



Kathie Schaus Pautsch

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ABSF member for 19 years

Board of Director for the ABSF for the past 3 years; Secretary for the past year.

Board of Director for LWC (Lumberjack World Championships)

Hello fellow skiers and silent sport lovers! I am running for the ABSF BOD because I fully embrace the Birkie lifestyle and would be honored to continue to donate my time and talents to the foundation.

Who am I? I am a pediatrician working for Marshfield Clinic for 28 years, practicing in Hayward after transferring from the Chippewa Falls Center 7 years ago. I love living and working in this beautiful area. I am married to Greg Pautsch; we have a blended family of 6 children and 6 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 35 years: as an athlete, a volunteer, and as a race director. I have had the honor of being an ABSF board member for the last three years. As such, I have learned much about the ABSF and all that it represents and stands for. This has made me even more enthusiastic about the Foundation and my desire to continue to promote and advocate for it. I would very honored to continue to serve another term as a board member.

Why vote for me?

Being part of the Hayward community has shown me how vital the Birkie Trail (and all of the events that the ABSF sponsors and supports) is to the community, as well as to skiers and athletes across the country.

I have served as a board of director for the ABSF for the last 3 years. This has been a great experience and I have been a very dedicated and active board member. I have attended every meeting and consistently volunteer for and participate in our Birkie events. I am currently serving as secretary of the board for this past year. I am also serving as board member and secretary for the LWC (Lumberjack World Championship) with whom the Birkie has now collaborated.

My wish list for the ABSF:

- Focusing on the trail to continue to make it a world-class trail; without a trail that is maintained and well-groomed, there would be no Birkie!
- Continuing to improve and expand snowmaking, which will become more vital to future generations.
- Continue to focus on and expand our efforts to be green.
- Redevelopment of the Telemark properties with expansion of trails with snow-making capabilities, so that this can be a venue for a full Birkie if needed in a low snow year; with ultimate goal of making this a destination attraction.
- Keeping youth excited about skiing and silent sports and supporting youth groups both financially and by sharing expertise.

As a participant in the Birkie events and a silent sport lover, I am out on the trail a lot! I enjoy talking to fellow skiers/athletes to solicit ideas, concerns, and suggestions 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 re-elected, I promise to continue live up to the commitment of being a good steward to American Birkebeiner Trail and all that it stands for.