

In the Arena: Founding Board

Scott Blackmun

SCOTT BLACKMUN has recently rejoined Denver-based law firm Holme, Roberts & Owen as a partner. He had been serving as the Chief Operating Officer of the Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG) in Los Angeles, one of the world's most respected presenters of sports and entertainment events. He will continue to work closely with AEG in the development and implementation of strategic initiatives and will serve as AEG's principal outside counsel on those initiatives. Prior to joining AEG, Blackmun had been the Acting CEO of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as well as its Managing Director of Sport and General Counsel during his career with the organization. While at the USOC, Blackmun earned a reputation as an executive highly popular with Olympic athletes, staff, and supporters, and won accolades for his efforts in sport's battle against drugs. He is a 1979 graduate of Dartmouth College, where he was a standout soccer player, and a 1982 Stanford Law School graduate. Blackmun also serves on the Board of the U.S. Soccer Hall of Fame.

Grady Durham

GRADY DURHAM is the founder and President of Monticello Associates, one of the country's premier asset management consulting firms. He is a graduate of the University of Colorado (with distinction) and is a lifelong athlete. He has competed in the New York City Marathon, the American Birkebeiner and more than thirty triathlons. Additionally, he is an enthusiastic skier (nordic and alpine), golfer and squash player. He has been active throughout his business career in the not-for-profit sector and currently serves on the Investment Committee of the Atlantic Foundation (New York, NY), is a Trustee of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation (Charlottesville, VA) and the Denver Art Museum.

Michael Horvath

MICHAEL HORVATH is an economist, professor of management, and consulting entrepreneur in the areas of life sciences and information technology. He has held faculty appointments in economics and business administration at Stanford University and University of Chicago, and currently holds the appointment of Adjunct Associate Professor of Business Administration at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College. Michael co-founded Kana Software, Inc. and served as its CFO and VP of Operations, was the CFO and VP of Operations of GlycoFi, Inc. and co-founded the Economics Resource Group, an economic consulting firm providing litigation support and economic consulting. He has also been a founding investor, board member, and/or advisor to several other successful venture-backed IT and life sciences companies. Michael has taught widely at the undergraduate, MBA and Ph.D. levels and earned his own Ph.D. in economics from Northwestern University and an A.B. in economics with honors from Harvard University. After rowing as an undergraduate, Michael continues to stay fit by running, cycling, skiing, doing yoga and trying to keep up with his four, energetic children.

Jeff Johnson

JEFF JOHNSON, a former collegiate runner at Stanford University, was the first full-time employee of Blue Ribbon Sports in 1965, the company that ultimately became NIKE, Inc in 1972. From the start, Jeff contributed to all elements of the young operation from sales and marketing to sweeping the floors. His most ubiquitous contribution was his suggestion of the name, "NIKE," hours before Phil Knight was set to move forward with the moniker "Dimension 6." Jeff played an instrumental role in the improvement of running footwear. He is innately observant, which allowed him to apply athletes' feedback on races, training and injuries to develop products that runners wanted and needed. Today, NIKE still depends on this interaction and feedback from athletes of all levels. Johnson didn't just make his mark on the running world in shoes, however; he has coached at the junior high, high school, collegiate and post-collegiate levels. His coaching resume boasts three National Champions, two Olympians, seven New Hampshire State Cross Country Team Championships, one New England High School Championship Cross Country Team, four USATF Club National Cross Country Team Champions and four New Hampshire High School "Coach of the Year" awards. He is currently a Volunteer Assistant Coach for Winter and Spring Track at Hanover High School in Hanover, NH.

Amory Rowe, Founder and President

AMORY ROWE is the founder of In the Arena. Having witnessed first-hand the way in which athletes magnetize the attention of this country's youngest and most impressionable citizens, and dismayed by the dearth of high-caliber role models in many communities, Amory established In the Arena in the fall of 2006 with the aim of effecting positive and meaningful change at the youth level. Amory's belief in the uplifting power of sport and the value of civic engagement were born of her own experience as an athlete, a teacher and a coach.

As an undergraduate at Princeton, from which she received a BA in English in 1995, Amory played on the varsity field hockey, ice hockey and lacrosse teams, co-captaining the field hockey and lacrosse teams her senior year. Amory's teams won five Ivy League Championships and one National Championship (in lacrosse). In addition, Amory was awarded individual Ivy League honors six times, All-American honors four times, Academic All-American honors her senior year and holds the distinction of being Princeton's first athlete, male or female, in any sport to be named a First Team All-American three years in a row. At graduation Amory received the C. Otto von Kienbush Prize as one of the school's best female scholar-athletes. As a member of the U.S. Women's Lacrosse Team in 1997, Amory traveled to the World Championships in Tokyo, Japan, where her team defended its world title by defeating Australia in the Championship game. After lacrosse Amory made a transition to individual sports, competing for Reebok Boston in cross country, indoor and outdoor track. Her running paved the road to a career in triathlon; she entered the world of multi-sport in 2001, turning professional in 2003. In 2004 Amory was the U.S. Pro Duathlon National Champion and the top-ranked U.S. duathlete, achieving a #4 world ranking.

Amory's athletic pursuits were balanced by her service as a teacher and coach. Her first post-collegiate job was as a Teaching Fellow at the Dunn School in Los Olivos, CA. From there she took a post as assistant coach of the Harvard women's lacrosse team and, subsequently, served as an English teacher and coach (field hockey and lacrosse) at Buckingham Browne and Nichols School in Cambridge, MA. Prior to founding In the Arena, Amory served as Executive Director of the U.S. Athletic Trust, a not-for-profit that provides logistical and financial support for college-graduated aspiring Olympians.