



**American Birkebeiner® Ski Foundation, Inc.**  
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**2017 – 2018**  
**American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation**  
**Board Candidate Profile Information**

**Dear ABSF Board Candidate,**

This is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the members of the ABSF. Your contact information and answer to the following question will be included in the Board Election Packet sent to all eligible voting members prior to the election on August 5, 2017. Please submit your profile electronically to [board@birkie.com](mailto:board@birkie.com) by **June 20, 2017**.

**Candidate Name:** Kathie Pautsch

**Address:** 12243 N. Whitcomb Trail

**City:** Hayward **State:** WI **Zip:** 54843

**Home Phone:** 715-577-3106 **Other Phone:** 715-520-2337

**Email Address:** schaus.kathryn@marshfield.org

**Years of Membership in the ABSF:** 10 or more?

**Occupation:** Pediatrician (Marshfield Clinic)

**Please respond to the following question (feel free to use additional space).**

Why are you interested in being a member of the ABSF Board of Directors and what knowledge and skills do you possess that can benefit the organization?

Hello fellow skiers and silent sport lovers! I am Kathie Schaus Pautsch and optimistic about being elected to the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation Board of Directors. I fully embrace the Birkie lifestyle and would be truly honored to donate my time and talents to the foundation.

Who am I? I am a pediatrician for the Marshfield Clinic. I practiced at the Chippewa Falls center for 22 years before transferring to the Hayward Center 3 years ago. I am the only pediatrician in this area, thus filling a need in the community. I am married to Greg Pautsch; we have a blended family of 6 children and 5 grandchildren! I truly enjoy caring for children and families, as well as participating in and supporting silent sports of all types. I have been involved in silent sport events for over 30 years: as an athlete, a volunteer, and as a race director. I started skiing 14 years ago and am hooked! I have completed 2 Kortess and 11 Birkies, as well as many other events throughout the country. Skiing is truly a passion! I want to use the experiences I have gained to give back to the sport as an ABSF board member.

June 21, 2017

Why vote for me?

\*Living and working in Hayward affords me the opportunity to use the Birkie trail year round. I am passionate about keeping the Birkie trail a world class trail that is welcoming and challenging to elite athletes, as well as fun and safe for families and youth. As such, I fully promote all the work that the Birkie Foundation has been doing to enhance the trail system and the events associated with the trail. I will support current and future enhancements.

\*Having volunteered as a medical doctor for the Birkie Trail Run and the later shifts of the Birkie/Korte races, I have first-hand knowledge of the concerns of volunteers, as well as the safety and health of the racers. As a Birkie Board member, I will use this experience to continue to improve upon the support to our athletes and volunteers during Birkie-sponsored events.

\*Being a pediatrician and an involved community member, I will passionately promote programs and activities that will draw in our youth and families, as well as athletes of all abilities.

\*As a representative of the Marshfield Clinic (a major sponsor for the races), I have attended local meetings with zoning personnel and law enforcement that discuss traffic flow and safety concerns on race day. I am very excited about the direction that the board is moving in this regard (i.e., bridge over Main Street; future tunnel under Highway 77; new and improved start). Elected or not, I will continue to be involved in these meetings and activities.

\*Being a part of the Hayward community allows me to understand the concerns and needs of local business and community members. If elected, it will allow me to serve as a liaison between community members and the Board of Directors.

\*As a racer, I understand the needs and challenges that we face on race day. My goal is to solicit ideas, concerns, and suggestions from fellow racers and skiers and bring them to the Birkie Board.

“Ski. Run. Bike. Live!” That is the lifestyle that I embrace and what Birkie means to me. If elected, I promise to live up to the commitment of being a good steward to American Birkebeiner Trail in every aspect.

**All nomination forms must be received in the ABSF office by no later than June 20, 2017.**

Again, thank you for your interest, and we look forward to receiving your candidate profile and question responses.