



Election Nomination Form

World ParaVolley General Assembly

December 4, 2022

Online



DEADLINE: October 31, 2022

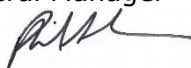

NOMINATION FORM FOR NATIONAL MEMBER ORGANIZATION

Please type in the form. Do not complete by hand. PDF or Word please.

Name of World ParaVolley member organization submitting the nomination(s):
World ParaVolley Board of Directors

Nominated candidate(s) for election (Family and given names of the persons nominated for each position)	
Vice President (4 years)	FAMILY NAME (block capitals): OKIMURA Given name(s): LORI
Sport Director (4 years)	FAMILY NAME (block capitals): Given name(s):
Marketing Director – Commercialisation (4 years)	FAMILY NAME (block capitals): Given name(s):
Development Director (2 years)	FAMILY NAME (block capitals): Given name(s):

Confirmation of nomination(s)	
Family name and given name(s) of Member Organization President:	
FAMILY NAME (block capitals): COUZNER Given names(s): Barry Signature:  Date (dd-mm-yyyy): 30-10-2022	Official Stamp: 

Family name and given name(s) of Member Organization Secretary General or CEO:	
FAMILY NAME (block capitals): ALLEN Given names(s): Phil Position: General Manager Signature:  Date (dd-mm-yyyy): 30-10-2022	Official Stamp: 

By signing this form, the above-mentioned officials confirm the member organization's endorsement of the individual(s) nominated for election to the World ParaVolley Board of Directors.

The following documents must be submitted for each individual nominated:

- Letter of Support from Nominating Organisation
- Curriculum Vitae (including statement of relevant experience)

Incomplete or late nominations cannot be accepted.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS: October 31, 2022

Send via e-mail to:

World ParaVolley President

president@worldparavolley.org

World ParaVolley General Manager

generalmanager@worldparavolley.org



Barry Couzner OAM
President
World ParaVolley
president@worldparavolley.org
+61 411 336 085

30 October 2022

Nomination of Ms. Lori Okimura as Vice President

To the members of the 2022 World ParaVolley General Assembly

It is my pleasure to inform you that at the 28-30 October meeting of the Board of Directors, a Motion was passed to nominate Ms. Lori Okimura as Vice President of World ParaVolley.

Ms Okimura has extensive experience with sport organizations, including as Chair of the USA Volleyball Board of Directors – a post she served with distinction by bringing about organizational change, addressing strategic planning and developing international relationships with relevant organizations. She has further experience in critical areas such as safe sport, marketing and communications and has served the FIVB particularly in the field of beach volleyball event management.

Ms. Okimura is ideally suited to the position of Vice President that has a focus on effective governance and management of the organization at the top level. During her relatively short time as Sport Director, Ms Okimura has clearly demonstrated her abilities to operate as a valued member of the Board beyond the technical aspects of ParaVolley and importantly, to be capable of supporting the activities of the President.

The Board strongly recommends Ms. Okimura's Vice President candidature to the General Assembly as a first preference.

Sincerely,

Barry Couzner OAM
President, World ParaVolley

Cc WPV Board





World ParaVolley
Sport Department
sportdirector@worldparavolley.org
+1 310 597 1970

20 October 2022

Mr. Barry Couzner
President
World ParaVolley
Email: president@worldparavolley.org

World ParaVolley General Assembly Delegates
Submitted via email: generalmanager@worldparavolley.org

RE: Application for Vice President, open position; Board Nomination for Sport Director.

Dear President Couzner and Members of the General Assembly,

It is my intention to seek nomination for the position of Vice President to World ParaVolley, a position that will be elected at the WPV General Assembly to be held virtually on 4th December 2022.

After serious discussion with you and outgoing Vice President, Wayne Hellquist (CAN), and careful consideration with encouragement from other members of the Board, I reached this decision. As allowed, I will remain a candidate for the position of Sport Director as nominated by the Board in September until an election result is confirmed by the General Assembly.

I am fully engaged in my current role as the WPV Sport Director which has been a brief period of service to finish out the term of my predecessor. I have identified areas of our organization where my professional skills and career expertise can contribute to the forward growth of World ParaVolley in this short time period. I am focused on the beginning of building a new system for the WPV Sport Department, and to provide others with opportunity for advancement including Isabelle Collot (FRA) Assistant Sport Director for sitting volleyball and Dr. Stephen Giugni (AUS) Assistant Sport Director for beach ParaVolley.

I am confident the Sport Department and those volunteers now working in it will continue to develop under the collective leadership of the Assistant Sport Directors of Sitting Volleyball and Beach ParaVolley, the related commissions, and the team of Zone Sport Directors in the working group I established to achieve greater representation for our Zones. I continue to recruit individuals to serve as technical officials from around the world (particularly Africa and Asia Oceania) and raise the profile of diversity and inclusion as well as gender equity within WPV. If successful in the effort to become the next WPV Vice President, I intend to continue supporting the Sport Department, all Directors and commissions to continue building capacity and human resources related to our strategic plan and succession planning.

- 1.) Availability, experience, and interest to work with colleagues from different cultures, countries and in languages in a collaborative and cooperative environment.
- 2.) and extensive experience in all areas of governance serving for international and domestic sport federations, non-profit associations, and international corporations dealing specifically





with sport industries (i.e., safeguarding, manufacturing, hospitality, event management & operations, marketing). This includes nearly 25 years of working experience with international charities and non-profit associations.

- 3.) Recent work in governance and safeguarding including restructuring international federation infrastructure, executive management recruitment, development of new event and marketing properties. Expertise to connect global agencies to increase capacity and access to additional resources.
- 4.) Experience in organizing and leading strategic planning, especially for international and domestic sport federations. Project management experience including facilitation and implementation stages.
- 5.) Developed strong relationships with key heads of sport federations, diplomats, and primary contacts globally through volunteer positions held with respective federations or associations. Extensive experience working with international sports, media (digital, broadcast, print), and marketing professionals including high-level interaction and negotiation with key stakeholders.
- 6.) Recent work to promote Paralympic and adaptive sport, particularly in the Los Angeles (USA) area through the Angel City Games, the LA84 Foundation / Play Equity Project, and the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic & Paralympic Organizing Committee and PlayLA legacy projects.

The honor of serving as Vice President to WPV’s Board of Directors is a way for me to impact the future of the organization through the action of giving back. Finding ways to bring additional resources into our community is a worthwhile challenge in my eyes. Thank you to the Board for the nomination as Sport Director, and for the encouragement and consideration of my eligibility for the position of Vice President.

Sincerely,

Lori Okimura (USA)
Sport Director, World ParaVolley



Cc: Phil Allen, WPV General Manager
Enclosures.



Lori Okimura

Los Angeles, California UNITED STATES



Executive leader with 30+ years comprehensive experience in executive management & reorganization, brand management, event operations, consumer marketing & sales in international sport; extensive expertise in non-profit governance (safety, athlete advocacy, human rights), fundraising, and sponsorship/partnership experiential activation. Specific expertise in restructuring and executive & senior management recruitment and onboarding.

Experience:

Executive Management Consultant (2001 - present)

- 16-years leading sports management firm, **Creative Sports Strategies**, Founder/CEO. Executive management including reorganization, crisis management, event operations and new business development, focused on consumer projects, brand management, product launch, contract negotiation, media training and corporate best practices. Key projects included establishing high revenue generating consumer sporting events/tradeshows in key tourism markets, new product launch for sporting goods products, production of first live broadcast of Honda Awards recognizing the top collegiate women athletes and producing fundraising recognition events & programs for non-profit organizations.
- **World ParaVolley (WPV)**: Sport Director & Board Member (first female and American), International Technical Official for Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games participating in the delivery of competition within the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) sport program. Serve in voluntary governance positions and provide general counsel for international federation regulations.
- **Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB)**: Technical delegate for FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour, official Olympic Games qualification tour. Duties include executive management in coordination with international event promoters to manage staff in areas involving sports information and media relations, television production, operations, competition, volunteer coordination, publicity promotions and athlete services for 200 or more athletes per event. Independent contractor, served 24 years.
- **USA Volleyball**: Served on the Board of Directors of USA Volleyball for 7 years, the National Governing Body of beach, indoor, sitting, snow and beach ParaVolley under the jurisdiction of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee. Served 5 years as Chairman of the Board, led strategic planning, initiated good governance and best practices, athlete inclusion of parasport, CEO search, transition and evaluation, athlete and member safeguarding including implementation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport education & compliance into USA Volleyball policy making including disciplinary action, and executive Board management duties.

Chief Operating Officer, Online Enterprises, Inc. (2000 - 2001)

- Managed day-to-day operations of the Beach Volleyball America (BVA) U.S. pro beach volleyball tour including tour operations, production, relationships with city planning agencies, budget compliance, vendor relations with broadcast partners, sponsors, professional athletes and associations, media relations and development of security and crisis management program. Negotiated city contracts for venue production and implementation. Maintained governance relationships with key sport federations.

Global Sports Marketing Director, Mikasa Sports USA (1995 - 2000)

- Responsibilities increased throughout employment, focused primarily on product development, sales and marketing for athletic equipment in Olympic sports. Managed international sales and distribution, budget planning and execution, contract negotiation and relationship building with key accounts, sponsored events and programs and Olympic sport federations in volleyball, beach volleyball and water polo.
- Developed the company's first sports marketing department in the U.S., including internship program for collegiate student-athletes; managed company's entry into digital marketing & communications including website development and advertising.

Promotions & Marketing Director, Association of Volleyball Professionals (1989 - 1994)

- Responsibilities evolved from managing athlete relations, media/broadcast production, contract administration, marketing/licensing, and tournament operations/competition. Involved in TV broadcast production, media training, promotions & communications.

Education:

University of Southern California, Bachelor of Arts, Public Relations (Minor: Sports Studies); Master of Business Administration

Lori Okimura

Los Angeles, California UNITED STATES

Professional Affiliations & Volunteer Experience:

Olympic & Paralympic Governing Bodies, International Sport

- Chairman, Board of Directors, USA Volleyball (2014 to 2019).
- Board Member, Beach At-Large Director, USA Volleyball (2012 to 2019).
- Sport Director, World ParaVolley (2022 to present)
- President, World ParaVolley Beach ParaVolley Rules of the Game Commission (2019 to 2022)
- Member, World ParaVolley Judicial Commission (2015 to 2022) & Beach ParaVolley Commission (2019 to 2022)
- Technical Official, World ParaVolley (Jury Member, Media Delegate, Technical Delegate 2016-present)
- Board of Administration Member, NORCECA Continental Volleyball Confederation (2017 to 2019).
- Member and President, NORCECA Marketing Commission (2016 to 2019).
- Member, FIVB Beach Volleyball Commission (2016 to 2021).
- Interim Commissioner, American Water Polo League s by USA Water Polo and FINA (2003-2004 season).
- Advisory Board Member, USA Volleyball International Beach Commission (1999 to 2001).
- International event management experience: 1996 Atlanta Olympics (Technical Supplier); 1997 FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships in Los Angeles, California (Technical Manager); 2000 USA Grand Slam Olympic Beach Volleyball Qualification Tournament in Chicago, Illinois (Technical Supplier); 2000 Sydney Olympics (Technical Supplier); 1995-2000 FINA World League (Technical Supplier); 2004 FINA World League (Technical Supplier).
- Competition Manager for 2001-2003 USA Junior Olympic Beach Volleyball Championship (Clearwater, Florida and Los Angeles, California); Event Manager for USA Water Polo at 2004 FINA World Cup of Water Polo and U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials in Long Beach, California.
- National Federation Delegate representing USA on FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (2015-2018)

Human Rights, Safeguarding

- Trustee, Safe Sport International, London, United Kingdom (2021 to present).
- Executive Board Member, Angel City Alliance (Angel City Sports) Los Angeles (2019 to present).
- Advisory Member, Foundation for Global Sports Development (2022 to present).
- Advisory Board Member, Foundation for Girls (2016 to present).
- Advisory Board Member, R.I.S.E./Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality (2015 to 2019).

Youth Sports Organizations

- Board Member, Kids In Sports Los Angeles, a non-profit youth sports organization based in Los Angeles, California that served underprivileged communities of Los Angeles, founded by International Olympic Committee (IOC) and USOC member, Anita DeFrantz, and Olympic Champion, Rafer Johnson (2005-2013).
- Program Director, Grants & Programs, Amateur Athletic Foundation (now LA84 Foundation) (1994-1995).
- Board Member, Managing Director, Sinjin Smith Volleyball Academy (2008 to 2011).
- Founding Executive Board Member (emeritus), United States Youth Volleyball League (1997 to 2006).

Sports Industry, Media Associations

- Vice-Chairman, Sporting Goods Manufacturer's Association / SGMA Volleyball Executive Industry Council (1995 to 2004). Now known as the Sports & Fitness Industry Association S.F.I.A.
- Member, Women in Sports & Events W.I.S.E. – Los Angeles Chapter (2004 to 2015).
- Event Operations Director, Honda Sports Awards/Honda Cup, Collegiate Women Sports Awards (2011 to 2015).
- Member, Friends of Hawaii Charities/PGA Tour Sony Open in Hawaii (2007 to 2012).
- Chairman, Editorial Board, Madavor Media/Volleyball Magazine (2008 to 2011).
- National Advisory Board Member, Women's Sports Foundation (2003 to 2009)

Environmental Protection

- Member, Hawaiian Islands Land Trust (2017 to present).
- Board Member & Officer, Corporate Secretary, Lifeline Hydration (2012 to 2014).

Awards & Honors

- USA Volleyball Hall of Fame, Induction Class of 2019 William G. Morgan Award
- USA Volleyball Hall of Fame, Recipient, 2000 USA Volleyball Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Award.
- Recipient, 2014 Robert A. Lurie Distinguished Alumni Athletic Award, Menlo School (Atherton, California).