

Anchor Club Board of Directors
Nominees for consideration

Pierre LaMere

Parent of Brianna LaMere, age 12, White 1 group.

Other family members: Diane (concessions lead) and Joseph (age 18, Meet Manager)

We've been a part of the Minnetonka Swim Club for five years. Our family has been active in various roles - concession lead (Diane), Colorado/Swim 6 Timing System (me), timers (Diane and I), Meet Manager (son Joseph). We feel very fortunate to be a part of the Minnetonka Swim Club. Not only has the experience installed a love for swimming in Brianna, but the teamwork, encouragement, and positive environment have meant so much to her - and us as parents. It's because of this that we (the whole family) feel compelled to help out in any way we can to support the club. Being asked to be a board member is an honor and I would hope to positively contribute in any way I can.

A little more background about myself: Diane and I have lived in Excelsior since 1991. I work at 3M, which I joined after graduating from college in January of 1988. I was a member of swim team in high school and my freshman year in college, as a springboard diver, so I was quite accustomed to hanging around the pool for long stretches. I have served on a various boards and advisory committees, with the City of Excelsior, universities, companies, and industry associations.

Jen Weeks

I am the Mom of 3 girls (2 currently participating in Mtk. Swimming Programming; Erica- age 12/White 1, Megan- age 10/Rec Swim Team.) Our family lives in the Shorewood/Excelsior area. Our girls attend Minnetonka Schools as well (Greta-8th Grade @ MMW, Erica- 7th Grade @ MMW, & Megan- 5th Grade @ Excelsior Elementary.)

Our girls have participated in a variety of sports both in the Minnetonka Community, over the last 5 years, and in Eden Prairie for several years prior to our move into Minnetonka. We have been involved with EP Soccer Assoc. (coached & managed rec. soccer teams,) EP Rec Bball, BearPath CC Swim Team, Blizzards Ski program (all three girls for several years,) Dabbled in Lifetime & Foss Swimming when the girls were younger, Softball programs in both EP & Mtk. And, some ballet classes when the girls were younger! ;)

We've participated in Tonka United Travel & Rec Soccer teams (I've been the manager for one of our girl's travel teams.) We've had our youngest in Rec & Travel Bball (John, my husband, has been an assistant coach in both avenues for a few years now.)

In the Schools, I have served as a Room Parent, PTO Board Member (Fundraising Chair/Volunteer Coord.,) And, headed up a beloved tradition at Excelsior Elem the past 4 years, "Holiday Secret Shop."

I've been spearheading an effort to advocate for Dyslexic students in our school district the past year + as well! Our Group has been so pleased to see Minnetonka Schools take landmark steps to support this community of learners!

I've also been volunteering for the Mtk. Swim Club the last 3 years in various jobs at meets. I landed in a semi-permanent role, about year ago, as one of the Hospitality Team Members for home meets.

Our family believes strongly in volunteering, and supporting the communities we are a part of, including our communities of faith as well. Serving others, and supporting those who invest in our family, is among our core values as a family.

That being said, through all of our sports experiences, I have been the most impressed and grateful for the thoughtful leadership & coaching our children receive from their involvement in the Minnetonka Swim Club! It has started with the leadership of Dan Berve, and trickled down through the coaching staff they have experienced. And, as I have grown to learn more about the Anchor Club

Board, this was not by accident. Whether or not you decide to have me serve alongside of you as a board member, please know that the time and energy you have put into building a culture that is such a positive experience for all kids involved, is appreciated. It would be an honor to continue your work as a board member. And, it sounds like there are exciting times ahead with new initiatives in the works!

I wish I could attend the meeting on July 17th. Unfortunately, It is the same night as my eldest daughters Camp pick up in Ely, MN. So, I will be driving to collect her from her Summer Adventure!

It is with gratitude that I close my email to you all... thank you for your handwork and service that has come before our family...and, paved the way for such a positive experience for our girls.

Richard ("Rich") Diaz.

My 13-year old daughter Addie is a member of the Minnetonka Swim Club, year-round since 2011, and my wife Sarah and I have been frequent volunteers at club-hosted meets. Additionally, I am a member of Minnetonka Masters, swimming with the Masters Lite group since January, 2017. Our family lives in Deephaven, MN, and our daughter has attended Minnetonka schools since kindergarten. Professionally, I am a self-employed futures trader, and I am also an investor in local start-up businesses. In the past, I have served on the Board of Directors of both the Minneapolis Grain Exchange, and the Minnesota State Chess Association. I hold a BA degree in Economics from the University of Chicago, and an MBA from the University of Minnesota.

There are a number of reasons why I would like to join the Anchor Club Board. Our family has benefitted greatly from Minnetonka Aquatics programming for several years, and I feel that the current Board has done a great job assisting Minnetonka Aquatics in its mission of providing high-quality aquatic services to a wide cross-section of our community. However, I understand that several of the current Board members wish to reduce their involvement in the Anchor Club, due to a natural decrease in their families' participation in Minnetonka Aquatics programming. I would like to help provide a succession plan for the Board that current board members can feel comfortable with. I would also like to help the Minnetonka Aquatics staff make the best use of the resources available to them. I believe the staff is highly competent and knowledgeable in their areas of expertise, and I believe the biggest contribution the Anchor Club Board can make is to help ensure that the staff has the resources and support they need to do their jobs in the way they best see fit.

Thank you for considering me as a prospective Anchor Club Board member.

Ann Rhodes:

My background includes sales for at a company called Chart Industries and the manufacturer cryogenic tanks. I have volunteered on various committees with the Minnetonka public schools including ski team, parenting committees at my children's schools. Tonka United soccer club, and the Minnetonka swim club. I am married and live in Chanhassen. We have 2 children the youngest who swims for Minnetonka swim club.

The reason for me wanting to join the board is to help with the start up with the prospect of the new pool and to keep the communications with the parents and families of the swim club up to speed. I have a large involvement with the coaches and parents now through volunteering with the swim club but would like to have that moved into the whole swim community. I love the idea that this is not a parent run organization yet see a need for my skills to help enhance to overall goals for the club.