

2019/2020 NSEF Board of Directors Slate of Nominees for Election at the NSEF AGM.

Scott Buckle Samantha Napier	Director of Competitions	2-year term
Val McDermott	Director of Recreation	2-year term
Krista (Kris) Foley	Director-at-Large	3-Year term
Barbie Lewis	Director-at-Large	3-Year term
Melissa MacDonald	Director-of - Clubs	1-Year term

Scott Buckle – Nomination for Director-of Competitions

Scott has extensive experience volunteering and fundraising in the equine community, recently acquiring sponsorship and initiated the Canter for the Cure Dressage Show at Five Fires Equestrian Centre, raising thousands of dollars for the Canadian Cancer Society.

As a strong team player with knowledge and experience in competitions, Scott has filled the role of participant, organizer and volunteer. Scott has a certificate from Mount Royal University in public relations as well as many years in event planning through hospitality environment, Customer service is always been “in my blood” and now working for an airline in Canada, understanding the needs of clients as a specialty.

Scott hopes to leverage his strong inter-personal and communication skills to bring positive results in stakeholder engagement, continuing to grow successful competition programming.



Samantha Napier – Nomination for Director-of Competitions

Over the past twenty years Samantha has spent her days obsessing over horses. As a young child she took lessons, leased and showed on the hunter circuit. Her passion for horses turned into a lifestyle. She now owns two beautiful versatile animals, has a small group of clients whom she teaches and has started judging horse shows. Passion for the sport and horses has become a huge part of Samantha’s life.

Samantha is currently a member of the NSEF Competitions Committee as part of her contribution to the sport that has had such a large impact in her life. She has extensive background in the competition field, showing and volunteering at hunter, jumper, reining and general performance shows, as well as trail competitions and sorting competitions. She has experience in Western and English riding, active in both disciplines.

Samantha feels that her communication skills, horse knowledge and competition experience will be an asset to this position. She is comfortable and familiar with a majority of the horse world in Nova Scotia and has a large variety of connections. She is organized, dedicated and passionate about the future of equestrian in our province.



Valerie McDermott – Nomination for Director of Recreation

Valerie has vast experience with non-profit board governance having held many positions in the last 10 years within the NSEF Board (Vice-President, Treasurer, Director of Clubs, and Director of Recreation) and currently, as President of the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation (NSEF) and Regional Chair, Nova Scotia Region of Canadian Pony Club.

Val has served in many roles including Director on the Corridor Horse and Pony (CHAPS) executive, NS Pony Club District Commissioner. She has also held the positions of discipline chair for Dressage, Show Jumping and the testing and education chair for the NS regional membership.

Valerie has recently completed a certificate in Team building and Group Dynamics from St Mary’s University and was awarded the Coaching and Mentoring award with Defence Construction where she works as a Coordinator, Professional Service Contracts and is their Site Security Officer.

Valerie has been a recreational rider since the age of 10, sharing the passion for horses with her husband and daughters who enjoyed the sportsmanship, equine education that pony club offered and the thrill of competition.



Krista (Kris) Foley – Nomination for Director-at-Large

Kris is a knowledgeable horseperson with exposure to a broad spectrum of equine pursuits. She showed/coached in both Western and English disciplines; operated a Boarding and Lesson facility; operated an overnight, weeklong equestrian camp; owned and stood at stud an Appaloosa stallion; provided training services for young and “problem” horses; judged Bronze level events (still does a few).

Kris has been a member of the NSEF Board of Directors in numerous roles including Director of Recreation, Secretary, Treasurer, Director-at-Large (most recent position), Vice President (most recent position)

Kris is a CPA, bringing a strong background in finance, management, ethics and governance.

Unfortunately, for health reasons Kris no longer rides/competes, however this leaves more time for volunteer activities and her spending time with her month old grandson.

**Barbie Lewis – Nomination for Director-at-Large**

Barbie has been a competitor in numerous disciplines (Dressage, Hunter, Horse Trials, Arabian, Morgan, Competitive Trail, Hackney, and Roaster). As an Owner/Organizer she oversaw Eventing at Red Bank Farm for over 20+ years and Nova Scotia Canadian Sport Horse Shows for 12 years.

Barbie was involved with the Nova Scotia Horse Trials holding various positions including President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Editor of Horse Trials Newsletter. In addition, she represented NS on the National Horse Trials Board as a Director at Large for 14 years.

Over the past number of years, Barbie has served on the NSEF Board, as President for 9 years, and Vice-President for 10 years. She served on several Equestrian Canada National Boards, including President of Provinces Council, Sport Council, and on the EC National Board of Directors.

Barbie has been a Senior Jumper Judge for over 20 years and a Horse Trials Entry Level Dressage Judge 10+ years.

**Melissa MacDonald – Director of Clubs**

Melissa has been a long-time and very active member of the Cape Breton Western Riders Association, currently acting as President. Melissa is integral in all aspects of the CBWRA operations, including competitions, administration, and awards recognition, amongst other duties.

As per the NSEF By-Laws, Melissa was elected by her peer group at a recent meeting of NSEF member-club directors. Final ratification of her position on the NSEF Board will take place at the AGM.

