

Statement of Margaret Girard Candidate for the position of CJSA Secretary in the election to be held January 25, 2020.

The CJSA membership will have the opportunity to vote at the 2020 Annual General Meeting for the position of CJSA Secretary. I have placed my name in nomination for the position because I have a unique combination of experience and expertise to bring to this essential function.

Through my experiences with my children and my community, I have learned the important role that soccer can play in a child's life. I have been engaged for over 25 years as a volunteer in organizations dedicated to providing opportunities for kids to participate in organized soccer, at the local grass roots level as well as state and federal organizations. I am running for the office of CJSA Secretary because I believe that CJSA is the best vehicle to provide these opportunities for all Connecticut youth and that I have the unique skills to enhance CJSA and its support of youth soccer as its Secretary. While the primary role of the Secretary is to draft and distribute the minutes of Board meetings, the Connecticut statutes concerning corporations also assign responsibility for the development and maintenance of the corporate records. The Secretary is also a member of the CJSA Emergency Committee.

I have been employed as a corporate attorney in Connecticut for over 30 years. This training and experience, along with my years of involvement with youth soccer at many levels, provide a unique background for service to CJSA as Secretary. My background will aid in the drafting of minutes to legally capture the Board's actions. This sounds simple but good corporate records start with the minutes, and the minutes are an important tool for currently communicating and documenting for future inquiries the actions of the Board of Directors. I also have the expertise to review and assist in the drafting of CJSA other documents, such as contracts, insurance policies and official communications. Making sure that these documents are clear, capture the essence of the arrangement we have reached or the information to be communicated and are appropriately maintained is important, and an area I can support as Secretary. In addition, effective record retention practices – both with respect to what records are kept or destroyed as well as how records are stored and retrieved – are essential and

require ongoing attention. It would be my goal as secretary to work with staff to address these issues, with the goal to maintain only needed documents in a way that facilitates identification and retrieval as well as to effectively manage the risk of maintaining documents that contain private information. This work sounds mundane, but it is increasingly important to protecting the ability of CJSA to carry out its goals and objectives and assist your efforts to serve Connecticut youth.

To summarize, I care passionately about maintaining and growing youth soccer opportunities in Connecticut. I see the CJSA Secretary position as having an important role in supporting CJSA's endeavors and I have the experience and expertise to perform the Secretary responsibilities well. I ask for your support in the election and if elected, in working to move CJSA forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Girard