



# OAKLAND ATHLETICS

## Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Oakland Athletics Announce Leadership Transitions**

***Organization celebrates decades of service, as Lew Wolff and Michael Crowley transition to new roles  
John Fisher and Dave Kaval named Managing Partner and President, respectively***

**OAKLAND, Calif.** – The Oakland Athletics today announced that current Managing Partner Lew Wolff will transition to Chairman Emeritus and John Fisher will replace him as Managing Partner. MLB owners approved the leadership transition during today's meeting in Chicago. Additionally, Wolff and Fisher have agreed in principal to Wolff selling his interest in the team to the remaining owners of the A's and will retain a small stake in the Club moving forward.

"It has been an honor serving as Managing Partner and I thank our fans, staff, and players for the opportunity I've had to lead this great organization," said Wolff. "John and I have talked in great length about the future of this club and I am ready to pass the reins to him."

"I want to thank Lew for his leadership over the last 11 years," said Fisher. "His initiative and love of the game of baseball brought my family to the A's, and we would not be involved without him. Lew has given the organization all of his energy and experience for the last 11 years and I look forward to a new chapter in our working relationship and friendship. It is a privilege for me to steward the A's at this important moment for the franchise."

Additionally, after almost 20 years as President of the A's, Michael Crowley has decided to transition from day-to-day operations. Crowley will continue to serve as a senior advisor to the A's ownership group. He will use his decades of experience to provide strategic guidance on a wide range of issues. Dave Kaval will assume the role as A's President. He also serves as President of the San Jose Earthquakes.

"I am eternally grateful to our wonderful fans, the team, staff, and the A's ownership for what we have been able to accomplish together," said Crowley. "I'm at the point in my career where I am ready to take on new professional challenges while continuing to support the organization I love." Crowley attended the MLB owners meeting in Chicago today with Fisher, as part of the transition process.

"We have a deep appreciation for Mike's service and leadership and we are pleased that he will continue to play a role in the future of the A's," said Wolff and Fisher. Under Crowley and Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations Billy Beane, the A's made the playoffs eight times, including setting a Major League record by winning 20 games in a row in 2002. In addition to his leadership of the Club, Crowley was instrumental in relaunching the San Jose Earthquakes in 2008 and the hiring of Kaval as President. Crowley will continue to serve on the Board of Directors of the Quakes and advise the Quakes on a range of issues.

Dave Kaval has served as the President of the San Jose Earthquakes of Major League Soccer for six years. He oversees the business of the Quakes and represents the club on the Major League Soccer Board of Governors. In his time with the Quakes, Kaval has led a transformation of the organization elevating the stature and awareness of the club, culminating in opening the Quakes new \$100M privately financed soccer stadium – Avaya Stadium – in March 2015. Prior to joining the Quakes, he founded the independent Golden Baseball League (GBL) in 2003. In 2000, Kaval co-authored a book, "The Summer that Saved Baseball," which highlighted a tour of all 30 Major League Baseball stadiums in the summer of 1998.

"I've worked closely with Dave at the Quakes and I know he'll bring tremendous energy to the organization as the team continues to pursue a new venue," said Crowley. "He has an undeniable passion to carry on our goals of fielding a competitive team and engaging our community through the game of baseball."

WORLD CHAMPIONS...1910 • 1911 • 1913 • 1929 • 1930 • 1972 • 1973 • 1974 • 1989

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS...1902 • 1905 • 1910 • 1911 • 1913 • 1914 • 1929 • 1930 • 1931 • 1972 • 1973 • 1974 • 1988 • 1989 • 1990

“I am excited to take on the role of President of the Oakland Athletics. I want to thank Lew Wolff and Mike Crowley for their confidence in me and support,” said Kaval. “Given my longstanding love of baseball and my experience building Avaya Stadium, I am enthusiastic to join the Athletics as the Club pursues a world-class ballpark in Oakland for the best fans in baseball.”

Wolff and Fisher, along with a limited partnership group, purchased the A’s on April 1, 2005, and have been partners in various activities and companies since 1994.

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