

General announcement:

Hi all,

We have finished the nomination period for the 2026-28 Board and are now moving into the voting period. See below for the list of nominees, we have 9 people running for 9 Board positions. Please pick your top 9 and send that list of names to me, Jason Smucker, via email: Jason@usba.org with the subject line "2026-28 USBA Board Vote". Or you can vote online through the forthcoming poll on [USBA.org](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe18xPjuzQ3C704SSXzYA7yLmuE8sA4U-SH510kbZtLVzu37w/viewform?usp=publish-editor). Or through this Google Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe18xPjuzQ3C704SSXzYA7yLmuE8sA4U-SH510kbZtLVzu37w/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

As was done for the previous 3 elections, while Board nominees are allowed to list a "Preferred position", their exact position will be sorted out internally on the first conference call held after election votes are tallied.

Votes will be recorded between now and September 21st. Afterwards they will be tallied so the new Board can take over as soon as possible.

If anyone on social media has trouble with this list and it's formatting, please try looking directly at this Google Doc:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aJ3U6jxQea6M8hIKSNdeMCgA4iMWOabd/edit?usp=sharing>

Canidate Statements can be read here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CbZ22JDGpRIW7hpCd6G8fKwH7k4h-S-D/view?usp=drive_link

I look forward to hearing from all of you, and to seeing a new Board take over soon.

Cheers,

Jason Smucker, USBA Secretary, Jason@USBA.org

Nominee list (Pick 9 of 10):

1. Kenny Barr
2. Richard Bower
3. Logan Broadbent
4. George Essig
5. Betsylew Miale-Gix
6. Tom Luczycki
7. Jason Smucker
8. Jim Schramm
9. John Flynn

Mission Statements:

1. Kenny Barr:

I would like to run for an at large position. Having served on the board in the past and having stepped away for several years to grow the sport more organically in Ohio (hosting tournaments in NE Ohio and promoting boomerangs within the Jeep community), my mission is pretty simple. 1) to bring a different and fresh view to the board and 2) to help however I can.

2. Richard Bower:

Hi all, I would like to throw my hat into the ring for the 2026-28 term. Being President for this past term has been challenging. I am willing to keep doing my best to organize and support the rest of the Board into doing all the work we are obliged to do and more! My main goals would be to continue to update our internal organization to a more digital oriented space, that would make future updates and changes easier.

3. Logan Broadbent:

Richard: Logan indicated on the last call he would be in for another term.

Hey Jason! Sorry for the delay! Yes! Put me down for an at large position! Thank you!

It's been an incredible honor serving in several USBA board positions for the past several terms. I'm asking for your vote so I can continue serving the boomerang community and the USBA as a "board-member-at-large". This would allow me to drive follow through with existing initiatives and continue to focus on growing the sport with young throwers. Continuing with the "at-large" USBA role will also allow me to focus on my obligations to the International Federation of Boomerang Associations and still advocate on behalf of the USBA members without a conflict of interest. Thank you for your trust and support!

4. George Essig

Hi, I'm George Essig. I'm running for an at-large position on the USBA Board. I would like to help the organization promote the joy of throwing boomerangs. I believe I would do a good job of working with others to run its current activities and grow membership. I started throwing boomerangs 20 years ago and have a passion for boomerang throwing, making and competition. I look forward to sharing my joy of boomerangs and contributing to the USBA Board.

5. Betsylew Miale-Gix:

Good things are happening in the USBA. We have the financial ability to do more to promote grass roots thrower growth. We have developed the online membership and presence. Now to

build the hands on throwers and crafters. We can work to build on and support our new thrower groups and to use their models to generate more. I have put out ideas to do that as have others who are also willing to do the work next term. I would appreciate your vote.

6. Tom Luczycki:

I would like to run for an at-large board position with the USBA for the next 2-year term.

I would like the members of the USBA to consider me for another term as an at-large board member. While I have recently dipped my toe back into competition, my true nature is that of a casual sport thrower. I continue to be awestruck of the magic and poetry of a Boomerang in flight, and don't necessarily want/need to compare my development and progress with that of others. The competition is with myself. Part of my role within the USBA has been and will continue to be to advocate for this portion of our electorate, helping to provide them with meaningful content through my continued efforts with the *Many Happy Returns* newsletter. Almost by definition boomerangs are a solitary effort, attractive to both extroverted introverts, and introverted extroverts. I believe such throwers form the majority, and by supporting them all aspects of our sport will flourish.

7. Jason Smucker:

I am running for a USBA board position because I would like to give back to the organization and the community that have helped me grow and thrive as a boomerang enthusiast. My passion is to develop relationships between boomerang enthusiasts and to grow the sport and hobby into the next generation. I want to encourage and promote local boomerang networks that provide the opportunity for new and developing throwers to grow and be encouraged in their boomerang interests.

8. Jim Schramm:

I'm Rev. Jim Schramm and I'd like to continue serving as Vice President for the 2026-2028 term. My focus over the past few terms on the board has been on increasing youth involvement, helping provide new throwers with better equipment, and encouraging new throwers. I was proud to help bring the first US National Youth Team to Bordeaux in 2022, and I want to keep building on that momentum so more young throwers can discover and grow in our sport.

I've also been involved in the new USBA website launch and our other modernization efforts, and I'd like to keep pushing those forward while staying grounded in the fun, community side of throwing. I'm committed to supporting more events, working to help regional clubs, and helping the USBA grow in a sustainable way. Thanks for your support!

9. Jacques Sabrie:

I would like to continue as a Board Member at Large and help the USBA to reach out to new throwers, advance the state of our sport, and help with the USBA web site

10. Tommy Gruchala: At Large

I am planning to not run again 😞

My early career has been pretty demanding and I think another candidate would be able to better contribute to the board compared to my recent term

11. John Flynn:

I plan to run again as an at-large board member.

I'm seeking another term as member-at-large to focus on content for the Many Happy Returns newsletter and whatever other issues my experience as a 45-year USBA member, and former treasurer and president, can assist with. I continue to run an annual USBA event in the northeast and will continue as long as it is viable to do so.