



Marilyn Suey Diamond with her award recognizing her as one of the world's top private club presidents.



Standard of Excellence

BoardRoom magazine honors Marilyn Suey Diamond for outstanding leadership

BY WILL PICKERING, COO



It's with great excitement and pride that I share some incredible news: Our 2024-2025 Club President, Marilyn Suey Diamond, has been named one of BoardRoom magazine's Top 22 Private Club Presidents in the world for 2024.

This is a big deal. Board presidents play a crucial role in club governance, and this award, now in its 17th year, draws nominations from clubs around the globe. Out of thousands of club presidents worldwide, only 22 are selected. That Marilyn is among them speaks volumes about her leadership, commitment, and impact.

Some of the key criteria used to select this year's honorees include commitment, competence, diversity, openness and transparency, strong communication with members and management, fiscal responsibility, strategic vision, and sound policy leadership. Marilyn brings all of these qualities to life through her service to our Club.

Think back to 2024. We made major strides with our capital strategy, the vision laid out by our Strategic Planning Committee, the Lakeside refresh, a significant operating surplus, and higher member experience and Board trust scores. Marilyn's leadership helped guide us through all of it and elevated our performance across the board.

Great Board presidents lead by drawing on the strengths of their fellow volunteer Board members, stewarding club resources wisely, and setting future leaders up for success. Marilyn does all of this while pouring her time, energy, and heart into the Club every single day.

2024 was a standout year, and 2025 is already off to a strong start. When you see Marilyn around the Club, I hope you'll join me in congratulating her on this well-deserved honor. The best is yet to come!

BoardRoom honors Marilyn Suey Diamond >>

December 30, 2024

Marilyn Suey Diamond
Blackhawk Country Club
599 Blackhawk Club Drive
Danville, CA 94506

Dear Marilyn,

It's with great pleasure we inform you that you have been named one of *BoardRoom magazine's top 22 Private Club Presidents for 2024*.

BoardRoom magazine is the official publication of the *Association of Private Club Directors (APCD)*, *Distinguished Clubs* and *Distinguished Golf Destinations*. As you are aware, *BoardRoom's* mandate is to "educate and inform" with a tight focus on raising issues and solving problems, particularly for board members, COOs and general managers.

We know private club board presidents play a huge role in professional operations of their clubs. It's a real credit to you, as a volunteer who has worked diligently with your board of directors and general manager, to know that you have spearheaded informed, but not emotional decisions.

This award, now in its 17th year, has attracted board president nominations from clubs and other nominators around the world, which confirms to us that recognition of the best club presidents in the world is relevant and required. That's the reason why *BoardRoom magazine* has initiated this award.

You, as the board president, exemplify the focus on the leadership responsibilities, the accountability and the management of the board providing a healthy respect for the club's macromanagement.

We understand the importance of your role as president, working effectively and efficiently with your volunteer board, and the dedication that's required from everyone with whom you work.

This award isn't to be treated lightly. Systems alone do not insure a good board.

Key elements include: commitment, competence, diversity, collective decision making, openness, transparency, effective communication with the management and the membership; fiscal responsibility, development and establishment of the club's mission, vision and policy direction, especially through establishment of a strategic plan.

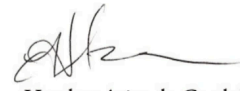
A successful board president draws upon the expertise of other board members, the club's institutional memory and stewardship of the club's resources. As well the board president provides new board members and future board presidents with information they need to perform effectively. The responsibility for developing and implementing an effective board orientation is shared by the club's president and general manager/COO, and through the use of resources such as *BoardRoom magazine*.

We join with others in honoring you as one of the top 22 private club presidents and offer our heartfelt congratulation.

Sincerely,



John Fornaro
publisher



Heather Arias de Cordoba
editor/co-publisher

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