Candidates’ responses to the Q&A are presented in their entirety without changes, edits, or corrections.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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1. Surveys of members indicate the most common reason they don’t vote is that they feel that they “don’t know the candidates.” To help the members get to know you better describe something you are passionate about or enjoy doing in your free time.

In my free time I like to be with my family. I have two children and a lovely wife. I spend most of that time at the hockey rink. I coach both of my kid’s teams. My daughter is eight and is just starting to thrive as a competitive player and my son is ten and has been playing very competitively for a few years now.

When we are not at the rink, we skate in the backyard. I construct a rather large rink, 50 by 25 feet, for them to practice on. They are outside in the cold New England winters more than during the summer.

Ice skating with the kids gives us time to learn about the sport, teamwork, and competing. It is a time to connect
with each other about other life events. I appreciate the ability to be able to have these moments with my family.

2. Describe your most meaningful day in the OR, or in the office, and how it has impacted your current practice, or work, as a nurse.

My most meaningful day in the OR was when I first became a CVOR nurse. I was circulating with my preceptor. She was unhappy with my performance that day, it was a rough day. My scrub nurse, who is now my boss, took me aside after the case and told me she had wanted for nothing and my performance was what was necessary to move through such a critical procedure. She told me it was better to be present than perfect. The subtleties of being the perfect circulator can be learned but she reminded me that being attentive and supportive was what was necessary for her to do her job well. This small comment changed my perspective for the rest of my career. I feel that I am a better perioperative nurse because I pay close attention, actively listen, and am attentive to my surroundings and colleagues.

3. Identify the two most important things you feel need to be a part of the candidate selection process.
The most important things that I believe are important to the selection process is that we need to have candidates that can work well as a team and communicate with each other as well as with other groups. Teamwork and communication will allow the candidates to be more efficient and problem solve much more easily. Important information will be shared and people are more approachable.

When a group works well together and can communicate the message, the tasks needed to get done can be done more efficiently. Communication involves verbal, written, and listening skills. It is important because the decisions being made are not only involving the group working together but, in this instance, they will be making decisions that impact the success of the entire organization.