



## **AMERICAN POLOCROSSE ASSOCIATION** **Elections 2019**

Current Seniors:

The following positions are up for election this year: Vice President, Secretary To The Board, 2 Board At Large positions, Mountain-West Zone Representative. You will vote for the Zone Rep only if you live in that zone.

Candidate info is emailed to all current Seniors that we have emails for. Candidate information will be posted on the APA website on the home page ([www.americanpolocrosse.org](http://www.americanpolocrosse.org)) and a notice of this will be posted on Facebook.

**All voting will be done online; YOUR VOTER ID IS YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME IN SMALL LETTERS WITH NO SPACES. A password will be sent to you in an email from Helios Voting. Voting will be open on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM EASTERN time and will close Monday, midnight December 16<sup>th</sup> EASTERN time.** If you have a family or couple membership and your spouse does not get an email with the codes to use from Helios, it means the APA was not given an email when you signed up. Please contact me. If you have trouble, please email Laura Humphreys at: [lsshumphreys@gmail.com](mailto:lsshumphreys@gmail.com) Again, the notice email from Helios will send you the passcode you will need to vote.

### **VICE PRESIDENT: Paul Repping**



I started playing polocrosse around 20 years ago through Pony Club in my home state of Maryland. In 2000, I played in my first APA tournament. Eventually polocrosse lead me to Colorado, where I lived for 13 years. Playing in two zones and in Australia made me part of an amazing polocrosse family.

In 2016, my wife, Emily, and I moved back to Maryland where I practice as a veterinarian and play with Bay Area Polocrosse Club. More recently we welcomed a polocrosse recruit to the world, Lulu. Seeing how much she loves coming to tournaments and watching the games has encouraged me to take on a larger role in the Association that has given me so much.

If elected as APA Vice President, I hope to foster the growth of membership and quality of play. As I flush out those broad topics I see specifically focusing on: safety and umpiring, horse welfare, and public awareness. As a veterinarian, I am very interested in the physiological response to the game as well as means of preventing injuries on the field.

I would be honored to work with the board and the membership as Vice President to encourage growth in our sport so that my daughter and generations to come have the same incredible opportunities I had.

### **SECRETARY TO THE BOARD: Amy Lewis**



A pony clubber from my youth, I have spent my life cultivating a true love for, and knowledge of, horses. Introduced to the game of polocrosse 10 years ago I was quickly addicted to it and I learn more about the game every time I play or umpire.

As owner, trainer and head instructor at Stars and Stripes Equestrian Center I included polocrosse in my instruction to almost all of my students as an excellent way to improve their balance, multitasking, horse awareness and overall riding.

I hope to be elected as Secretary to the Board of the APA to bring my passion for the sport, enthusiasm for the players, and organization as a business owner to the position as another way to give back to the sport that has given me so much!

## **BOARD AT LARGE (You will vote for two on the ballot)**

### **Marlee Bigsby**



I started playing polocrosse when I was 10 years old. (11 years ago!) I instantly fell in love with the sport. This coming May, I will be graduating with a B.A. in Communications. I have been a part of clubs in the Eastern, Central, and Mountain zone. I am currently an active member of the Mountain Zone. My family and I started Big Sky Polocrosse Club a few years ago, where I currently coach and organize club functions.

I have participated in inbound and outbound tours through the APA. I want to see polocrosse continue to grow and flourish in all zones. I would like to work effectively with the board, and the members of the APA, to make polocrosse the best sport that it can be, and to help create opportunities for growth.

Marlee Bigsby

### **Thea Cross**



Hey polocrosse family! The coming years we all want one thing, to grow and stay united as an association! To give back to an organization, a family, that has given so much to me would be an experience worth running for. So why vote for a Mountain-West girl from Wyoming? Because I love this sport and the friends and family that come with it. I involuntarily dismounted my steed in Texas. I didn't want to go to the hospital but they sent me anyway because of how much they cared about my well being. I can't even begin to say how much it meant to me in the end. I am so grateful for the help, the caring, the sacrifices, and the love that my family gave to me. Any one of us would do that for anyone in our polocrosse family. I want to give back by being more involved and bringing fresh ideas to the board.

Who wouldn't want to be part of such an amazing sport where we would do anything for each other. That is what we need to portray to other horse groups. Just within our zone we are uniting to bring teams to big tournaments in other zones, we are doing off season activities together, and collaborating on the tournament series for more involvement.

How about we start giving more incentives for sanctioned tournaments? How about greater fundraising efforts to lower tournament costs? How about a themed Nationals to draw people in? How about t-shirts designed by the players according to the theme? How about more communication about what the players want to have and see happen? Let's GO!!



## **BOARD AT LARGE (cont.)**

### **Susan Hatch**



I started playing Polocrosse in 1997 and it has been one of my passions in life ever since. I'm one of the founding members of Peak Polocrosse in Colorado and currently play with Kokopelli, also in Colorado.

I first joined the board as Mountain Zone Rep six years ago. We've accomplished a lot in those six years and I would like to continue to work for the entire APA membership. I'm currently the International Liaison and due to my travels and conversations with various countries, we're working on several exciting new international opportunities for our membership for the next couple of years. I'm dedicated to and passionate about helping people enjoy and excel in the sport. I'm involved in developing our new coaching program which has included helping to develop a beginner's manual that was just recently released. I also coordinated the recent APA sponsored clinic at Central Zone regionals and am working on more for next year.

It is my firm belief that as an organization, we need to help our players achieve basic minimum standards (racquet skills, horsemanship, game play, etc.) that will allow them to get the most out of the sport. Having a structure and proper resources will not only help our current members achieve more but will grow the sport.

I absolutely love this sport and the people in it. I want to continue to help provide structure and resources for the entire APA and all future players.

### **Kate Lahr**



I have been playing polocrosse for ten years now with the Carolina Polocrosse Club. I am very much involved in the club and would like to be more involved in the American Polocrosse Association.

Polocrosse is a passion of mine - this sport has given me so many opportunities and has greatly impacted my life. I would love to see our players, and our sport, grow and am eager to work with fellow board members to make that happen!

## **MOUNTAIN-WEST ZONE REPRESENTATIVE (Only for Mountain West Zone members)**

### **Julie Mouton**



I have been playing polocrosse for about 5-6 years now. I am completely addicted. I have had the most amazing time with Kokopelli polocrosse club in Fruita, Colorado. My team mates have become my best friends/family. This sport and my club have tremendously improved the happiness and quality of my life.

I am running for Mountain Zone Representative as a new opportunity to grow. I am looking forward for the opportunity to learn more about the APA and polocrosse. I am hoping to promote the sport in my zone by facilitating communication between clubs and members. I hope to help promote the sport to new members while also helping existing membership attend events and tournaments. If I am not elected Zone Rep, I will strongly support anyone elected.

I am here to support POLOCROSSE!!