



BUAFC Officer of the Board Election 2024

The 2024 Candidate Statements

The 13 Candidates below have been nominated and have accepted the nomination for the position of Officer of the Board. The election for the 10 available seats will take place at the AGM to be held at the Clubrooms on **Tuesday 17th September at 7pm.**

Candidates have submitted their CVs as part of their nomination acceptance. These will be available for review at the AGM for those seeking additional information.

Paul Blackmore



I have been a member of Birkenhead United Football Club for 8 years, first joining as a coach of my son's 6th grade team. Over the years I have assisted in coaching and managing several junior and youth teams and have spent the last two years managing 14's and 15's Talent Development Programme teams.

I have also played over 35's football for the last 8 years but have decided to retire from playing at the end of this season and hopefully move into coaching goalkeepers at the club.

I joined the committee at last year's AGM as I wanted to get more involved, and earlier this year took on the role of Apparel Manager. I have also recently taken on the role of Player Welfare Officer, which has allowed me to work with some very talented and dedicated people we have within the club. This is a role with a big focus on our players, coaches and parents with some exciting things planned for 2025.

I am running again to be an officer on the board as I would like to continue the work started since last year's club extensions. We have a great team who are working hard to take this club forward, and I would like to remain part of that team on the 2025 Birkenhead United board.

In my time away from the club I am the Head of Security and Access at Port of Auckland Ltd.

Sian Chad



My name is Sian Chad, I have been a member of Birkenhead United my entire life. I am a nominated life member of the club, a member of the ladies committee, social committee, are the bar licence holder for the club, and am the club treasurer a position I have held for over 14 years.

Through this period of time I have seen the club thrive from one that was struggling financially to the successful enterprise which it is now. Not only am I a long term committee member but I have also been a playing member for Birkenhead for in excess of 20 years. My daughter is a current member of the ladies 1st team and my husband the coach of the Men's 23's team. I remain dedicated to committing my time to Birkenhead United and look forward to seeing it thrive through its next stage of growth and development.

Matt Dalton



I am pleased to put forward my nomination for the BUAFC Board. I am an experienced business leader currently working as a Partner at Deloitte filling a number of Management roles in the Consulting business. I have experience with Boards through my role at Deloitte and currently act as an advisor to a Listed company Board in NZ. I have also served on the Board of Kauri Park School for 9 years most recently as Treasurer.

I have been a member of the BUAFC Committee for the past 12 months where I chair the Finance and Risk Sub Committee and have lead the club through an uplift in Financial processes and practices. I am also involved in Sports Governance servings as the President of the Northern Bandits Softball Club. I look forward to continuing to serve the club and make a contribution to our community.

Ross Frisby



I am a profession civil engineer who has been involved in road and civil infrastructure construction for the last 40 years. For the last 35 years I have resided in Auckland for over 30 years been a project manager for many of Aucklands motorway upgrade projects with values varying from a few million dollars to over 400 million.

I have been a member of BUAFC for over 25 years and my three sons have all grown up at the club with two still involved in playing and coaching at the club.

I have been the club Junior Section convenor for the last 20 years and have overseen the growth of the Juniors section from a few hundred members to the 1240 current membership. I am a Life Member of BUAFC and in 2016 I was award the QSM for services to football.

I can provide a wealth of knowledge and experience to guide the new Board and club on its future pathway.

Rochelle Lee Warren



Being part of the governing body for Birkenhead United is a privilege. I have held the role of Secretary of BU for the last five years, providing a link between members, players, club committee and outside stakeholders. In this time the traditional role has progressed into different active priorities, and I have worked hard to help take the club to a new level of engagement, growth and the way we govern.

I have led the event planning and fundraising efforts for the past few years, and this continues to evolve. This year we have held many new successful initiatives. Come be part of the events team!

Another priority of mine is the club's community engagement role within our local area and the need to foster good relationships with local stakeholders, elected officials and community groups.

A club can't run without sponsorship, so part of my role is to communicate and help manage sponsorship relationships and collaborate with new ideas and fundraising goals.

Its busy but rewarding!

Jess Mackle



I currently have 2 football mad boys playing in the junior division who love turning up each Saturday to be part of a team, club and community that supports their enthusiasm of the game. I must admit that my understanding of football rules is limited at best although has improved after standing on the sidelines for a few years now but not to a level where I can put my hand up for a coaching role to give back to the club however where I can give back is as a board member.

I'm a Chartered Accountant working in a large CA firm and previously sat on the board of a charity as the Treasurer and would love the opportunity to use my skills and connections to give back to a club that means so much to the community.

Janine Manga



I have been part of the Birko community since 2015 when my son and daughter began playing for the club. Over the years I have managed various teams that my children were in and volunteered in a variety of areas in the club. I am currently the U16 Girls team manager, Chair of the Girls and Women's committee and was co-opted onto the management committee at the end of 2023.

With these roles I have gained experience and insight into the opportunities and challenges currently facing our club. I believe that my experience in my volunteer roles, my passion with strategic initiatives such as the Gender Equity Charter, and my desire to continue championing women's football initiatives will be an important perspective on the Board.

My strength lies in execution so I would make a valuable contribution to the Board, as well as translating initiatives into action so that the club sees its strategy come to life, which ultimately benefits the club and our community. The timing of a two year term is perfect and I think some fresh perspectives mixed in with longer term members would be beneficial for helping Birko continue to be an amazing community club.

Rohaan Mohanty



I am keen to join Birkenhead football club board to leverage my professional skills and passion for the sport. I aim to contribute to strategic planning and drive initiatives that enhance competitive success and community engagement.

My goal is to work collaboratively to create a thriving environment for players, fans, and volunteers.

Ian Morgan



Apologies for not being present but I am attending my father's 80th birthday in the UK. I would like to be elected onto the board this year as I bring an unrivalled passion for community football throughout the year. I have been Club Captain for 6 years and in that time I have overseen senior and summer football and have attracted many new players to the club. I have an appreciation for the challenges faced by teams, firstly as a former player and manager of two different senior teams over seven years.

I enjoy communicating across all levels from NRF to individual players to facilitate enjoyment of the game. My aim has always been to foster a sense of belonging to the club and celebrate team and individual achievements across the board. All for one and one for all.

I would like to continue in the role of Club Captain as I believe there is much work to be done and I have proven that I have the ability and desire to carry the numerous duties involved.

Rory O'Sullivan



As a former sports journalist, and now a 'Birko' devotee home and away, I have seen first-hand the social and economic benefits that a really strong connection between people and their local football club can have on the health, mood and prosperity of a team's 'home'.

I believe we have a huge opportunity here at Birkenhead United to take this to the next level. It's also really important we share our story as we continue this journey. This will help us lead by example for football in Aotearoa New Zealand - and I truly believe we can.

I want us to be a club that's known across the country for its family spirit and whanaungatanga, and as a growing hub for the future of the game.

In short, I see us being a club that everyone looks up to - and it would be my honour to 'do my bit'.

Melissa Sullivan



I have been a proud member of Birkenhead United since I was five years old, continuing a family tradition that began with my grandfather's involvement in the 1970s when our family first moved to New Zealand. This club holds a special place in my heart, and I deeply appreciate all that it represents.

Since 2020, I have taken on the role of managing media and communications, which has given me valuable insight into the club's operations. I've also had the privilege of attending committee meetings and serving on the upgrade committee, helping to bring about our fantastic new facilities.

As a long-standing member and a women's player, I've seen firsthand what we do well and where we can improve. I am passionate about building on the great work we've done in recent years. My vision is to foster an inclusive community where all members—whether young or old—feel connected, involved, and proud to be a part of Birkenhead United.

With my skills and experience, I am confident I can help grow the club and strengthen its sense of community, creating a place where everyone feels welcome and eager to contribute.

William Taylor



As the current President of BUAFC, I am proud of what we've achieved over the past year. I am seeking a second term to continue building on this progress and guide the club through this important period of transition. With our first AGM under the new constitution, consistent and strong leadership is more important than ever. Over the past year, we've made great strides, but there is still more to be done to secure a sustainable future for the club.

The new constitution raises the standards across the club, which aligns with my values and experience. Having led the clubroom upgrade project and run my own architectural practice for 17 years, I understand the importance of setting high expectations and delivering results.

As a club member for 13 years, I believe the exciting changes we are experiencing need to be met with positive and proactive leadership. My aim is to continue sharing my leadership skills and passion for teamwork to improve the club environment and enhance the football experience for everyone involved.

I'm committed to inclusivity and ensuring BUAFC thrives at all levels.

Kerry West



With two teenage sons and a husband that play football; and being a long-time supporter of all things 'football', I now want to contribute more to the Club that has 'accommodated' my footballing boys for nearly 18 years.

I do believe I could contribute more to the Club – despite my advancing years, I bring enthusiasm and a 'can-do' attitude, and I am very keen to understand what the mission and goals for the Club are, and to help the Club achieve them. And as I have been told multiple times - I can organise the heck out of x30 Dominos pizzas to ensure teams are fed!