

Dear Governance Committee,

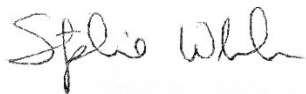
Please accept this cover letter and resume as my desire to run for an open seat on the NWBA Board of Directors. I have been involved with the sport of wheelchair basketball at the junior, collegiate, and Paralympic level as an athlete and collegiate and Paralympic level as a coach for over 20 years. I have also been a NWBA BOD member since July of 2019. During my time on the board, I have been the chair of the High Performance Committee and the ADM and Coach Education Committee and believe I can continue to make significant contributions to the NWBA for another term.

I have a passion for ensuring that the athletes and coaches in our organization have the opportunity to learn, grow, and advance in the sport to the level that they desire, which directly aligns with the mission of the NWBA. The keys to ensuring that we keep our athletes and coaches in the sport are providing quality coaching for our athletes, providing educational support and professional development for coaches, and outlining a pathway for athletes and coaches to advance in the sport. I will use the skill set that I have gained through my own coaching practice, and through collaborating with organizations such as the USOPC, NCAA, and various coach education entities to collaborate and create a system where our members can thrive. This is what our ADM and Coach Education committee has been working on creating for the past year, and I would love to continue to work on this initiative that directly impacts our members as a member of the Board of Directors.

I also have a passion for ensuring that our members who have marginalized identities are represented in our organization, are treated fairly and equitably, and have barrier free access to the sport that has impacted and changed so many of our lives.

Please see my attached CV for my personal and professional experiences that demonstrate what contributions I can make to the NWBA Board of Directors.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Wheeler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Wheeler
Head Coach, Women's Wheelchair Basketball
University of Illinois

Stephanie Wheeler

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Champaign, IL 61821

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EDUCATION

2013-present University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Doctor of Philosophy

Major: Cultural, Interpretive, and Science Studies, Dept. of Kinesiology and Community Health

2007-2009 University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Doctor of Philosophy

Major: Human Performance, emphasis in Adapted Sport and Special Education,

Completed and passed comprehensive written exams March 2009

ABD

2005-2007 University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Masters of Arts

Major: Kinesiology, emphasis in Adapted Sport

Thesis Title: Case Study of a Wheelchair Basketball Coach

1999-2004 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Bachelor of Science

Major: Kinesiology

PROFESSIONAL COACHING EXPERIENCE

2013-2016 Head Coach Senior Women's National Team, USA

Coordinate and implement decentralized training program for a pool of 30 athletes

Manage a staff of 2 assistant coaches, an athletic trainer, and a team leader

Coordinate training camp locations, cost, and training plans with the National Wheelchair Basketball Assoc.

Plan and direct training camps and practices

Organize competition schedule for overseas competitions

Coordinate and implement training plans from sport psychology, sport nutrition, and strength and conditioning

2011 Head Coach Under 25 Women's National Team, USA

Head coach for the under 25 women's wheelchair basketball team

Coordinated a training camp prior to competition

Organized and directed the implementation of a summer training plan

Directed practices during training camps and during competition

Wrote and submitted a comprehensive report at the end of the Under 25 World Championships

Scouted and wrote game plans for opponents during the tournament

Organized the team's stay in Canada during the Under 25 World Championships

2009-present Head Coach University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Head coach for the women's wheelchair basketball team

Manage day to day operations of the team

Organize training and travel schedule for the season

Teach and organize demonstration events in the community

Plan and direct practices for the entire season

Responsible for the implementation of goals and objectives for student-athlete development on and off court

Work with high performance teams to coordinate training plans for the international athletes on the team

Coordinator for our summer wheelchair basketball and wheelchair track camps

Coordinator for the Ultimate Basketball Challenge event with the DIA

2005-2009 Assistant Coach University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Assisted in the planning and implementation of daily practices for women's wheelchair basketball
Taught selected drills at practice
Assisted in the writing of game plans

2005, 2010 Invited Instructor Seattle Dribble on Wheels Camp

Assisted in the planning and implementation of the camp curriculum
Taught individual and team skills to athletes whose ages range from 10 to adults

2009 Invited Instructor BC Wheelchair Basketball Society

Invited instructor to the British Columbia Wheelchair Basketball Society's High Performance camp
Instructed high performance athletes in individual and team concepts
Coordinated with provincial coaches at BCWBS to design the part of the curriculum I would teach

2004-2009 Invited Instructor University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Invited instructor to their summer wheelchair basketball camp
Assisted in the planning and implementation of the camp curriculum
Taught individual and team skills to campers

2001, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2011 Invited Instructor Japanese Wheelchair Basketball Camp

Assisted in the planning and implementation of the camp curriculum
Met with American and Japanese coaches each morning and night to discuss curriculum and teaching
Taught skills to Japanese youth and adults with the help of a translator
Interacted on a professional level with members of the Japanese Wheelchair Basketball Federation

2012 Lead Instructor Japanese Wheelchair Basketball Camp

Assisted in the planning and implementation of the camp curriculum
Met with American and Japanese coaches each morning and night to discuss curriculum and teaching
Lead large group teaching sessions with 50 Japanese campers and 4 Japanese coaches
Interacted on a professional level with members of the Japanese Wheelchair Basketball Federation

2009-present Lead Instructor University of Illinois Wheelchair Basketball Camps

Assisted in the planning and implementation of the camp and coaching clinic curriculum
Lead instruction to as many as 65 campers and 15 coaches at a time
Managed a staff of 1 assistant coach and 4 volunteers

2018 Invited/Lead Instructor Adapted Sports NorthWest

Invited lead instructor to their summer wheelchair basketball camp
Assisted in the planning and implementation of the camp curriculum
Taught individual and team skills to campers and coaches

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

2009-present Disability/Wellness Specialist University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Answer questions related to disability and wellness on campus
Direct students to resources associated with disability and wellness

2005 - 2009 Graduate Assistant University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Supervise and mentor physical education student teachers
Planned and taught the physical education course to undergraduate elementary education students
Planned and taught a variety of physical activity courses to undergraduate students
Planned and taught a health and wellness course to undergraduate students
Taught physical education to four and five year olds at the RISE school
Graduate assistant for the adapted physical education class for undergraduates

2005 Research Assistant University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Assisted in research and compilation of a textbook for a professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Education

2004 – 2005 Graduate Assistant RISE School, Tuscaloosa AL

Coordinated student volunteer placements into preschool classrooms
Assisted in classroom activities

Assisted teaching and developing physical education curriculum to students with and without disabilities

SPORT RELATED PRESENTATIONS

Fay, T., Ivkovic, Z., McGinniss, K., Orleans, J., & Wheeler, S. (2015, April). An Inclusive Sport Strategy: Eastern College Athletic Conference. Presentation conducted at the NCAA Inclusion Forum, San Diego, CA.

Orleans, J., Ridpath, M., Ruckdashel, C., & Wheeler, S. (2014, May). Disability Best Practices. Presentation conducted at the NCAA Inclusion Forum, Orlando, FL.

Wheeler, S. (2014, May). Shaping the Unknown: Seeing Potential in Everyone. Presentation conducted at the NCAA Inclusion Forum, Orlando, FL.

Frogley, M., Wheeler, S., Wolff, E., & Fay, T. (2012, April). Including Student-Athletes with Disabilities. Presented at the NCAA Equity and Inclusion Forum. New Orleans, LA.

Wheeler, S. (2012, June). Including Student Athletes with Disabilities. Presented at the meeting of the NCAA Disability Subcommittee. Indianapolis, IN.

Presentations on the high school to college transition process each year at the NWBA National Tournament.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Howe, D., Depauw, K., & Wheeler, S. (2019). *The Long Term Impact of High Quality Social Research*. Presentation at the IPC Vista Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Buysse, J. & Wheeler, S. (2018). *The Paralympic Games: Who's In and Who's Left Out*. Presentation at the Social Justice in Sport and Exercise Psychology Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Vitosky, C., & Wheeler, S. (2012, May). The Study Abroad Climate for Students with Disabilities at The University of Illinois. Presented at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Champaign, IL.

Vitosky, C., Wheeler, S., & Weiser, J. (2011, November). The Study Abroad Climate for Students with Disabilities at The University of Illinois. Poster presentation at the bi-annual Ethnography of the University Conference at the University of Illinois.

Curtner-Smith, M.D., Kim, J., Ajongbah, S., Zenagro, F., Wheeler, S., & Wallace, S. (2009, April). Teaching Styles of Girls High School Basketball Coaches. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, Tampa, Florida.

Wheeler, S. & Hardin, B. (2009, April). Case study of the knowledge acquisition of a wheelchair basketball coach. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, Tampa, Florida.

Wheeler, S. (2007, January) *Living life with a disability*. Presented to Girl Scouts in conjunction with U.S. Paralympics and the Hartford Company at the Hartford headquarters, Simsbury, CT.

Hardin, B, Wheeler, S., & Jungil, O. (2006, March) *Case study of an expert wheelchair basketball coach*. Presented at the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Convention, Salt Lake City, UT.

Wheeler, S. (2004, March) *Wheelchair basketball basics*. Invited presentation at the National Disability Sport Conference, Athens, Georgia.

Numerous other presentations on living life with a disability presented in conjunction with US Paralympics and The Hartford (2007-2011)

Numerous presentations in Champaign IL and the surrounding areas on wheelchair sports and the value and impact they have on the life of an individual with a disability.

Presentations to the Coaching Strategies KIN 239 class at the University of Illinois

Video presentation used in the online offering of Contemporary Issues in Sport KIN 142 at the University of Illinois
Many panel presentations with the Alliance of Women Coaches and True North Sports on creating inclusive spaces on athletic teams, being a woman in the coaching profession, and lessons learned as a female coach.

PUBLICATIONS

Wheeler, S. & Hardin, B. (2008). Case study of the knowledge acquisition of a wheelchair basketball coach. *Journal of Coaching Education*.

Hardin, B., Wheeler, S., Oh, J. (2008). Case study of a successful wheelchair basketball coach. *Applied Research on Coaching and Athletics Annual*, 23, 1-23.

COACHING AND INCLUSIVE EDUCATION CERTIFICATION

2012 graduate of the Women Coaches Academy, awarded by the Alliance of Women Coaches

2017 graduate of the Women Coaches Academy 2.0, awarded by the Alliance of Women Coaches

2014-15 member of the inaugural mentorship program lead by the International Women's Forum and Ernst and Young

2017-18 member of the inaugural mentorship program lead by the Alliance of Women Coaches

2017-18 member of the Inclusive Illinois Leadership Program

2018-19 member of the WeCoach (formerly the Alliance of Women Coaches) mentor program

2019 completed Racial Ally and Advocate Training levels 1.0 and 2.0

AWARDS AND GRANTS

First person in the NWBA to win a Paralympic gold medal as an athlete and head coach

Gold medal at the 2016 Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Head Coach)

Awarded Chancellors Academic Professional Award, University of Illinois, 2016

Gold medal at the 2015 ParaPan American Games, Toronto, Canada (Head Coach)

Gold medal at the 2011 IWBF Under 25 Women's World Championships, St. Catherines, Canada (Head Coach)

Gold medal at the 2010 IWBF World Championships, Birmingham, England

Most Valuable Player Award, 2009 NWWBT

Gold medal at 2008 Paralympic Games, Beijing China

MVP at the 2008 Osaka Cup International Friendly Games, Osaka Japan

Gold medal at 2007 ParaPan American Games, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

All Star at the 2007 Osaka Cup International Friendly Games, Osaka Japan

Silver medal at 2006 World Wheelchair Basketball Championships, Amsterdam Netherlands

Gold medal at 2004 Paralympic Games, Athens Greece

Silver medal at 2002 World Wheelchair Basketball Championships, Kitakyushu Japan

All Tournament team at the National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Tournament 2002, 2004-2009

Timothy Vandermeiden Sportsmanship Award 2005 NWWBT

Most Valuable Player Award, 2003 NWWBT

National Champions with the University of Illinois in 2002, 2003, 2004 and with the University of Alabama in 2009

Inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame in 2017

Inducted into the National Wheelchair Basketball Association Hall of Fame in 2018

Selected as a mentor athlete for US Paralympics 2008-2010

Selected as an athlete ambassador for The Hartford in 2007-2011

Selected as an ambassador for GO! Athletes 2013

Selected as an ambassador for Br{ache The Silence 2013
Selected as mentee in the Women Athletes Business Network, 2015
Selected as an ambassador for Athlete Ally, 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fit and Well	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Running	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Weight Training	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Basketball	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Physical Education for Elementary Education	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Coaching Wheelchair Basketball (Online)	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Graduate Student Advisory Committee to the Dean (Univ. of Alabama)	2006 - 2007
UA Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team (Assistant Coach)	2004 – 2009
Member of Inclusive Illinois Chancellors Committee	2017-2018
Member of the Chancellors Committee on the Admission of Student Athletes	2017-present
Coordinator and Lead Facilitator of the Disability Ally Program (DRES)	2016-present
Diversity and Inclusion Committee, College of Applied Health Studies	2020-present

VOLUNTARY EXTERNAL SERVICE

Southern Conference NWBA Basketball Camp (Instructor)	2007
Women's Development Committee (National Wheelchair Basketball)	2005
Committee Chairperson, Athletes Council, Intercollegiate Division, NWBA	2009-2014
Committee Chairperson, NCAA Committee, Intercollegiate Division, NWBA	2013-present
Rules Committee Member, NWBA	2014-2017
Coaches Council, WeCoach (formerly Alliance of Women Coaches)	2014-2016
Member of the Nike LGBT Sport Coalition	2014-present
Regional member of You Can Play	2016-2018
Ambassador for Athlete Ally	2018-present
Board of Directors, National Wheelchair Basketball Association	2019-present

REFERENCES

Michael Frogley
Director, Wheelchair Basketball Academy
Wheelchair Basketball Canada
(905)925-5901
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