



**Avinash Gaje**  
Ph-(732) 619-9266  
Email -  
[agaje@yahoo.com](mailto:agaje@yahoo.com)  
Web -  
<http://www.AviGajeforUSACricket.org>

**“Promote cricket in the United States based on the principles of Unity, Integrity, Accountability, Transparency, and Professional Governance to Make Cricket The Next Big Thing in America.”**

**Avinash Gaje** is an avid cricket player, passionate fan and keen administrator of long standing. He is a cricket evangelist and the founder and president of one of the largest Cricket Leagues in USA, namely the very popular New Jersey Soft Ball Cricket League (NJSBCL) which has over 150 cricket clubs participating each year. His passion and unprecedented commitment towards the sport drives him to not only participate as an active player but also to dedicate his personal time and resources to tirelessly organize premier league matches to support players and fans alike.

He continues to interact with premier global cricket organizations (BCCI/ICC) and various leagues/clubs within the United States to promote the game of cricket in America. His driving ambition is **to promote American cricket** at all levels and also to create a platform of talent discovery to enable established players to compete and gain the highest accolades and to create a **pathway for the younger generation** to showcase their talents. His goal is to nurture talented players across the nation to be part of the U.S. National Team, selected on talent, inclusivity, fairness and skills.

Avinash has been working relentlessly for the past several years to provide representation to all American cricket constituents. He has successfully faced and overcome countless challenges. He has established checks and balances for conflicting interests by using a team-driven, problem-solving, can-do attitude.

Avinash is driven by the sole purpose of maintaining the critical focus of the proposed USA Cricket Board towards the growth & development of USA Cricket. His singular goal is to create and **implement Vision 2027 – World Championship for Team USA in 2027 as a host nation**. This vision is based on his extensive experience that includes multiple notable achievements namely:

- **Founder & President** - New Jersey Soft Ball Cricket League (NJSBCL)
- **Steering Committee Member** – American Cricket Federation (ACF)
- **Founding Director** - American Cricket Federation (ACF)
- **Advisory Board Member** – National School of Cricket
- **U.S. Liaison Manager** for Team India / Indian National Team for T20 Games in USA

Avinash has a proven track record of strategy, planning, execution and delivery. The Proposed Board will benefit from his versatile multi-asset capabilities including:

- **Extensive League Management experience** – founding and managing NJSBCL which is currently the largest cricket league in USA. NJSBCL manages 7000+ members, hosting 62 games every weekend for 20 weeks of every summer totaling over 1200 games per summer.
- **Mature Leadership** – Demonstrated leadership in NJSBCL & ACF boards by providing direction & motivation for a talented pool of selfless individuals driven purely by passion and not seeking any compensation. Highlighted weaknesses in existing processes and worked collaboratively to find creative alternatives. Followed through by working relentlessly to implement effective solutions. Avinash strongly believe that a collaborative and team approach to problem solving are fundamental to developing trust, respect and confidence in the new Board
- **Reproducing Workable Models** – adopting a fast development principle of reproducing what works right and also applying a rinse and repeat process that would be a key asset for effective infrastructure development
- **Grass root development understanding** – deep understanding of on-the-ground issues and their resolution, having worked at the lowest level as a volunteer for multiple years.

Avinash has a team driven, selfless working style and has done extensive work in **giving back to the community**. He has been a participant and organizer of various philanthropic, non-profit fund raisers for various organizations, including – *Pratham, Magic Bus, Children Hope, Asha and Save Indian Farmers*.

Avinash holds an MBA in Operations Management and a B.E. in Mechanical Engineering from Bombay University. He has worked and contributed at various multinational organizations. He presently works at a company that specializes in Enterprise IT for the Pharmaceutical industry. He founded the company in 2005 and lives in Dayton, NJ with his wife and two daughters.

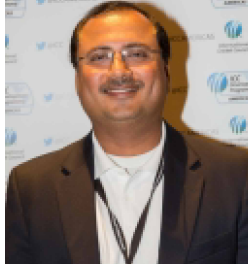
## **Ramesh Immadi statement:**

With the experience of being founding President for Cricket for Cubs ([www.cricketforcubs.org](http://www.cricketforcubs.org)) through which we have introduced cricket in more than 16 schools in 3 different school districts in last 3 years where cricket is being coached by trained and professional coaches around the year on weekly basis with these teams playing the inter-school tournament twice a year and also, with the experience of working with different cities and school districts to establish cricket as part of P.E. in middle schools and building the infrastructure in three different cities where we introduced cricket to more than 3000 youth, I want to:

- Bring awareness within the American cricket stake holders on the need to focus on promoting the youth cricket at grassroots level.
- Build a sustainable model / program for the youth cricket at grass roots level which is a bridge between rookie league and youth competitive league.
- Build a 4 year plan for each state using which cricket is recognized as an official sport.
- Create a playbook using which we can create a self-sustained program in the communities by which new infrastructure can be built.
- Put a structure in place to have youth league at city, regional and national level.
- Work with other country youth board members to establish the bi-lateral tours for U15 & U17



## Ajay Jhamb - Candidate for Individual Director



**Dear members of USA Cricket, I'm seeking your support and vote as the candidate for Individual Director position.**

**About me** - I'm founder of American Cricket Academy and Club (ACAC) in St. Louis, the mission of ACAC is to serve the community and teach kids the value of giving by medium of cricket. I have defined founding values **Character, Community and Cricket** which is to bring the change in cricket culture around us. We through all of these outlets, partner with parents and empower kids to embody virtues such as respect, honesty and integrity as they prepare to become confident and responsible citizens in the world they will inherit.

I know what it takes to work at grass root level as for the past couple of years, I have introduced cricket in more than 50+ schools/universities and have attended **Missouri and National PE conferences** to introduce cricket to more than 5000 students and 2000 PE teachers. The result of these efforts was we had Midwest's first ever **Inter-School Tournament** in St. Louis participated by more than 100 area school children.

We also got an opportunity to present at Youth seminar held at Colorado Springs to share our unique culture and concept of "more than cricket". Also shared inputs in advisory board and developing coaching curriculum for USA Cricket with ICC Americas team and other leaders across the nation. Now as one of the **Lead for Rookie League Program**, will work with my team and do everything within my means to put bat and ball in the hands of school children to continue grow the game.

Recognized as [Social Entrepreneur](#) in our community and also awarded **Presidential Volunteer Service Award**. I'm also a Board Member of Economic Development Center and a Lead Facilitator for our program Educate2Succeed which serves underprivileged kids.

Also led a team to contribute more than 600K to build a top class infrastructure for cricket by acquiring 20 acres land in St. Louis Region.

### **Professional Achievements**

**Passionate, driven global technology leader** with 20+ years' experience building and managing complex, scalable, high-performance, value-add IT organizations and solutions.

**Visionary strategist** able to identify fresh solutions, inspire diverse stakeholders with a clear and compelling vision, transcend obstacles, and tenaciously execute to deliver target results.

**Transformative leader** known for attracting highly talented IT staff, mobilizing world-class teams that produce superior value for customers, fostering collaboration, and nurturing individual greatness in team members.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at [ajayjhamb@acacstl.org](mailto:ajayjhamb@acacstl.org) or 636-542-1731.



## **JATIN PATEL**

Dear Fellow Cricket players, members & Cricket Stakeholders,  
I am seeking your vote and support as Individual Director candidate  
for the inaugural USA Cricket Board

I was player, coach and cricket club owner in USA and that extensive  
experience with expertise will allow me to help the new board to  
strengthen working capabilities for the USA cricket community.

Besides my honors as true volunteer of the game, I have helped many leagues, Clubs,  
Academies and after school youth programs to develop / train new coaches and continue  
to help them to grow or expands this game.

Americans do not play cricket, as they do not know the game and my vision is to educate  
America for the cricket so they can try the game and we can take this game forward. I  
have done extensive work in the school and college cricket education as well as to develop  
scholastic cricket program for the PE teachers & college / University Undergraduates.

During last 10+ years I have spent more time to help cricket with in school education  
programs as well as coach to coach training for after school or community programs to  
help youth cricket at all levels.

Besides cricket I have 18+ years of soccer coaching, officiating administrative &  
management experience here in USA at high school and higher level. Knowing US sports  
(Soccer, Volleyball) and cricket together, I am confident as I can contribute more to  
develop this game in USA. I am upbeat to unite USA cricket community for development  
and taking cricket to the next level for USA Cricket.

I am bringing unique qualifications and expertise to the new board which can benefit  
cricket to sustain its activities for a longer period.

I moved to USA 31+ years back from India and I have kept my interest high to help  
others in Sport Cricket. This new opportunity will give me another chance to prove my  
interest with desire to help the cricket community in USA as true dedicated volunteer.

I can *assure* you that you won't be disappointed with my willingness to work to  
bring transparency & accountability with fair opportunities for all while working  
towards unifying USA cricket community as a board member.

For more information,

Please feel free to contact me at [forjatin@gmail.com](mailto:forjatin@gmail.com) or call 317-414-3989



**Venu Pisike**

Ph-(404) 519-5428

email -

vpisike@gmail.com

web -

<http://www.unityforUSAcricquet.org>

**“Promote cricket in the United States based on the principles of Unity, Integrity, Accountability, Transparency, and Professional Governance to Make Cricket the Next Big Thing in America.”**

**Venu Pisike** is an ardent Cricket lover, active player, and able administrator. He is the founder and Trustee of one of the largest Cricket Leagues in USA, **Atlanta Cricket League (ACL)**, which has over 130 cricket clubs participating each year. He truly understands the importance of cultivating interest towards the sport of cricket in younger generations and hence founded **Atlanta Cricket Academy (ACA)**. After 4 years of inception, ACA is training more 60 young professionals. Venu organized Kids Cricket Camps since 2008 with many National and International Coaches. He is a proud father of a young Cricket Player.

The following list of accomplishments demonstrate Venu’s leadership and administrative capabilities.

- 12 years of experience organizing Leagues, Tournaments, Coaching Camps
- **Founder** ‘Atlanta Cricket League’ in 2007, currently a 130 club League
- **President** ‘Atlanta Cricket League’ in 2007 & 2008
- **Chairman** Board of Directors, Atlanta Cricket League in 2012
- **Founder** ‘Atlanta Cricket Academy’ in 2014
- Initiated new Cricket Ball League ‘ACA Cricket League’ in 2018 with 14 clubs

Venu has a proven track record of growing the sport with limited resources through planning, stakeholder alignment, and establishing working relationship with Govt. authorities and flawless execution. USA cricket board can benefit by having Venu as Board of director

- **Extensive League Administration experience** – founding and managing ACL (Atlanta Cricket League) and Atlanta Cricket Academy (ACA). ACL manages 2000+ members, hosting 60 games in both Hard Tennis and Cricket Ball Leagues. ACA conducts Coaching sessions Four days each week for young aspiring cricketers.
- **Leadership & Integrity** – Demonstrated leadership in ACL and ACA by designing events and competitions that involves various levels of players. Created charity tournaments to give back to the community. ACL conducts a Charity Tournament every fall to raise funds for local and international charities helping Children’s Health and Education. Able to develop pool of selfless volunteers who dedicate their time to run the day-day operations of the League and Academy
- **Issue Resolution** – having experience of League operations for 10+ years have deep understanding of, day-day operational issues and effective solutions to resolve them
- **Fundraising** – Have developed strong relationships with businesses, and successful in involving them to fund generously to support League Operations, Kids Camps, Coaching Sessions, Coach Education, Charity fundraising events

Venu holds a Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering from Gulbarga University. He pursued his career in United States in 1998 and since then worked and contributed at various multinational organizations. With his passion to thrive as an Entrepreneur, established Oracle Services Company ‘Ecovue Solutions, LLC’ in 2011 and currently helps several Big Corporations to implement and support Oracle Solutions. Currently he manages Sales & Operations at Ecovue Solutions and lives in Cumming, GA with his wife, son and daughter.

I humbly request your vote in my favor for the **Individual Director** category and provide me the opportunity to serve the sport we all cherished from our childhood. I will do whatever it takes to unite the cricket community and implement the goals of USA Cricket.



**CANDIDATE STATEMENT  
USA CRICKET**

**SHANTHA SURaweERA**

By profession I am an engineer working as a Cost Estimating Manager for O'Connor Construction Management, Inc., but cricket has always been my passion. I moved to Orange County in 1997 and at that time there was no organized cricket in the area. Over the last two decades I have worked hard to change that.

In 2000, I founded the Orange County Lions Cricket Club and the Orange County Cricket Association (OCCA). Over the years it has grown and today I am proud to say that the OCCA league regularly hosts 8-12 teams per season (winter & summer) and the Orange County Lions Cricket Club fields 2 teams in OCCA league.

More recently, I have founded the Southern California Youth Cricket Academy (SCYCA) and organized the Southern California Youth Cricket League (SCYCAL). Three under fifteen youth teams have been participating in SCYCAL since 2016 with plans to expand SCYCAL to under thirteen youths this year. Furthermore, I am heading a program to introduce cricket to the Orange County school system. Up to date, we have successfully introduced cricket to over 12 elementary, middle and high schools and continue to work to expand this outreach program.

On a regional level, I served as the team manager for the United States Cricket Association's South West Regional team and traveled with them to the 2010 National Tournament in Florida. I also served as the OCCA team manager for the American Champions Cricket League (ACCL), organized by the American Cricket Federation (ACF). On a national level, I served on the Board of Directors for ACF and was instrumental in organizing the ACCL National Cricket Tournament in 2014-2015, and headed the ACF quarterly newsletter "American Cricketer" from 2015 to 2016.

I organized several coaching camps in Orange County to train coaching staff necessary for cricket development in collaboration with USACA, ACF and ICC. I am also a Certified Level – 2 coach and a Coach Trainer.

I still regularly play cricket in the OCCA league and my goal is to work hard to make sure that all leagues in the Western zone and across the U.S. will have proper fields and a medium to play quality cricket. Looking to the future, I plan to further the development of cricket in the West Zone / U.S. and continue to work to introduce cricket to the next generation.



# Suraj Viswanathan

Chairman, Bay Area Cricket Alliance

An accomplished and proven community leader with an emphasis on driving & executing strategic initiatives for developing cricket right from grass root level. Active in connecting and collaborating with City, County, School, Colleges, Corporates, and other cricketing local and national cricket communities. Propelling revenue through various channels, for the league to drive cricket initiatives deep into the community. Recognized for owning accountability and achieving success in cricket development programs at grass root levels and building partnership with cricket stakeholders.

I firmly believed that the best way to start active participation and integration with the community and to be of its service was to explore what brings the community together; what better way than sports in the USA. It was then that it dawned upon me to take up sports as my first vehicle to travel the journey of service for the community in Bay Area. Though I deliberated between various sports that I should pursue, it was clear that given my upbringing with cricket, that it would be the most natural and best choice. But the more important reason I chose to take cricket to the community was that the sport represented diversity and presented an opportunity. Playing cricket has been my childhood passion, and it was time for me give back the game and the community something they will be able to cherish and relate.

Recently, I was elected the Chairman of BACA (Bay Area Cricket Alliance). Before being the Chairman, I served as its Vice Chairman since 2011. Under my leadership, BACA has been driving cricket beyond the boundary by initiating and evangelizing the sport into the Bay Area Schools. As a leader committed to developing the game of cricket in this country, I follow a simple philosophy *“A vision without a plan is just a dream. A plan without a vision is just drudgery. But a vision with a plan can change the world”*. To this end, the below points represent a partial list of my vision, mission and plan for US cricket at a high level.

- Re-establish US as associate nation at ICC and pick & play competitive teams across age/gender/format in World Cup
- Promote cricket at the grass root level and as part of the curriculum at school districts with a renewed vigor
- Work with all stakeholders to develop state of the art “City and Cricket” specific infrastructure
- Encourage establishing professional league (USPL) to create a career platform for US players
- Creation of a robust fan base to help sustain, stabilize and surge a scalable revenue model (incl. RoI for sponsors)
- Ensure stringent governance and alignment of words and action complying and aligned to the new constitution

I look forward to serving on the USA Cricket Board with your help by getting me elected and working with you to achieve the goals we set for ourselves.

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# Individual Director Candidate Statement- Brian Walters

## Introduction

My name is Brian Walters- son of the biggest cricket fan on the planet; husband of a former Olympic sprinter; father of a college soccer player, as well as another young soccer player and cricketer; and I am pleased to announce my candidacy for the position of **Individual Director** in the inaugural election of the US Cricket Board.

As someone who has a tremendous passion for the game, I truly believe that the marriage of the world's second most popular sport, and the largest sporting market in the world, should produce better results than what have been evident thus far.

I know that, with a strong leadership team (starting with a qualified, experienced board of directors), we can elevate US cricket in a truly meaningful way; I am excited by the prospect of being part of this process.

As the former **chairman of the Governance Review Committee** with the United States of America Cricket Association, I presided over a governance review that exposed where our opportunities were within that organization, a process that I believe was an important stepping-stone that led us to where we are today.

I am proud of my past and ongoing association with the **International Cricket Council**, and was honoured to have been asked to be a part of the **US Local Advisory Group (LAG)** tasked with advising the ICC in their process of reforming US cricket following the suspension of USACA in 2015.

## Vision

My vision is fairly simple, and is in line with the goal emphasized in our LAG discussions; cricket needs to be the fastest growing participation sport in the US for girls and boys.

And while there are tremendous commercial, marketing, and high-performance opportunities associated with cricket, they mean nothing without a strong commitment to a grassroots culture that teaches the game to American children of all backgrounds. It is critical to create and sustain this culture; all of our efforts mean nothing without it.

## Background

Professionally, I own a business valuations and management consulting firm, which has allowed me to demonstrate a problem-solving mindset in all situations. And my vast experience in US cricket has been characterized by a strong commitment to allowing the game to succeed in the country.

More than anything else, however, it is my passion to see the game grow that has fostered what some have referred to as my "evangelist" mindset with regard to cricket; I am committed to creating a culture where every child who is allowed to hold a bat, or bowl (or even throw) a ball, will have the opportunity to do so.

I invite you to reach me at [bWalters@bwaConsultants.com](mailto:bWalters@bwaConsultants.com) for any clarifications on my suitability for this role.

My ESPNcricinfo interview on the importance of a youth cricket focus:  
[http://www.espncricinfo.com/usa/content/video\\_audio/907227.html](http://www.espncricinfo.com/usa/content/video_audio/907227.html)

My appearance on a Trinidad and Tobago TV station, speaking about the importance of cricket in the US:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAmBGI2vY8k>





## ICC USA Personal Statement re League Representative Position



**History and Experience** – I have been involved in US cricket since 1991. I have played national, junior representative cricket for Rhodesia/Zimbabwe, premier league in Rhodesia, South Africa, US and Canada. I have coached schools and youth cricket in South Africa and the USA. I have coached adult local and regional cricket. I was one of four people who started the North West Cricket League in Seattle in 1994 which has developed to become the USACA North West Region. As part of that coaching and development I helped develop and coached many US national team players. I have coached two of the six regions in the previous USACA structure; North West and Central West. I won the 50 over nationals with NWR and went to the finals of the T20 nationals with CWR.

**The Future of US Cricket** – I helped bring USACA to an end. I was one of the few voices that stood up to expose and highlight the corruption of Gladstone Dainty and many USACA board members, coaches, players and administrators. I stood by players and administrators who had the courage to stand for what was right. I have one guiding ethic and that is for individual players to be allowed to develop and be rewarded for their talent and hard work.

The future of US cricket is going to take challenging work. It will require leaving the past behind and not only having a clear vision for the future but finding ways to work together as a diverse community that is spread around a huge country. There is already so much happening by individual action, group cooperation and leagues who are doing the American thing – innovating and starting new leagues, academies and initiatives. Things are happening, but they need national leadership, guidance, tools for better, faster and long-lasting growth and connection to the big picture. This needs to happen at the local level.

**Funding US Cricket** - US cricket needs to become self-sustaining and self-determining. Though cricket is a foreign import, the US is a country where self-determination, the ability to freely start, innovate and create new structures and fund them is possibly better than any other place on the planet. The stakeholders of US cricket must not look to the ICC for what they can provide for themselves – money. We don't need to become a welfare child of the ICC. If we can build the infrastructure and create a sustainable and growing future for cricket in the US, we can fund it in the US and by those who have the local interest.

There is a long way to go. Leadership both national, regional and local needs to be developed and learn to trust each other. That trust is severely lacking because of the past.

**Position on Format** – I am a team player and will support national and ICC objectives. However, I have a staunch belief that T20 is the one and only format that will succeed in the USA. The most efficient and best use of time, effort and talent should be guided and invested in T20 alone. Why waste the next 5 years investing and having this generation submit to a losing proposition and the inevitability of the demise of the other forms of cricket? It is senseless and the US stakeholders need to have a voice on their future.



I am an MBA graduate from California University of Pennsylvania, and have been working for the past 23 years as an ERP Financials Application Consultant, solving complex business process challenges faced by many Fortune 100, 500 companies as my clients with most of them with revenues over US \$5Billion annually. I am married with 3 children 18, 14 and a 6 year old, a US citizen and reside in Newark DE. My US cricket career started with me playing in the WCL in 2000 and then founding New Castle County Cricket Club in 2003. That club is the most successful cricket club in the entire Eastern Pennsylvania/Delaware region, with four championship titles in the Philadelphia Cricket League and three of the four titles were under my captaincy of the club.

I founded Philadelphia Cricket League [www.youcricketer.com/pcl](http://www.youcricketer.com/pcl) in 2006 and currently serve as its Founder/President. PCL is the first cricket league as per my knowledge to offer cash prizes for its 40-Overs/One-Day version to its top winners. So far, we have given \$40,500 in cash prizes since 2012, provided live steaming of our 40-Overs match final on multiple sites, Man-of-the-Match trophies for every game (around 60-100 games every season), a festival-like environment at our final game

with free food for all players and spectators, music, live commentary, and moon bounce and horse rides for children.

I am co-founder and CEO of a social media site [www.Youcricketer.com](http://www.Youcricketer.com), one of the fastest growing social media, club & League Management sport sites in the world that connects cricketers in any capacity (player, umpire, curator, commentator and many more) to find cricket opportunities globally. This site has been functionally designed entirely by me because being a cricketer myself I can understand the challenges faced by cricketers. It is a complete social media site for cricketers to guide them forward and connect them to the right people and organization, to create a source of earnings for them by using their cricketing skills. The membership to the site is free and thousands of users have joined since its launch a few years back.

I am currently vice president of Cricket Council USA [www.CCUSA.info](http://www.CCUSA.info) for the past three years. Many changes have been implemented in CCUSA on my advice, such as the breakdown of cash prize to be given to even those teams that qualify for the quarter-finals, better scheduling keeping in mind the travel distance from one field to another, revamping of their website and giving more exposure to CCUSA and its accomplishments. We have been working hard in CCUSA since January of this year for the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of US Open to be held in October 2018. If elected I'll not hold the office in CCUSA to avoid any conflict.

I am running for the post of League Director because I believe in my capabilities, skill sets and passion to make USA cricket a success story during my tenure as I am from the new school of thought. Cricket has changed a lot and US cricket must change too. The reason for my success as the founder of a successful club, a successful captain, founder of a successful cricket League, founder of a one of the fastest sports social media/club & League Management sites, and VP of CCUSA is because the very first thing I look at is the culture of people who I am working for. I know how to get the best out of any individual just because of knowing his personal style that helps in making individuals to work together and give their best because they know that their leader understands them completely. Secondly as a technology guy myself will use the best technology for US cricket advancement.

Once elected in the office I will work with all leagues to follow some uniformity which helps build standards which in result will build a better cricket and better US national team. I will also work in mending broken and damaged relationships and restoring the confidence and trust of all larger cricket entities in US. But the bottom line is, I would fight for the best for US cricket and US leagues as I am the guy who doesn't like to settle down other than being a champion, that is why my club has the most number of championship titles under my captaincy in the Philadelphia Cricket League.

Hope my introduction above make the voters to think about me as I have a proven track record of being a founder at every level of cricket, from a club to a league to a global social media/club & League Management sports site, and VP of CCUSA. I am a firm believer of the three core fundamentals of the advancement of modern cricket; People, Process and Technology.

Towards the end I'll say, "They say, you have to see it to believe it". My accomplishments are listed above. I have tested and tasted waters at every level and I not only know the challenges being faced by US cricket, but also understand it because I am a cricketer myself. If you need a true change and see US cricket to its potential success then vote for me because we live in number one country in the world and even our country telephone code is number 1, then our cricket should also be number 1 in the world because we have a mix of very talented players here in the US that no other cricket playing nation has. God Bless You and God Bless America.

Shuja Khan  
302-559-7250  
You can count on me.

**CANDIDATE NAME: SUSHIL NADKARNI, FORMER TEAM USA CAPTAIN (2012) & PLAYER (2006 to 2014)**

**POSITION APPLYING: LEAGUE DIRECTOR**

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT: having represented Team USA at the highest level for almost a decade, having played across the country for two decades, and serving as an advisor to USA Cricket, I want to bring my strong reputation, working relationships, and deep understanding of the issues and challenges facing USA cricket to represent ALL USA stakeholders on the USA Board.**

***I request your support and vote for the League Director position in the U.S. Cricket Board election!***



## **BK Atul Rai**

President of Southern California Cricket Assn (SCCA).  
President of Santa Barbara Cricket Club (oldest club in SCCA)  
VP of SCCA - 1995 to 1996  
Past President of SCCA - 1997 to 2002  
VP and Secretary of USACA - 1998 to 2001.  
President of USACA - 2001 to 2003  
Member of ACF National Advisory Board - 2012-2016



Cricket has been part of me since my early childhood growing up in India. In the US I have been an active player in SCCA and a successful cricket administrator for more than two decades. It is my passion and desire to help make cricket a professional sport in the US that drives me to want to be part of the New Organization.

In 1999, I was able to successfully organize an internationally televised cricket series at Woodley Park between the A teams from India and Australia captained by VVS Laxman and Adam Gilchrist.

During my term as the President of USACA, I started the first National Junior Cricket Program along with the first Under19 program and we had the first under19 national tournament in Dallas within two years.

In 2001, I also started a National tournament for the senior team with an Eastern Conference and a Western conference culminating in the play off's. This model was in place for 10 years until USACA stopped having the tournament claiming that there were no funds.

In 2002, team USA won the Americas Cup in Argentina for the first time beating all the teams including Canada. This was largely due to our preparation in Antigua for 2 weeks, prior to the event.

In 2001, as the President of USACA, I wrote a 5 year strategic plan for USA cricket that was adopted by the ICC in the development of Project USA and it was sanctioned by the ICC Board in 2003. This project was to bring millions of dollars for the growth and development of USA cricket. Unfortunately, ICC had to cancel project USA in 2005 after failing to come to an agreement with my successor in USACA.

In 2012, I helped to start American Cricket Federation as an alternative for many of the Players, Clubs and Leagues that were disenfranchised.

I believe that I can continue to help USA cricket and the new Board by working together with the Board of Directors and our partners by sharing ideas and strategies and provide the experience and balance that is needed. USA is a large country with many professional sports that are competing for the dollar. The challenges that we face are many including the cost of travel, paucity of facilities and infrastructure. With the growing popularity of the T20 cricket and as the new generation of Americans embrace the sport, there is now a huge potential for cricket to be part of main stream America in the near future.

I look forward to your support and I shall continue to work to make Cricket a main stream sport in America

**Atul Rai**

**Tel: 805-636-9229**

**Email: bkrai1@aol.com**

# **USA CRICKET**

## **Candidate Statement**

### **John L. Aaron - For Club Director USA Cricket Board**

Dear Fellow Club Presidents

I am seeking your support and vote as candidate for Club Director on the USA Cricket Board.

As a Club Director candidate, I sincerely embrace the true spirit of organized club cricket based on the principles of democracy, transparency, accountability and responsibility. I strongly believe that club cricket is the catalyst for true governance, growth and sustainability of the sport at the grassroots level in the USA.

As a cricket administrator for more than 30 years, I have been at the forefront of organized cricket, and believe that this election is a watershed moment for USA cricket. The unification of the sport in the USA is long overdue, and the time for cricket to emerge from the shadows of other less popular sports is now. Cricket thrives successfully in so many other countries around the world, why not in the USA?

If elected Club Director to the USA Cricket board, I solemnly promise to uphold the principles upon which I seek your support to help unify cricket in the USA and move the sport forward for youth, women and men.

My experience includes 10 years as a club secretary, 10 years as a club president, and another 10 years as league secretary, league president, regional cricket chairman, and secretary at the national levels. Along the way, I have earned the respect and support of cricket stakeholders domestically and internationally. I am very anxious to earn your respect and support.

In addition to my sport administration experience, my professional career has helped inform my cricket experience. As a college administrator who interacts on a daily basis with individuals from 142 countries speaking 73 languages, I am immersed in the diversity of cultures and differing perspectives, daily. It's an experience that uniquely prepares me to represent the diversity of cricket clubs around the USA, and on a USA Cricket board that represents the diversity of the sport in the USA.



**Vote John L. Aaron for Club Director – USA Cricket Board**

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR CLUB DIRECTOR



### **Name: Ajith Bhaskar**

Over the years Ajith Bhaskar worked hard to nurture and grow the cricket in New York area. The capacity and commitment to server the sport is undoubtable. Past few years he is very aggressive in acquiring ground, promoting cricket for youth, and finding sponsors for league and Clubs. Managing a large league like Commonwealth cricket league is a mammoth task and with Ajith in secretary position he is setting up right policies and rules to run the show smoothly.

### **Mission**

Given an opportunity to server the board, he will work hard to identify and prioritize the issues which all cricket community is facing across the country and solve them one by one. His plan is to transform the sport cricket from hobby sport to professional sport by creating a proper career path for the young and talented players and inducing cricket at school level.

### **Vision**

To see cricket as a recognized sport in USA like NFL and NBA.

### **Ajith's Background**

Ajith Shetty was born and brought up from Mysore India. He was graduated in computer science and moved to US in 2007. He has more than 16 years of Experience in IT field working on various domain and technologies. He is Currently hold COO(Chief Operating Officer) Position in Cricmap. He is a good allrounder and has been playing cricket for more than 25 years and still playing in his leisure. He currently holds the secretary position in the commonwealth cricket league which is the largest cricket league in north America with more than 160 teams and more than 2000 players He is also President of LI Titans Cricket Club and Vice president of the Kannada Koota New York.

### **Grounds Acquisition**

He fought the battle for more than 2 years and convinced the local authorities (Town and School board) to provide the grounds for Cricket.

### **Digitalizing the League**

Ajith was the key person to digitalize the common wealth league, which has more than 2000 players. He worked hard to speak to all the clubs and members to registers in cricclubs and now all the player profile and stats are available online.

### **Event management**

Ajith was instrumental in making the USA Cricket Combines-2018 in NY success. It was an impossible task to get the games after 2 weeks of continuous rain in New York.

He has conducted many Tournaments and fundraising event in New York area.

### **Sponsorships**

Ajith had brought many sponsors to the league and he worked with many local vendors and picked the right sponsors to the league which can help each other.

Reasons to Vote for Ajith Bhaskar.

1. He is young and energetic and with fresh ideas.
2. He understands the issues and have provided innovative solutions to teams.
3. He has brought many sponsors to League and Teams. The same framework can be used across the country.
4. His program to teach cricket to Community kids was a hit and he is working with local schools to make cricket an academy sports, this will help to improve the cricket at grass root level.
5. He is more capable than any other candidates as he Manages the Largest League in North America with more than 160 teams and 2000 members.

# Statement of Jagannath Poosarla for Club Director Position, USA Cricket



I am a seasoned software professional with more than 25 years of experience working with Oracle technologies, specializing in databases, maximum availability, data warehousing and business intelligence. Currently, I am the Founder/Vice President of Extuit LLC, specializing in engineered and Big Data platforms. I have a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from University of Houston, TX. I have served in many social non-profit organizations and have been known for my exceptional organizing skills.

I am an experienced and passionate cricket player and have been actively involved in the Dallas Cricket League (DCL) Youth program (DYCL)

since 2011. I have been instrumental in developing youth cricket program, and promoting the game of cricket to number of school districts in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. I was responsible for leading a 150 plus DCL volunteers team in the summer of 2014 in hosting the first national youth cricket league tournament which included 14 teams from all over USA. I am currently working with DYCL Knights a premier youth team in DFW and hosting another national tournament in July 2018 – The SWYCH-DYCL Independence Cup after a successful tournament in 2017.

I have held the position of Southwest zonal youth coordinator under USACA and have been instrumental in working with the various leagues of this region and help in collaborating the efforts of youth cricket development. I have worked in various social organizations and have been chosen to play lead roles in hosting national events. If elected to the position of Club director, I believe that I will be a valuable asset in promoting and developing the game of cricket, especially youth cricket in USA.

Please check the pictures of the 2017 Independence Cup held in DFW at:  
<https://goo.gl/photos/FMEv1f6nm8ZN1mRN8>



## Mahammad Ahmed Qureshi - man with a vision

### WHO AM I?

My name is Mahammad Ahmed Qureshi, affectionately known as MAQ in the cricketing circles around the world. I have dedicated 30 years of my life to the betterment of our beloved sport of cricket. I like to consider myself as a cricketing philanthropist and unwavering supporter of cricketers facing numerous challenges, to play cricket week in and week out in a nontraditional cricketing environment in the USA. I bring to the table a wealth of experience in administration and management as it can be seen from the wide variety of profitable businesses that I have created. They range from real estate to technology and branding to consulting. I am based out of South Florida in Boca Raton and have lived there with my family for the last 30 plus years.

### WHAT CRICKET MEANS TO ME?

Cricket is not only a sport to me, it is a way of life. The legacy I want to leave one day is one in which people would remember me as a man who dedicated his life to the development of this great sport. From my childhood, the sport has gripped me and I have enjoyed it thoroughly. After my playing days ended, I consciously decided to dedicate my time to the sport I have always loved. I felt for the diaspora as they did not have meaningful cricket to play here.

I was able to put together a wonderful team of people and create the most popular T20 tournament in North America, the US Open T20 tournament. In a recent survey conducted in Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies, the US Open T20 was rated the sixth most popular T20 league in the world.

Cricketers wanted something substantial to play for and in order to make this a reality I dipped into my own pocket and started giving out cash prizes in the range of US\$100,000 over the last few years. The tournament came on stream in 2008 and we will be celebrating 10 years of its magnificent journey this year. This is a further testament to great management and a commitment to the cause of developing cricket in America.

I was also very instrumental in the setting up of the Central Broward Regional Park, which today is the only ICC approved venue in America. The City honored me for my contribution by having me turn the sod at the official function to commence construction of the facility. From providing access to kids as young as eight years old, to professionals aspiring to national level, taking these cricketing products coast to coast in cities mapping from Chicago to Seattle and Fort Lauderdale to LA, I have been lucky enough to provide local USA Club cricketers an opportunity to rub shoulders with current International stars and learning from that valuable experience. I have seen people start a dream at one of these tournaments to represent the country and their clubs at the highest levels of our sport.

For my other cricketing contributions – please check out my page - <https://mahammadqureshi.com/>

### WHY SHOULD YOU CONSIDER ME FOR THE ROLE OF CLUB DIRECTOR?

Clubs are the fundamental atomic locomotive the game has had to power its surge in the American sporting fabric. When I first landed in the USA, my first cricketing experience was a result of joining a long standing club in South Florida. Having spent more than 30 years in that club, I am very familiar with the challenges that clubs face every year, from financing, sponsorship, talent acquisition, facility development and national level exposure to club players.

As a Club director, representing you, I hope to ensure that the new Board is committed to resolve the pressing issues facing clubs and their members. I will also work tirelessly to establish a semi-professional national club structure as one of the first initiatives of my potential time on the Board. Consequently – my dream is to see a club structure in the USA, where players and coaches from all over the world can come to contribute their skills and expertise, local club cricketers being recognized financially and otherwise for their skills. And lastly a National Club Level Championship where the Top 20 Clubs from all over the country can participate in a Championship Tournament that will serve as the benchmark for collecting talented individuals for National duty.

**I THANK YOU** for your time and urge you to participate in the process, even if you don't endorse my bid for your representation. This is a great time for the game in our country, and you will be remembered as the ones who shaped its future for many years to come. **Don't be the 12<sup>th</sup> man for this game!**



## Aziz Savul for National Club Director, USA Cricket - 2018

### Cricket...

- President, Nortex McKinney Cricket Association, McKinney, Texas (2016 – Present)
- Director, NTCA Cricket Committee (2016 – Present)
- Director, Nortex Cricket Club, McKinney, Texas (2010 – 2015)
- Founder, Nortex Cricket Club, McKinney, Texas (2005)
- General Secretary, North Texas Cricket Association, Dallas, Texas (2006-08 & 2010-2012)
- Umpiring Committee, NTCA (various roles including Chairman since 2004)
- Operation Committee, NTCA (2008-2009)
- Scheduling Committee, NTCA (2006-2014; consultant role 2015-2018)
- Co-Founder, Texas Rangers Cricket Club, Garland, Texas (2003)
- Founder, Hoffman Estates Cricket Club, Chicago, IL Midwest Cricket Conference (1999)
- Building New Cricket Grounds (Hoffman Estates, IL; Garland, TX; McKinney, TX)
- Miami Tape-ball Cricket League, Miami, FL (1987-1997)
- Attended 2-day Workshop for US Umpires at the ICC Americas USA Project, in conjunction with the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) and Cricket Australia (CA) August 2017
- Umpiring Certifications: Level III (2012); Level II (2006); Level I (2003). Officiated 2004 USA Men's Nationals

### Professional...

Over 25 years of corporate experience spanning project management, product release and sales management areas. Proven expertise in sports management with good understanding of best practice sports development.

My top 5 strengths according to Gallup Strengths Finder are Activator, Achiever, Responsibility, Relator, and Competition.

### Vision...

I am passionate about cricket. My love for the game has taken me to 2010 WorldT20 (The Caribbean); 2015 World Cup (Australia and New Zealand); Ashes Test at Lord's and numerous other Test and limited overs cricket events.

I've a strong desire to develop partnerships across various cricket associations and want to use my ability to influence and elevate Cricket USA to the next level. After having managed cricket at the grass-roots level with schools, clubs and leagues, I believe I can contribute to the development of US cricket in a positive and constructive manner. I have been called upon by the leagues to help develop their playing structure and divisional formats. I have managed tournament structure, scheduling, logistics of out-of-town teams and marketing.

I'll bring the grass-roots cricket perspective to USA Cricket. I understand the issues of the local cricketers, clubs and leagues. If we have a strong viable product at the leagues level, it will immensely help provide a solid base for USA Cricket to grow upon. It's time for a fresh start in USA Cricket, give our youth the robust infrastructure that they deserve and to build a professional cricket environment in the USA, with a strong national team that our kids can root for.



**USA Cricket – Fresh Start. Unity. Cricket First**

## Nadia T. Gruny: USA Cricket Female Player Director Candidate Statement

Today is a watershed moment for women's cricket around the world. Today is the day we get a seat at the table and our voices can be heard. But to do that, I need your support to help us move the needle, in the US, on the sport we all love.



As many of you know, for several years I have served women's cricket publicly and silently. My passion for helping to develop the sport in the US drives my participation as a national player, coach, marketer, and administrator. I am guided by my MBA and Master of Sports Business Management, as well as my experience as a global program manager at Oracle for almost 10 years. Here is a summary of what I have done in support of cricket in the US:

- 2018: Co-organizing the first ever, national-level [girls under 14 cricket tournament](#) at the Florida stadium
- 2017-Present: MoneyGram Cricket Bee [Advisory Committee Member](#)
- 2016: [Envisioned 10-over Cricket in the Olympics](#), which was executed more than a year later in Dubai as T10
- 2016: [Analyzed and condensed the proposed US Cricket constitution](#) for the US cricket community
- 2015-Present: [Cricket for Cubs](#) Board Member
- 2015: Earned the Cricket Business Management certificate from Sports Management Worldwide, Melbourne, Australia
- 2015: [Built cricket nets](#) in an underserved Jamaican community in honor of California Coach Owen Graham
- 2015: Led cricket clinics for Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula and the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative
- 2014-Present: Coach youth cricket in California and Florida
- 2014: [Sourced the funding for and led a women's high performance program](#):
  - Utilized local coaches and brought in Robin Singh, Stafanie Taylor and Stephanie Power for camps in New Jersey and New York
  - Provided funding for practice sessions
  - Toured Trinidad and Tobago
  - This initiative [kept the dream alive](#) when our national team was not allowed to play internationally
- 2012: [Reported on ICC's decision](#) to eliminate the ICC Americas Women's Championship. Short version [here](#)
- 2010-Present: Promote USA women's cricket globally via [social media](#), [videos](#) and [articles](#)

As you consider how to cast your vote, think about who can make a difference. Think about who will stand up for you, and represent you. Not only who *can* do it but consider who has a track record of doing it – standing up for what is right even when that voice was the only voice out there.

I will continue to advocate for you and for the best interest of our team and for the women's game in the US. I will champion greater support for our women's team where we need it most – funding for training, access to coaching, equipment, and more playing opportunities.

Amidst all that is in front of us, our role as players is bigger than qualifying for the next World Cup. We are setting the tone and laying the foundation for future generations to come. We are their cricket role models and the people they aspire to be. The harder we work together, the more doors of opportunity we can open.

It would give me no greater honor to continue to serve you, women's cricket, and the greater cricket community. We have come a long way but the best is yet to come. I look forward to being able to help us all achieve extraordinary outcomes.

Yours in cricket and service,  
[Nadia T. Gruny](#)



It is with great excitement and pride that I submit my candidacy for the USA Cricket Female Director Board Position! I will bring a unique perspective to the group, having organically transitioned into cricket from a more traditional American athletic background. I consistently demonstrate a strong passion for the game and an ability to perform under pressure as a longstanding member of the Women's US National Team (2010-present). I can still vividly recall my discovery of cricket in the US (from that late night Craigslist search in 2009), and it is my mission to make the sport more immediately accessible and alluring to the vast pool of female athletes in our country. My pathway and success in cricket provides useful identification tools for recruiting and retaining new American cricketers with strong pre-existing athletic

foundations. I have over 30 years of active participation in competitive American sports ranging in levels from recreational, club, varsity, NCAA collegiate, Olympic development, domestic and international representation. I understand the challenges of the working professional female athlete, balancing fitness, finances, family, career, and being under pressure to execute favorable results with minimal opportunity. I also understand the challenges of youth athletes and the time/energy encumbrances assumed of them and their parents in dealing with academic pressures and numerous extra-curricular involvements required to ensure a formidable foothold in this increasingly competitive era of thriving human existence.

I am not here to make unreasonable promises to you, my fellow teammates and USA Cricketers. But what I can guarantee is that I will give all of my strength, experience, and emotional and intellectual character to comprehensively represent you and to be your eyes, ears and voices on this Inaugural Board of Directors. You can count on me to have your back, because I've been through the dark days and the glorious days right along with you, and we all share this passion and insanity that is cricket life! I hope you have grown to know me for who I aim to be: fair, honest, selfless, strong, empathetic, lighthearted, sincere and passionate. I am your teammate in the locker room, sharing sunscreen and myofascial release balls. I am the fielder running boundary to boundary, high-fiving you as I pass by with a smile. I am the eye behind the lens, forming trusted photography crews on tour and spreading our positive images and love over social media. I'm seated next to you in 72B as we await a lightning storm and tidal waves on the runway at Miami International.

I am the patient one who will wait for you at the elevator to make sure the van doesn't leave, and I am the safe hands who will drive you in a foreign country on the opposite side of the road - all while we soak up the experience.

This is the greatest time ever to be involved in USA Women's Cricket! We are pioneers of the game and our actions will impact the future of USA Cricket beyond our lifetimes. Let's stay strong, fit, focused and unified. I appreciate your vote and if elected, I will represent you with gratitude and strength.

## Usman K. Shuja



I am writing to request your support and vote for Player Director position in the upcoming U.S. Cricket Board election.

This is a historic opportunity for elite players as our voices will be represented on the board of the national governing body for the first time!

The position represents a key change in the mindset of the administration as they realize that national players will play a critical role in developing the sport by providing role models for the community.

As Player Director, I promise to be accessible to all players, listen to your concerns and represent you with integrity and tact.

My vision for elite players is based on the following five points that will require YOUR input to flesh out.

1. Organize elite players under a **players' association** to deliver a cohesive message to external parties (e.g. selectors, sponsors etc.).
2. Develop a clear **pathway** for women, men, girls and boys to become **professional** cricket players in the U.S. and abroad.
3. Ensure clear, timely **communication** from national governing body regarding selection, preparation and expectations.
4. Protect players' **financial** and **health** wellbeing. Explore options to provide sources of income to supplement players' time off from work, provide fitness & training support and health insurance.
5. **Educate** players to prepare for professional careers in cricket and serve as leaders and role models for Americans, junior players and the community at large. This will include exposure to players from external organizations (e.g. MLS, Cricket Australia)

I am very uniquely positioned to represent you because:

**Perspective:** I have represented the USA national team for almost a decade achieving all-time highest wickets for the country. I intricately understand the challenges of elite players in America, which are very different from other associate countries. I have also played elite cricket in Australia, Pakistan and the UK which allowed me to compare and assess gaps.

**Thought Leadership:** I often contribute to [Forbes](#), Sports Business Journal and [ESPN CricInfo](#) and speak at events such as MIT Sloan Sports Conference and SXSW.

**Board and Leadership Experience:** My 2-year tenure on the ICC Advisory committee and current role as a senior executive have allowed me to hone my skills to lead and make a difference.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve you!

Regards,

Usman Shuja #99