



What does it mean to be SouthWest Region Chair?

There are essentially two components. One is to lead Region-wide efforts to “promote and develop tennis” ... to “broaden participation in organized tennis” ... and to “strengthen club and regional structures” within our geographic area (Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand-Norfolk). The other is to serve as a member of the OTA board of directors.

How this is done varies from region to region, and from chair to chair. The mandate is broad, therefore specific actions will be tailored to the interests and the capacities of each particular volunteer. In general, communication among tennis providers within the region will be spearheaded or coordinated by the Region Chair. The primary “must have” is an annual meeting and election.

Election as Chair takes place ideally before the end of each year, though there’s sometimes a rollover to the early months of the year following. At the following OTA AGM in April, the Region Chairs are formally appointed to the OTA Board.

The OTA Board is comprised of a 7-member Executive Committee (Chair, Past Chair, four Vice Chairs and the CEO/President), as well as the 10 Region Chairs. The Board has 6 regular meetings per year : March, May, June, September, November, December. They normally take place on Saturday mornings from 9:30 - 1:00 in the boardroom at the National Tennis Centre. In recent years, the November meeting has been a full day in-person meeting. There’s also a brief meeting after the OTA AGM in April. In addition, Board members attend Presidents Day at the NBO (August) and the DSA Presentation Dinner (October or November).

The Board has a standing committee called the Regional Council, comprised of the Vice-Chair Membership & Regional Development and the 10 Region Chairs. It has been meeting online on an evening prior to each Board meeting.

The Nominating Committee is another standing committee, this one comprised of the Past Chair and the 10 Region Chairs. It meets online as many times as needed to provide a slate of candidates for the Executive Committee positions in advance of the OTA AGM in April.

All directors serve without remuneration, and sign a declaration that they serve without receiving any profit either directly or indirectly from the position.

Region Chairs and the Board’s Vice-Chairs serve terms of one year, thus require re-election annually in order to continue in their positions. The call for nominations is made up to 60 days before the meeting, and nominations close 20 days before the meeting. Region Chairs are subject to term limits of six years.