

## **Grant Cooper**

The intersection of technology and paddlesports represents our sport's greatest opportunity—and I believe I am uniquely positioned to help the ACA Competition Council seize it.

With extensive technology expertise and active competitive involvement, I'm currently building systems to transform previously untapped race data into strategic insights for paddler development. But the real goal isn't technology—it's improving the competitiveness of our paddlers at every level, from novice programs through podium presence on the world stage.

I envision technology-enhanced development pathways: data-driven talent identification, video analysis for technique refinement, smarter event operations, and tools that help coaches make better decisions faster. These aren't just tech projects—they're competition advantages that raise the level of both our paddlers and our events.

Success in competition is measured by speed, yet volunteer organizations often lack speed in decisions and execution. Modern tools—AI, automation, analytics—can change that, creating efficiency that lets us focus on what matters: developing faster, more competitive paddlers.

As a Competition Council 'At-Large' member, I'll work across disciplines with athletes, coaches, and organizers to introduce and implement technology systems that elevate American paddlesports nationally and internationally.

## **Carlos Ifarraguerri**

I have been an International Canoe Federation official for over ten years, I have also competed in local canoe slalom and wildwater races for over fifteen years. I was a certified level three instructor in whitewater canoeing and have served in the canoe/kayak competition subcommittee for over five years. I want to continue supporting paddle sports competitions at the national level in any fashion that I can.

## **Alyson Mrozinski**

I began paddling sprint kayak in 2008 in Gig Harbor Wa under Alan Anderson. Since then the sport has taken me all over the world and country and has taught me more lessons than I can recall! The past 11 years I have also coached the sport, the last 3 as Head Coach of Gig Harbor Canoe and Kayak Racing Team. I am invested in this sport and the success of the US on the international level. I believe that happens at the foundation in developing strong systems and people from the ground up. I hope to use my leadership positions to continue the progress of our organizations collaboration and communication.

## **Risa Shimoda**

I would like to serve on the ACA Competition Council to continue developing a sense of community between disciplines that have operated independently. Competitors, coaches, officials, and event organizers deserve the opportunity to learn from each other. This year, we updated the operations procedure from its outdated 2017 edition, welcomed waveski as a new ACA Competition discipline, and initiated a process for combining event data from all disciplines so we can begin to learn how large 'paddlesports' participation actually is, and look forward to continuing this integration of disciplines collective efforts!