





WHY THE MERGER?

- **Survey Data** - Both State Associations conducted surveys with their memberships on what they were doing well and areas of improvement. After reviewing the results, it became clear that we could address many of those issues by merging
- **Rewrite Constitution to favor all members** - Opportunity to rewrite constitution, bylaws, policies, etc. to reflect the greater flexibility our members have been asking for
- **Confusion on Split** - No one has ever understood why we are split. Unify the state and connect all communities, irrespective of geography or population
- **Minimize Travel** - For those that wish, minimize travel locally and outside of Ohio due to greater membership numbers
- **Big Tent** - Opportunity to operate a 'Big Tent' concept to eliminate the fractured soccer landscape in Ohio and create a new entity that will revolutionize soccer in Ohio.
- **Competition** - Greater level of competition for Clubs and potential for substantial growth for leagues
- **Grassroots & Rec Focus** - More focus/attention to Grassroots & Recreational soccer growth and connecting communities through soccer





WHY THE MERGER?

- **Consistency** - State-wide Consistency in application of policies/bylaws/etc.
- **Bridge the Gap between Cultural Differences** - Address the cultural differences in our members so that the smaller community-based leagues/clubs feel as much a part of the new Association as the larger city/ districtwide leagues and clubs
- **Unique time in history** - Many youth sports groups are struggling financially. Opportunity to emerge from COVID-19 crisis in a position of strength due to combining of assets
- **Membership Growth** - Combined membership will increase to 90,000+ players with growth potential in excess of 125,000 players. The benefit/value proposition to potential sponsors on becoming one of the largest State Association in the Midwest and the country. These are resources to be re-invested back in our membership
- **Serve Needs** - Greater ability to serve the needs of the membership
- **Staff Experience** - Capitalize on additional staffing, expertise & experience
- **Combined Assets** - Combined assets will allow us to further invest in programming and growing the game





INTEGRATION TEAM



Skip Gilbert



Drew Hiatt



Tom Condone



Jen Fickett



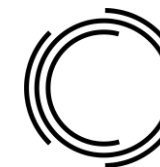
Tom Turner



Gordon Henderson



Bill Glaze



Brad Stinson



Jordan LaRocca





TIME INVESTMENT: APRIL - NOW

Meetings	143 Hours x Integration Team Members
Research & Creation	120+ Hours x Integration Team Members
People Involved	11 Core People + 23 Board Members + Many Others Talked to for Reference





WHAT DOES THE MERGER TIMELINE LOOK LIKE?

- Member vote to agreement of merger for Ohio North on November 30 and Ohio South on December 1. Filing with the State of the Ohio Soccer Association (OSA) in mid December
- Hiring of CEO to oversee the new organization. CEO has full operational control over staff and programming
- Both Ohio South and Ohio North will remain operational through Spring 2021 and conduct programming as normal. This includes leagues and tournaments.
- In addition, teams in NCS/State Cup and Presidents Cup will qualify for Regionals/Nationals still as Ohio South and Ohio North
- At the same time, OSA will be open for registration and programming by February 2021 for the 2021 – 2022 season
- Both offices will be retained through and after the merger.
- A transitional Board of Directors will serve until the first member meeting of the Ohio Soccer Association in March 2021. The first Board of Directors will be elected at that time by the members; leagues and clubs.
- Transitional board will model the make up of the new organization board





SUCCESS WHEN WE GET THERE?

- **Innovative & Progressive** - Ability for the staff to be innovative & progressive as a united organization
- **Strategic Board** - The Board can be more strategically focused on growing the State & let the office run the operations of the State
- **Voice & Values** - Leagues & Clubs will feel that their voice is being heard & will feel a greater value from affiliating with their State Association
- **Reimagined State Association** - Become an innovative State Association with a professional staff with double the resources to best serve the membership. Identifying and thinking differently on “who should” and “who could” be our members
- **Competition** - Better overall competition for the Clubs & Leagues by uniting the membership
- **”Big Tent”** - “Big Tent” concept uniting a fractured soccer landscape

