



## **Elected Director Nominees Personal Statements**

Elected Director Vacancies to be voted on at 2024 AGM

## **Details of the roles**

In 2024 there are four elected director vacancies on Archery GB's board as two of the members have reached the end of their first term and two directors have served their maximum time limit on the board. We are seeking highly motivated and skilled members to assist the organisation and to complement the skills of the existing directors.

The chosen candidates will play a valuable role in shaping the future of the sport.

To complement existing board skills, the current directors are seeking members who ideally have demonstrable experience of one or both of the following areas:

- Equality, diversity, and inclusivity
- An understanding of the Pathway programme in archery

Additional useful skills include:

- Strategy development
- Digital business transformation
- Club development
- Experience of generating funding/sponsorship

Archery GB is committed to equality, diversity and inclusivity and therefore the directors asked each candidate to include in their statement how they would be able to support the Board's role in achieving this.

Below you can read the candidate profiles of the four nominees who have been shortlisted for the roles. Please read the profiles carefully to help you decide your vote.

All eligible members will be given the opportunity to vote online or via post depending on the member's preference captured within the membership portal. Votes will be carried forward to the AGM meeting.



## **Elected Director Nominee Profiles**

### **Candidate one**

**Name: Anthony Barclay MBE**

#### **Candidate statement:**

Archery is a highly inclusive sport, open to all ages and abilities. As a visually impaired archer, soon to complete the innovative VI instructor's course, I very much value every aspect of the sport. Alongside archery, I am also an ultramarathon runner, as well as the first qualified VI running coach in Northern Ireland.

I am also a volunteer consultant with 'Sported', a UK charity providing support to grassroots sports clubs, specialising in governance and safeguarding, as well as independent member of RNIB's national safeguarding committee. I bring some 30 years' experience in the Third Sector, including 16 years as a Trustee/Director, including Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Safeguarding lead. I am focused, dedicated, and highly experienced in all matters related to governance.

I was the winner of Sported Volunteer of the Year 2019, Sport Gives Back Volunteer of the Year 2020, Sported Award for Inclusion 2022, and the Archery GB Gussy award for Disability in Archery 2023. I was also awarded an MBE for services to the visually impaired community in Northern Ireland in 2023.

I very much look forward to supporting Archery GB and my fellow members as a director.

## **Candidate two**

**Name: Dr Carol Bladen**

### **Candidate statement:**

My passion for archery, honed through more than 30 years of competition and 5 years of county-level coaching, fuels my desire to serve on the AGB board and make a national impact on our sport.

As an archer and coach, I intimately understand the diverse needs of our community – from archers to coaches, staff, and volunteers. This first-hand perspective will help to guide my decision-making, ensuring equitable access to resources and opportunities for all.

Beyond passion, I bring proven experience:

- Fundraising and resource allocation: As a doctor, I have successfully partnered with sponsors and allocated resources effectively, both in my archery club and professionally
- Leadership and teamwork: My experience organising, collaborating, and managing teams ensures efficient operations and strong partnerships
- Supporting others: I'm dedicated to empowering individuals, be it young archers reaching their potential, volunteers finding their place, or promoting archery's inclusivity

I firmly believe my unique blend of passion, experience, and commitment makes me an ideal candidate to serve on the AGB board. I'm keen to collaborate with fellow directors to shape the future of archery and create a thriving, inclusive sport for all.

### **Candidate three**

**Name: Andrew Stanford**

#### **Candidate statement:**

Well, 4 years sure have come around quick in the world of Archery GB. This marks the end of my first 4 year term as an Elected Board Director of Archery GB voted in by you.

When I joined the board, we were still navigating our way through Covid and the challenges that we faced. During this time, we have seen the departure of one CEO and the arrival of Ruth our new CEO. The launch of our new website and the completion of our new Performance Archery Centre.

With that said, I feel that we all came together as a team and worked well, not only as a board of directors, but as part of the wider SLT and archery community. For those of you that know me well, you will know that since joining the board, I have not judged any less. In fact, due to Covid, it has probably meant that I now judge more competitions. But hey, I love judging! I was never going to be a great archer, so being on a competition field, enjoying the banter with all you lovely archers gives me the same buzz as being in a comp myself.

Before I joined the board, I said that Board Directors should be more visible and approachable for our members. Since joining, not only have I attended many competitions in an official capacity; we as a board have attended more events and clubs than we ever previously have. Which is great!

I have personally taken on a number of roles. I am the board lead for Anti-Doping within the NGB, a new member of the Nominations & Remunerations Committee and the acting Chairman for Archery NI. I have loved the last 4 years in post and would really like to stay for another 4 years. I still have lots of work to do, changes to see through and many more years, months, weeks, days and hours to give to our sport.

I would be delighted again if I could receive your vote for re-election for the next 4 year term supporting our fantastic sport.

Thank you,

Andy

## **Candidate four**

**Name: Victoria Barby**

### **Candidate statement:**

I am fortunate to have found a sport which I love and one which offers different opportunities and experiences for all ages and levels of ability. I would like to continue on the Board of Archery GB and be involved in shaping the future of the sport I love. I would do this by ensuring that Archery GB works hard for all its members and builds on its programme of membership engagement, as this is vital for its success.

I am a compound archer who has been a member of Archery GB since 2009. I shoot target, field and 3D archery. I am by no means an elite archer but have had success in each of these disciplines. I have competed for Great Britain 4 times, twice in field archery and twice in 3D archery, I have made the National Tour final, and attended GB Target and Field Squads.

Although no longer actively shooting, I am currently working towards my session coach award and I'm planning to set up an after-school archery club at my son's school in Edinburgh. I'm really enjoying learning how to coach and I'm looking forward to inspiring a new generation of archers.

In my professional career I work in Sustainable Development, and I am keen to explore opportunities to improve Archery GB's environmental performance and embed sustainability across the organisation.

I would be grateful if you would use your 'One Member One Vote' to vote for me to join your Board.

Thank you.