



# Board Nomination Form

## Nominee Details

ROLE	
Name	David Pollard
Address	
Mobile Phone No.	
Email Address	

I have read the Person Specification for the role and wish to nominate for the board as follows (to be completed by NominatingTriathlon Club):

ORGANISATION	KEY CONTACT
Position Nominated for:	Ordinary Board Director
Club Nominated By:	Crosshaven Triathlon Club
Club Delegate Name & TI Membership Number	Darren Hobbs 10104374

Please complete a motivational statement summary of your skills and experience relevant to the skill sets identified and supporting statement detailing your motivation for applying for the role below. This will be provided to the wider membership of Triathlon Ireland for their consideration prior to the election of candidates at the AGM.

Please summarise your skills and experience relevant to the skillset and supporting statement detailing your motivation for applying for the role.

As former Secretary and current Chair of Crosshaven Tri Club, I have hands-on insight into the needs of club members and the operational needs of clubs. I recognise the importance of practical resources, volunteer support, well-structured events, and robust financial planning. My priority is to ensure clubs have the backing required to foster strong local communities, where every member can enjoy the sport and grow in skill and confidence. Members and clubs form the backbone of the triathlon ecosystem, and I believe supporting them effectively is vital to Triathlon Ireland's continued success.

Beyond my work in triathlons, the vision of a healthy and inclusive future has been at the centre of my work since my first job teaching young adults with physical and intellectual disabilities. This experience has given me a deep appreciation for inclusive environments where everyone can participate and thrive. My current PhD research into inclusive design underscores my passion for ensuring that communities put people of all abilities at the centre of conversations. Triathlon Ireland embodies the values of resilience, determination, and collective support - principles that strongly align with my own commitment to support inclusivity and break down barriers.

This vision is what I continue to work towards in my current role as Head of the Department of Digital Learning, Education Platforms and Scaling at the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT Health). I have led impactful health initiatives that have been featured in Forbes, Fortune, and The New York Times, and I was honoured to be shortlisted for an Irish Red Cross Humanitarian Award for Innovation. These recognitions reflect a lifelong commitment to excellence and a clear vision of empowering people of all backgrounds to be healthier and more independent in their lives.

Should I be elected as an Ordinary Director, I intend to give my energy to forging partnerships, securing sustainable funding, and advancing inclusive design principles to help Triathlon Ireland flourish. I will advocate for transparent governance, evidence-based decision-making, and forward-looking strategy - always with a focus on making the sport accessible to all. I believe that by

harnessing the power of collaboration and creative problem-solving, Triathlon Ireland will continue to inspire people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds to reach their full potential in sport and in life.

I believe that collaboration and community engagement can truly transform lives when combined with innovation. This is what has motivated me to apply to be part of the Board of Triathlon Ireland.

Please highlight particular high-level skill sets that you feel you have in any of the following areas:

Skillset	Detail
Strategic Expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Healthcare Innovation &amp; Education Leadership:</b> As Head of Digital Learning, Education Platforms, and Scaling at EIT Health, I lead strategic initiatives across Europe, shaping and implementing transformative educational programmes that reach a broad range of learners—students, professionals, patients, and citizens.</li> <li>● <b>Long-Term Vision &amp; Collaborative Growth:</b> My role involves fostering collaborative ecosystems, partnering with start-ups, hospitals, universities, and industry leaders. This experience aligns seamlessly with Triathlon Ireland’s need to cultivate sustainable development strategies and inclusive, long-term planning.</li> <li>● <b>Global Impact &amp; Inclusivity:</b> Through co-founding TeamOSV (an open-source volunteer network of over 5,000 members in response to the pandemic) and my work on European Commission-funded projects, I have demonstrated the ability to unite diverse groups around a shared vision. These skills can be applied to unify and expand Triathlon Ireland’s membership base.</li> </ul>
Financial & Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Programme &amp; Event Budgeting:</b> My leadership of large-scale events, such as Startup Week Dublin (which hosted over 7,500 attendees across two years), required</li> </ul>

	<p>meticulous financial planning and risk assessment. I am adept at balancing ambitious goals with sound financial stewardship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Scaling &amp; Sustainability:</b> Building EIT Health's European-wide multi-million digital learning platform has given me hands-on experience with sustainable business models, ensuring robust revenue streams and controlled risk exposure. This expertise can help Triathlon Ireland plan effectively for growth, manage resources, and maintain financial stability.</li> </ul>
Corporate Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Board &amp; Committee Experience:</b> As former Futurist and Innovation Committee Chairman and Board Member at the Global Alliance for Medical Education (GAME), I am familiar with governance protocols, leadership accountability, and strategic oversight. I understand the importance of transparency and ethical decision-making, which are vital for Triathlon Ireland's Board. My experience as Secretary and current Chairperson also are important for keeping a finger on the pulse at club level.</li> <li>● <b>Compliance &amp; Stakeholder Engagement:</b> My advisory roles on multiple EU-funded projects demand thorough compliance with regulatory standards, alongside proactive stakeholder engagement. Within Triathlon Ireland, these governance principles will help ensure members' interests remain paramount, preserving trust and alignment with the organisation's mission.</li> </ul>
Other Relevant Skill Sets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Entrepreneurship &amp; Community Building:</b> Founding TeamOSV and Sapien Innovation, my consultancy, underscores my ability to initiate, grow, and sustain impactful communities. These ventures highlight my capacity to galvanise volunteers, engage stakeholders, and produce tangible results—skills which can support volunteer committees and community outreach within Triathlon Ireland.</li> <li>● <b>Event Management &amp; Scaling Expertise:</b> My experience in organising global conferences, workshops, and Startup Week initiatives demonstrates a track record of successfully scaling events and driving member</li> </ul>

	<p>engagement—crucial for attracting new participants and retaining existing members in triathlon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Education &amp; Mentorship:</b> As a lecturer in Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Design Thinking, and Technology-Enhanced Learning at Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin, I have developed a strong ability to educate and inspire others. This background aligns with Triathlon Ireland’s aim to nurture a pipeline of skilled athletes, coaches, and volunteers.</li> </ul>
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I wish to be nominated for the above role, and if elected, agree to act first and foremost in the best interests of Triathlon Ireland and the sport nationally at all times, regardless of any regional or club affiliation. If elected, I agree I will declare any real or potential conflicts of interest to my fellow board members:

Signature: David Pollard



Date: 02/03/2024