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AUSTIN FC FRONT OFFICE GROWS STAFF IN PREPARATION FOR INAUGURAL SEASON

Austin FC continues to build towards the Club's inaugural season in 2021 with a diverse range of hires in marketing, finance, stadium operations, corporate partnerships and ticketing; Amongst the recent staff appointments are James Ruth, Senior Vice President of Marketing, and Raquel Garcia, Vice President of Marketing; Oscar Oriondo, Controller; Audrey Bounds, Director, Event Booking, Nick Otte, Director, Event Services, Martin Salomon, Director, Facilities, and Tanner Coffman, Assistant Director, Grounds

Austin, TX (September 10, 2020) – Austin FC, the 27th Club in Major League Soccer (MLS), continues to build staffing infrastructure with 15 new employees announced within the marketing, finance, stadium operations, corporate partnerships and ticketing departments. The newly announced group features a variety of key appointments with diverse backgrounds and experiences, including Austin residents, University of Texas at Austin graduates, and representatives from Major League Soccer's headquarters in New York, as well as various MLS clubs from around the League.

"Over the past few months, we have continued to add a diverse and talented group of experienced professionals focused on launching a new Club and stadium in Austin," said Andy Loughnane, Austin FC President. "Austin FC remains on-course to deliver Austin's first major league property, and each of our newest colleagues will help us build the foundation for long-term success."

James Ruth, formerly with MLS, joined Austin FC as Senior Vice President of Marketing earlier this year. Ruth, who earned his MBA at Columbia University, leads Austin FC's marketing and community impact teams. His efforts are focused on building brand vision for the Club and activating Austin FC's marketing programs. In August 2020, Austin FC welcomed Raquel Garcia as Vice President of Marketing from her previous position as Chief Marketing Officer at The Long Center in Austin. Before her tenure at The Long Center, Garcia spent eight years with LatinWorks focusing on Latino marketing platforms. Garcia was born and raised in Houston, Texas and is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin where she earned a bachelor's degree in Advertising. Joining Ruth and Garcia is Megan Lindon, Senior Manager of Marketing. Lindon joins Austin FC after stints with MLS and marketing agency MKTG. Pierina Inciarte and David Zuccarelli also join Austin FC's marketing team, both as Video Production Content Coordinators. Inciarte and Zuccarelli bring prior MLS Club experience to Austin FC, having worked for Atlanta United and Houston Dynamo / Houston Dash, respectively. Inciarte, born in Venezuela and raised in Texas, attended Texas A&M. Zuccarelli graduated from Purdue University.

Oscar Oriondo joined Austin FC's finance team in August as Controller. Oriondo, born and raised in Peru, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Kean University in New Jersey. Oriondo was previously Assistant Controller for MLS at the League's headquarters in New York, where he spent 11 years before joining Austin FC. Oriondo is joined in Austin FC's finance team by Austinite Florencio Gutierrez, Staff Accountant, previously with the Boys and Girls Club of the Austin Area as a Staff Accountant. Gutierrez attended Texas State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

Austin FC's stadium operations team has added four new staff members. Audrey Bounds joined Austin FC from William Morris Endeavor (WME) in August 2020 as Director of Event Booking. Bounds grew up in Friendswood, Texas, and earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Texas at Austin. Also joining in August was Martin Salomon, Director of Facilities, who was previously with Austin's Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas as National Director of Facilities. Salomon, born in France and raised in Austin, attended Texas A&M where he earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering. Nick Otte began his role as Austin FC's Director of Event Services in September 2020. Otte brings prior MLS experience, following his tenure as Facility Services Manager for Columbus Crew SC. Originally from Ohio, Otte gained a bachelor's degree in Communications and a master's degree in Sport Management from The Ohio State University. Tanner Coffman, also with previous MLS experience, is the next addition to the operations team. Coffman joined Austin FC in August as Assistant Director, Grounds after previously working as Assistant Superintendent of Fields and Grounds for Real Salt Lake. Coffman graduated from Tennessee Tech University with a bachelor's degree in Turfgrass Management.

Joining Austin FC's corporate partnerships team as Manager of Corporate Partnerships is Andie Romness. Romness played Division 1 soccer at the University of South Carolina. Before joining Austin FC, Romness was an Athlete Coordinator at SDM Inc and the Lindsey Vonn Foundation based in Vail, Colorado.

Austin FC's ticketing team added important staff positions as the Club begins the process of serving its 15,500 Season Ticket Members. Xavi Acosta, originally from South Texas, joined Austin FC in April as Membership Service Executive. Acosta recently graduated from the University of Texas at Austin. Dante Mauricio also joined the Club in April as Membership Service Executive. Mauricio, raised in Texas, graduated from the University of Michigan, and was previously with the Atlanta Hawks as a Membership Associate. Mauricio and Acosta were joined in August by Jackson Stark, Premium Service Executive, who was previously with the San Antonio Rampage as a Membership Service Representative. Stark, originally from Charleston, South Carolina, attended the University of Louisville, and moved to Austin from San Antonio in 2020.

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About Austin FC

[Austin FC](#) joined Major League Soccer (MLS) as the 27th club in January 2019 and is the City of Austin's first major league team. Austin FC will officially begin play in 2021 in a new, 100% privately financed, \$260 million, state-of-the-art soccer stadium and public park in Austin.

Austin FC operates Austin FC Academy, the fully funded developmental academy representing the highest level of competition for elite youth soccer players in Central Texas, while serving as the exclusive developmental pathway to MLS for the region's most talented young players.