Nominations and Acceptances

Board of Directors

I am sending in this email as an official nomination for Ryhannon Young for the position of Board of Directors.

I feel that this member would be a great fit in the Board of Directors as she has many years in CGA as an arena manager for a past club as well as a youth president and as present she works side by side with the match race crew for every match race at state show! She has always been available to answer questions and has helped several members in their goals.

Ryhannon has been there whenever a clarification is needed and has come up with some great ideas when the think tank is open!! Ha ha.

I feel that she would be a great asset for CGA and its members.

Respectfully
Monique

I am very grateful for being nominated for the position of Board of Directors. I have been a member and supporter of CGA for approximately 30 years. I promise to uphold and follow all the rules and regulations to represent the members of CGA for now and the future.

Sincerely,

Ryhannon Young

****

I would like to nominate Amy Odom-Tollison for another term on the CGA Board of Directors.

Amy brings energy, dedication, and enthusiasm to CGA. She is an advocate for our youth, creating memorable experiences through her carnival games at the State Show, organizing activities for riders of all ages, and cheering on competitors from the sidelines at district and state events. Her encouragement and support help create a positive environment for every participant. In addition to her commitment to our youngest members, Amy has the knowledge and experience to effectively advocate for our more advanced and fastest riders.

This past year, Amy became a carded judge, further demonstrating her commitment to CGA and her desire to give back. She is always willing to help at any district she attends, offering her experience, fairness, and positive attitude to benefit both riders and fellow volunteers.

I believe Amy truly embodies the core values of CGA. She promotes positive horsemanship, sportsmanship and fair competition, while leading by example. Her dedication and willingness to serve allows me to enthusiastically support her nomination for CGA Board of Directors.

~Demetria Iacocca

I gladly accept.

Hi my name is Amy Odom-Tollison. I've been part of CGA since 1990. I've seen the good the bad and the ugly. And I still believe with my whole heart that CGA is the best organization out there by far!! As a CGA member I've done countless fundraisers for not only my districts but some of the biggest fundraisers for state show awards program. I've brought back the kids carnival at state show and helped bring back family games at state.

Ive been a rider, and a mom of a rider. Ive competed from fc to AAA+ so I feel I can represent all riders and their families as a board of director. Please vote for me

Thank you

Amy Odom-Tollison

****

I would like to nominate Jessica Pacheco for Board of Director. Jessica puts a lot of thought into discussion items and truly looks at what is best for CGA as a whole. She is also dedicated to CGA and takes the time to research items she wishes to be more familiar with and comes to each meeting prepared to speak on the agenda items presented. I believe she would again be an asset to the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Marnie Nessen
CGA Member

I would like to nominate Jessica Pacheco for a second term on the Board of Directors for CGA.

Jessica continues to be a good candidate because she demonstrates strong communication skills, leadership, and a genuine commitment to supporting the growth and development of younger riders within our association. Through her example she has shown riders that gymkhana is not only about competition or winning. She encourages riders to appreciate the importance of individual achievement, good sportsmanship, respect for fellow competitors, and, most importantly, the love and care of their horses.

Her ability to communicate with riders of different ages and experience levels is a valuable quality for a Board member. She leads by example and contributes to creating an environment where riders feel welcomed, encouraged, and supported. Her perspective as a rider who understands both the competitive and personal aspects of gymkhana would be an asset to the Board. For these reasons I feel strongly in my support for Jessica Pacheco for a second term on the CGA Board of Directors.

~Demetria Iacocca

Thank you both for your nominations, it means a lot to hear such kind words from two ladies I respect and care for very much! I eagerly accept the nomination. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as a director these last two years, and I continue to look forward to serving the organization for many years to come.

-Jessica Pacheco

****

I'd like to nominate Jill Druzgala for the Board of Directors. I enjoy working with Jill and I know she has CGA's best interests at heart.

Thank You!

Jim

I am happy to accept this Board of Directors nomination. CGA has been a big and very important part of most of my life, and I feel like this is a great opportunity to get even more involved in a sport I love. Thank you for the nomination!

Jill Druzgala

****

I would like to nominate Marleah Gonzales for board of Director. She has always been a great advocate for both CGA and the southern districts.

Marnie Nessen
CGA Member

Thank you for the nomination, I, Marleah Gonzales very humbly accept it.

I have been a member of CGA for 13 years now. As a trainer and instructor, I appreciate the platform CGA has allowed for me to educate and promote my riders of all levels and cannot wait to support and guide this amazing association into the future.

****

Board of Governors

I'd like to nominate Timmi Lemen for Board of Governors.

Timmi continues to demonstrate a genuine dedication to supporting our members and ensuring that CGA remains strong.

Thank You!

Jim Nessen
Vice President

To the California Gymkhana Association:

It is my honor to nominate Timmi Lemen for a position on the California Gymkhana Association Board of Governors. With many years of involvement in CGA, Timmi brings an extraordinary depth of knowledge, experience, and dedication to the organization.

Timmi currently serves as Vice President of CGA District 3, is a Master Judge, and is truly a master of arena setup. However, her contribution to CGA extends far beyond her titles and technical expertise. Timmi genuinely wants every rider to succeed and is always willing to share CGA's values, mission, and love of riding with others.

For many years, Timmi has been most comfortable in the arena, where her knowledge and skill have made her an invaluable part of running successful shows. More recently, she has intentionally stepped outside of that comfort zone and begun learning how to run the show office. Her willingness to take on a new role, learn another side of show operations, and continue expanding her knowledge after five decades in CGA speaks volumes about her character. This experience is making her an even more knowledgeable, versatile, and valuable asset to the organization.

Timmi is fair, honest, dependable, and committed to following CGA's rules. She maintains excellent records and approaches decisions thoughtfully and matter-of-factly. She does not tolerate negative behavior that takes away from the experience of others, yet she makes a sincere effort to consider situations through perspectives other than her own.

Throughout her years in CGA, Timmi has helped countless riders overcome challenges, accomplish goals in the saddle, and achieve some of their fastest times. I have personally witnessed the difference she makes. She has helped my daughter grow as a rider, and she is now helping me grow in my own riding journey. Her knowledge, patience, and belief in her riders have meant more to us than I can adequately express.

Although Timmi carries decades of CGA history and wisdom, she is not resistant to change. She is willing to try new ideas and continually looks for ways to keep the organization moving forward and connected to today's riders and families. That combination of long standing experience, continued growth, and forward thinking would be invaluable on the Board of Governors.

Timmi brings vast knowledge, sound judgment, integrity, and her own unmistakable charisma to CGA. The organization would be remiss not to benefit from her experience and voice on the Board of Governors. I wholeheartedly nominate Timmi Lemen and believe she would serve CGA and its members with fairness, honesty, and unwavering dedication.

Sincerely,
Jamie Manalo

I'm honored to be nominated for this important position. I will continue to work towards our organization's best interests, transparency and fairness. I have been on the Board of Directors for many years, the BoG since 2015, as the President, then Board of Governor as the Chair. I spearheaded introducing regular updates to our Board of Directors and members. Am unafraid to make the hard decisions that benefit all our members. Please consider voting for me. The current Board has been moving CGA in a positive direction, I wish to continue our direction.

Thank you, Timmi Lemen

****

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend Allyson Shiffrar for a position on the Board of Governors. Having been an active part of the California Gymkhana Association for over 15 years, Allyson has consistently demonstrated the passion, leadership, and unwavering work ethic necessary to serve our organization at its highest level.

Allyson brings a wealth of leadership experience to this role. She has served on the CGA Board of Directors for many years, as well as serving dedicated years on the District 40 Board. Through her extensive service at both the state and district levels, she has gained a thorough understanding of our association's operations, rules, and community needs.

Beyond her leadership credentials, Allyson is the true definition of a hands-on, dedicated member. Whenever a need arises—whether it involves event logistics, supporting riders, or stepping up behind the scenes—she is always ready to jump in and help. Her years of service reflect a deep, ongoing commitment to the growth, integrity, and future of the CGA family.

Allyson's long-standing dedication, institutional knowledge, and service-minded approach make her an exceptional addition to the Board of Governors. I have complete confidence in her ability to contribute meaningfully to the board's decision-making process and help guide our association forward.

Thank you,
Samantha Coelho

Thank you for the kind nomination and recommendation. I am honored to be considered and would be pleased to accept the nomination for the Board of Governor position. CGA has been an important part of my life for many years, and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue serving and supporting the organization.

Thank you again,
Allyson Shiffrar

****

I would like to nominate Mariah Coles to run for Board Of Governor.

Fayra Staas

Dear Members of the California Gymkhana Association,

I am honored to accept the nomination to serve on the Board of Governors of the California Gymkhana Association.

I am grateful to the member who nominated me and appreciate the confidence and trust they have placed in me. It would be a privilege to contribute my time, experience, and efforts to the Association and to support its continued growth and success.

I respectfully look forward to presenting myself for consideration by the membership and, if elected, to serving alongside the other members of the Board with dedication, integrity, and a commitment to the values and traditions of the California Gymkhana Association.

Thank you for the opportunity and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mariah Coles