



WELCOME 2025-2026 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On August 1st, Striders' new officers and directors were officially installed for the 2025-2026 club year including myself, Hafiz Shaikh, as President, and Faye Weaver as Vice President. I want to thank our outgoing President Bill Brown and Vice President Larry Stern who served the club for the past 3½ years. Bill will stay on as Immediate Past President for one year and I will be relying on him for guidance. Our team of officers and directors is comprised of experienced and new volunteers to manage our club over the next year. The full list of Officers and Board of Directors can be found on our website: <https://striders.net/about/board/>.

I also want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and Faye to the membership.

Many of you know that I served as the Special Races Director since you received many emails from me asking for course marshals and start/finish volunteers. *Thank you to all those who responded to my call for help!!* However, my first experience with the Striders came through the bagel run way back in 2008. This run exposed me to a whole community of runners that I hadn't experienced since high school track and field. The bagel run eventually led me to the Next Step Programs which prepared me for running my first marathon in 2009 (*Baltimore Marathon 3:45*). Along the way I've made so many lifelong friends and traveled with them throughout the country all in pursuit of our love of running. Many of these friends took on leadership roles with the Striders as Next Step coordinators, officers, or directors. I followed their example and took on the challenge of race directing including our most prominent races: Clyde's 10K and Club Challenge. This 17+ year journey with the Striders puts me in a unique position to serve as President. I want to welcome new runners into our community and encourage existing members to serve the club that's been an integral part of Howard County for almost 50 years.

Faye started her Striders' running career in the Next Step FIT program in 2009 and completed her first race at the Columbia WDF. She continued to race shorter distances until her dedication to training eventually led her to complete her first marathon in Bermuda in 2013. Since then, she has completed over 60 official marathons—as well as several 50Ks and the Vermont 100. Faye has been an RRCA Certified coach since 2015 and has coached and co-coordinated various Striders' Next Step programs from 5K to the Half/Full Marathon since 2010. She also enjoys pacing and has helped runners reach their goals in distances from 10 milers to full marathons since 2011. A proud member of the Howard County Striders since 2009 and the Racing Team (2018-2025), Faye looks forward to sharing her love of running, racing, and pacing with others.

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