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***JD Jones steps aside as Director of Coaching***

Eau Claire, WI – April 26, 2023 – Eau Claire United Soccer Club Director of Coaching (DOC) JD Jones steps aside from position

JD's three-year contract with the club expired in December of 2022. He met with the Board of Directors in January and informed them he would be stepping aside from his DOC role to allow the club to search for a new leader to help with the next phase of development.

During JD's tenure, he accomplished a lot. Most notably, he helped lead the club and coaches through the Covid-19 pandemic, enhanced many programs, established and executed a different style of play, attached methodology to game theory, and laid a foundation for Eau Claire United's future. His work with the coaches has been profound. He has managed to put together a core group of coaches who meet regularly to develop their skills, who support each other at trainings, games, and tournaments, and who have a unified direction on how the club can offer the best experience in the area at an affordable price point.

On his decision, JD said "My decision to not return (for a second term) as DOC has many motives... I think the greatest being our clubs need for growth, particularly within the coaching structure. I think it was prudent to first develop a strong coaching core to continue to serve our members effectively. By stepping aside, it enables ECU (Eau Claire United) to attract another high-level, intrinsically motivated, educated, and capable leader... I am not leaving, just stepping aside to create room for others."

New Board President Heidi McKone, on JD "His impact to our soccer club and community is undeniable. He has brought passion, energy, and a tireless effort to help the development of our coaches and young athletes. We are thankful for his accomplishments the past (three) years and are excited for his continued involvement with the club."

JD will continue to support the club in various roles including coaching several teams, working closely with the Board of Directors to continue to develop the club and its members, and leading the transition to a new DOC.

If you would like more information about this topic, please email Heidi McKone at [president@unitedsoccer.org](mailto:president@unitedsoccer.org).

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