

Kevin Hutchison

Candidate Statement

Some of our newer members may not know me but most of our older members probably do. I'm not exactly new to the sport, but I hope to bring a fresh perspective and the depth and breadth of my professional experience.

From 1987-2007, I was immersed in the sport of team handball. I was a player, I co-founded a club (Knight Magic which became Knight Air), I was a coach, a life member, and I was Chair, Coaching & Methods, and a member of the Board of Directors for 4 years. For about 2 decades, most of our family vacations were centered around team handball tournaments. Why did I dedicate so much of my life to team handball? Because I love the sport and I loved seeing my teammates and handball family at tournaments.

There was a noticeable gap in my involvement in team handball from 2008-2020. During this period, I lived in Belgium & Germany (2006-2011), was deployed overseas (2012-2013), had 4 major surgeries from 2011-2014, retired from the military and transitioned to civilian life/work in 2014, and—like everyone—dealt with COVID in 2020. *Most importantly*, I spent a lot of time from 2006-2018 coaching my kids in youth/MS/HS in the sports *They* loved.

Now that our kids are grown up and my wife and I are empty nesters, we started volunteering with handball again. When we were at the women's NACHC in Illinois (2021), my wife remarked that she could see on my face how much I had missed it. She's right; I have truly missed being involved in the sport. I am grateful to be able to volunteer in support of team handball and have enjoyed helping at various events in the last few years. At this stage in my life, I can focus more of my energy on volunteering with an organization that I am passionate about, and I am excited about this opportunity to offer my talents to this sport and the membership at large.

It would be an honor to serve as a member of the Board of Directors. I am confident that my in-depth experience and knowledge of the sport and its challenges combined with my professional background will help me contribute to the Board's efforts to sustain and build upon our successes, mitigate our shortcomings, and develop ways to achieve the membership's vision for our future. I look forward to the opportunity to work as an elected representative of the membership and to improve the participation, quality, and funding of the sport in the US.

Thank you for your consideration.