

## 2013 National Advisory Board Election Candidates

### Midwest Region - Coach Nominees



**Darlene Fanning**  
**Indiana**

I have been involved in the Sport of Cheerleading for 27 years. I started as a High School Coach and developed one of the first AllStar Programs in the State of Indiana. I currently own 3 Gyms in 2 states, ICE, both in Indiana and Illinois. I have gone through owning a small Gym for many years to owning a large Gym. I understand the ups and downs of both. I have watched this sport evolve through the years and believe that I have many insights to help this sport move forward.

It is my belief that this Sport does more than develop amazing athletes. We help to build self esteem, that can help kids make the right choices. We as coaches are role models and need to take that seriously. With so many choices for young kids today, we as an Industry need to make sure that we keep headed in the right direction, and I still like being a part of that and believe that I can be helpful with decisions for our future.



**Lisa Hemmie**  
**Michigan**

Lisa Hemmie is currently the director for Michigan Xtreme Cheer & Dance. She has developed MIX Cheer and Dance to include over 300 athletes. The program has several cheer and dance worlds bids, has been featured as a top 25 program in American Cheerleaders' "All Star Insider" and she is listed as a "Who's Who Coach."

She has been in the spirit industry for over 23 years as a participant, coach, public speaker and judge for several national and international companies.

Lisa is certified through USAG, AACCA, and the USASF. Additionally, she currently serves on the USASF NAB and is a safety instructor.

Her background also includes an extensive career in advertising, marketing and sales and the US Marines.

She is well versed in the challenges our industry faces not only with the gyms, but for the athletes, event producers and the USASF. She understands that everyone's voice has an impact on the development of our industry.



**Lance Stoltenberg**  
**Nebraska**

Over 20 years ago, Elite Cheer was one of the first pioneers of this sport in the Mid-West. I have a strong understanding of what all coaches and gym owners go through on a daily basis. From small gyms just starting to large traditional gyms, we all strive to be successful, profitable, and develop our athletes in a safe progressive manner.

Being an active USASF Certified Safety Judge, allows me the in depth knowledge of the ins and outs of our rules and how they effect our businesses.

As the USASF Credential Instructor for Nebraska, I'm able to educate, teach and coach thousands of coaches at our USASF regional meetings. Over the last year, I have been instrumental in developing some new Hands On Spotting programs at these meetings. My perspective on the safety and longevity of our industry starts with the individual coach and their knowledge of technique and progressions.



**Tara Wieland**  
**Michigan**

I have been a cheer coach for 23yrs, and have dedicated my professional career to the kids in our sport. I am a USASF Field Staff member for the state of Michigan, an active member of the NACCC, a judge at the National level, and the 2012 recipient of the Chairman's Cup, for my dedication of continually getting the kids of my program involved in charity work. In all of my years in this industry, I have been a part of a small program, owned my own business, merged with a gymnastics facility and now work for the largest program in my state. I feel that my versatile background allows me to see things from several different angles. It also helps me to remain unbiased when it comes to issues that would pose as a benefit large gyms or small gyms. I am the proud mother of 3 children, two of which who are "lifetime" cheerleaders, so I also know first hand the role and struggles of the parents and athletes in this industry as well.

I truly love this sport and if selected, I would not only hold the position with great integrity, but would continue to dedicate my efforts to making All Star Cheerleading a safe, and respectable sport.

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**Heather Zidek**  
**Ohio**

In my 15+ years of coaching I've had the opportunity to develop grade school, high school, all star, college, and even professional cheer teams. With each program the goal was to build them not only as athletes but into responsible, successful adults. By focusing on a family environment, challenging athletes, and teaching accountability our program has now grown to over 500 athletes. This approach was recognized by the USASF and selected as the Small Gym of the Year in 2010. I am currently a member of the USASF Regional Advisory Board and a Safety Certified Judge. I am committed to empowering not only athletes but developing coaches to ensure the growth and development of our industry.