



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: press@usquidditch.org

US QUIDDITCH HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SEATTLE, WA—US Quidditch is pleased to announce the hiring of Donte Quinine as the organization's new Executive Director. Quinine was hired following a nationwide search process this summer. He will succeed outgoing Acting Executive Director Alicia Radford, who served the organization for six years in partnership with founder and former CEO Alex Benepe.

Quinine comes to USQ with a Masters in Organizational Leadership and over ten years of experience in leadership positions in higher education, including Assistant Athletics Director and Major Gifts Officer at Seattle Pacific University, Leadership Facilitator for the NCAA, and most recently as Director of Student Life, Outreach, and Recruitment at Wenatchee Valley College, where he oversaw student activities and events, residence halls, intercollegiate and intramural athletics, and more.

Quinine is also a lifelong athlete. He played basketball professionally for the Quad City Thunder, Fort Wayne Fury, and other teams in France and Argentina. As part of his basketball career, Quinine traveled with Athletes in Action throughout Europe, Canada and Africa, using basketball as a vehicle to bring about social change. USQ's mission to build community and empower all genders to compete together inspired Quinine to apply for Executive Director.

"I was drawn to the unique culture of USQ. The staff, volunteers, players, fans, and all of the other constituents are very passionate about the sport. It has been my dream to lead an organization with the vibrancy of USQ. I really wanted to be part of an organization that is growing and pioneering a new vision for inclusive sports and community."

Quinine will oversee the day-to-day management of US Quidditch. "I'm excited to get to know all of the amazing constituents involved with USQ," Quinine said. "I know that there are many people who work tirelessly to make sure that we have quality events and I can't wait to support them. I'm also excited to explore new opportunities for growth and fundraising, and take a look at organizational structure and identify necessary changes to ensure long term sustainability. I'm going to take a very close look at the strategic plan and start setting benchmarks to ensure that we are actively progressing towards our goals."

"The Board is very excited to welcome Donte as USQ's new Executive Director," said Jacob Adlis, USQ's chairman. "Between his demonstrated passion for the mission of USQ, his experience in university athletics administration, and his background as a professional athlete, Donte brings a wealth of knowledge to our growing organization. As we continue to execute on our strategic plan and usher in the next phase of USQ's growth, Donte will provide a strong source of leadership for the expansion of the sport of quidditch."

Quinine will start on September 21. He will work with Radford through the end of the month to ensure a seamless transition.

###

US Quidditch is the national governing body for the sport of quidditch. USQ advances the sport by organizing events and programs that build community and empower all genders to compete together. A 501(c) nonprofit founded in 2010, USQ serves over 4,000 athletes on almost 200 teams nationwide and provides a range of services, from hosting nine major tournaments and supervising regular season competition, to training and certifying referees, snitches, and tournament directors, offering grants, and working to expand the sport into younger age groups through outreach programs. Learn more at www.usquidditch.org.