



2026 USRowing Call for Nominations – Special Election Northeast Region Board Representative

As you might know, there is currently a vacancy in the Northeast Regional Representative seat on the Board of Directors. Although Section 54 of the Bylaws allows the Board of Directors to fill vacancies on the Board, the Board has determined in this instance to hold a special election to allow nominees to come forward and to allow USRowing members in the Northeast Region (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont) to elect their representative to fill this vacancy.

USRowing invites nominations from members to join our team and submit their candidacy for the Northeast Region Representative to the Board of Directors. This special election is to fill out the current term through February 2029. Note that because the initial term served by the winner of this special election will be more than two years, it will count as a full term for tenure purposes under Bylaw Section 49. As such, this individual will be eligible for re-election for only one additional term.

Nominations for the position are due **Monday, June 22, 2026**, unless noted.

Board Position:

1. Elected by the **Organizational Members** in the **Northeast Region**. This position runs through the end of February 2029.

Nominations

Interested parties should declare their intent by submitting the nomination form and disclosure form with all required materials no later than the date indicated above to USRowing and acknowledge acceptance of the responsibilities and duties of the position that they seek by signature on the nomination form.

All prospective candidates must have been individual members of USRowing as of the Date of Record (Tuesday, June 30, 2026), and complete the requirements of the USRowing SafeSport policy, which includes a criminal background check and SafeSport Training, prior to running for office.

Voting Process

Ballots for the member-elected **Northeast Regional Board Position** will be distributed on Monday, July 13, 2026. Completed ballots must be submitted for receipt no later than

Monday, July 27, 2026. The term shall commence on August 1, 2026. In order to vote, members must be in good standing as of the Date of Record.

I. Introduction

Per the USRowing Bylaws, individuals who serve on the USRowing Board of Directors govern our organization. Opportunities for elected service and leadership exist in the areas defined below.

Members of USRowing located in the Northeast Region are encouraged to participate in this electoral process, both as voters and as potential candidates. Here are important details to help you cast your vote or be on the ballot yourself.

Regional Directors to the Board shall be elected by vote of the Organizational Members residing in their respective regions as follows (each, a “Region”):

- **Northeast Region:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
- **Atlantic Region:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- **Central Region:** Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- **Western Region:** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Prospective candidates must submit the attached form with all required materials no later than the date indicated above to USRowing and acknowledge acceptance of the responsibilities and duties of the position that they seek by signature on the nomination form. All prospective candidates must be individual members of USRowing as of the Date of Record.

The attached materials outline the above positions, as well as the responsibilities of each group.

II. USRowing Board of Directors

The Bylaws require that members of the Board (excluding At-Large Directors) must:

- **Be an individual member of the association as of the Date of Record.**
- **Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age**

The Board established non-binding criteria for individuals that it believes would best contribute to the overall direction of USRowing through board service. The criteria are as follows:

- Ten or more years of experience at a board governance level in business or at a non-profit organization.
- For those candidates with business experience, a senior executive with fund-raising; talent management and HR experience; financial management responsibility; and/or communications, marketing & sponsorship experience would be preferred.
- For those candidates with non-profit experience, a high-level volunteer with a history of

leadership and volunteer organizational success.

- A collaborative, team-oriented, and collegial approach to board service that places the interests of the organization ahead of individual or constituent interests.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

- **Set the policies of the Association.**
- **Establish the annual budget of the Association and monitor the financial operations of the Association.**
- **Evaluate the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.**
- **Serve on one or more Board subcommittees in addition to the quarterly meeting requirements.**
- **Board Athlete Representatives also will serve on the USRowing Athlete Council.**
- **Exercise such other powers as may be vested by law.**

Time and Financial Commitment

Four quarterly meetings, three of which are in-person, are held annually to conduct the business of the Association. These may be on a weekday or on a Saturday. The board also meets by phone as needed. Two consecutive unexcused absences from in-person board meetings results in automatic removal of a board member under the Bylaws. Excused absences are granted by the full board for a limited number of reasons. Board members also serve on at least two committees in addition to board service. Moreover, athlete representatives on the board also serve on the USRowing Athlete Council, which is a significant time commitment. Thus, it is critical that any candidate make a serious commitment to board participation. **All directors must fund their own travel to meetings, with travel funding provided to athlete representatives.**

Who Votes in the Board Election?

Regional Board Representatives are elected by organizational members, within their respective region, in good standing as of the Date of Record (e.g., clubs, colleges, high schools.) Under the Bylaws, each organization has one vote, which is not weighted. The following regional position is up for re-election in this special election:

- Northeast

Deadline

Nominations for the Northeast Region position must be received at USRowing headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, by **Monday, June 22, 2026**. The nomination form is available at www.usrowing.org.

Current USRowing Board of Directors Term Chart

Taylor Ritzel	Female Athlete Rep	Dec-26	2nd Term
Darius Aghai	Male Athlete Rep	Dec-26	2nd Term
Sharon Weinbar	Western Region Rep	Mar-27	2nd Term
Robert Zagunis	At-Large Rep	Mar-27	1st Term
Marnie Stahl	Central Region Rep	Mar-28	2nd Term

Mary Cranston	At-Large Rep	Mar-28	1st Term
Grace Latz	Team USA Athlete Council Alternate Rep	Dec-28	1st Term
Robin Prendes	Team USA Athlete Council Rep	Dec-28	2nd Term
Steven Pritzker	At-Large Rep	Mar-29	2nd Term
Donald R. Reynolds	Independent At-Large Rep	Mar-30	2nd Term
Stephen N. Ciraolo	Atlantic Region Rep	Mar-30	2nd Term

- Per Bylaws Section 49, eligible for re-appointment for two more terms, because his first term is a partial term of less than 2 years.