



Board Nomination Form

Nominee Details

ROLE	
Name	KAREN LEWIS
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 Nominating Triathlon Club):

ORGANISATION	KEY CONTACT
Position Nominated for:	FINANCE DIRECTOR
Club Nominated By:	NEWRY TRIATHLON CLUB
Club Delegate Name & TI Membership Number	CLARE FERGUSON 10037225

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.

Statement of Candidacy for Finance Director (2025-2027)

I have had the privilege of serving as the co-opted Finance Director on the Board of Triathlon Ireland since March 2024. During this time, I have contributed to the organisation's financial oversight, strategic planning, and risk management, and I am now seeking to be formally elected to this role for the period 2025-2027.

With 30 years' experience in financial management, quality management, and governance, I have spent the last two decades working alongside my husband managing a specialist consultancy, overseeing a team of up to 40 staff. My expertise spans bid-writing for public sector procurement, managing quality management systems, and client relationship management. Prior to this, I worked as an internal auditor in the UK local government sector and as a financial management consultant in the education sector, where I managed capital programmes and monitored the financial health of further education colleges across the south-west of England.

My involvement with triathlon began nearly eight years ago when I participated in the New 2 Tri programme with Newry Triathlon Club. My passion for the sport and the triathlon community grew quickly, and I soon became an active member of the club's committee before serving as Chairperson. These roles provided me with a deeper understanding of Triathlon Ireland at an organisational level. My connection with Triathlon Ireland also expanded through my selection as a 'Beyond the Finish Line' advocate, and more recently, as the co-opted Finance Director and Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Triathlon Ireland is emerging from a challenging financial period, and I believe my experience in financial oversight and strategic planning uniquely qualifies me to help guide the organisation forward. My time as Finance Director has allowed me to gain a thorough understanding of Triathlon Ireland's operational systems, funding structures, and the challenges facing National Governing Bodies (NGBs) both in Ireland and internationally. During this time, I have also built strong relationships with key personnel within Triathlon Ireland, its partners, and counterparts in other European federations and beyond. Additionally, as the current Chairperson of the organisation's Audit & Risk Committee I have led and contributed to key strategies ensuring the organisation remains agile and financially resilient.

As both a triathlete and a committed club member, I am deeply passionate about the future of the sport. I am dedicated to ensuring that Triathlon Ireland remains a top-tier federation, fully capable of achieving the ambitious goals outlined in the 2024-2028 strategic plan. With the right financial leadership and strategic direction, I am confident that we can position the organisation for long-term success. I am committed to working alongside other Board members and Executive staff to drive forward our shared vision.

It would be an honour to continue contributing to Triathlon Ireland's growth and success in the years ahead. I am excited about the opportunity to help lead the organisation toward a prosperous and sustainable future.

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

Skillset	Detail
Strategic Expertise	Experience on current Board of Directors of Triathlon Ireland Previous experience on the Board of an integrated primary school
Financial & Risk Management	I have 30 years' experience in financial and risk management in public, private and voluntary sectors. Previously worked as an internal auditor within local government; and a financial management consultant within the further education sector
Corporate Governance	Experience within public, private and voluntary sectors with a focus on Corporate Governance, transparency and accountability
Other Relevant Skill Sets	3rd Level Qualification in Applied Economics Qualifications in leadership and management Level 2 Triathlon Ireland coach Race Organiser Technical Official

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:  _____

Date: 25/02/2025 _____