below are the excerpts from the USTA Florida Bylaws which refer to our voting process. A complete copy of the bylaws is on the USTA Florida Website at www.ustaflorida.com.

If you support the enclosed slate, no action is necessary!!!

Article VI, Section 2. Nomination by Petition

- A. Nominations may be made by any Organization Member's delegate but limited to only one (1) nominee per position.
- B. A Nominating Form shall be included in the Nominating Committee Report and shall be used by the Organization Member's delegate to submit nominations.
- C. A person shall be a nominee for one (1) position only. Before his/her name is placed in nomination, each nominee must have agreed in writing to serve if elected. Eligibility shall be adhered to as per Article V. Section 2. of these Bylaws.
- D. A nominee must receive a nomination from a minimum of five (5) Organization Members each from a different region.
- E. All submitted nominating forms must be signed by a registered delegate of the Organization Member.
- F. All nominating forms must be received in the Association office 110 days (*August 17, 2026*) before the Annual Meeting of each election year.
- B. One (1) ballot shall be distributed to each Organization Member's registered delegate 100 days (*August 27, 2026*) before the Annual Meeting of each election year.
- C. Each ballot must be signed by the registered delegate.
- D. Signed ballots must be received in the Association office 95 days (*Sept 1, 2026*) before the Annual Meeting of each election year.
- E. Ballots shall be tabulated 85 days (*Sept 11, 2026*) before the Annual Meeting of each election year by a CPA firm as determined by the Board of Directors.
- F. Plurality shall elect.

Section 3. Contested Election by Petition

- A. Voting by delegates shall be conducted by any method approved by the Board of Directors for the election of Officers and Directors at Large.

Section 4. Results of Election

- A. Election results shall be disseminated to all of the Organization Members, and registered delegates, the Nominating Committee, and the Board of Directors within 15 days of the ballot tabulation (*Sept 26, 2026*).
- B. Results of the election shall become final at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, at which time the ballots shall be destroyed.



**Organizational Member
Nomination by Petition Form**

-2026-

Organizational Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Delegate Name: _____ **USTA#:** _____

Delegate Signature: _____

The Organizational Member listed above wishes to nominate the following person(s):

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>	<u>Consent Enclosed (Y or N)</u>
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This form must be received at the USTA Florida Office, 12005 Performance Drive,
Orlando, FL 32827 no later than 5:00pm on August 17, 2026
for your nomination to be valid.

**DO NOT RETURN this form if you agree with the enclosed slate proposed
by the Nominating Committee.**