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**//FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE//**

## **WA Youth Soccer Alumni and Coach James Charette Joins WA Youth Soccer as Director of Coaching Education**

FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON (Thursday, Oct. 4) – Washington Youth Soccer today announced the addition of James Charette to the Washington Youth Soccer staff in the newly created position of Director of Coaching Education.

In this new position in Washington Youth Soccer’s Technical Department, Charette will maintain and fully implement all of the coaching education courses outlined in the Technical Development Plan. As the Technical point of contact for the Regional Development Officers (RDOs), Charette will work to increase the number of educational opportunities around the state. Charette will focus on further aligning the qualifications of Washington Youth Soccer coaches to USSF standards and providing opportunities for continuous professional development.

“James Charette is the perfect person to lead our education group forward. This is a great opportunity for James to nurture and improve our fabulous curriculum,” said Terry Fisher, Washington Youth Soccer CEO. “We feel he will be an extremely positive, motivated and successful coaching education leader across Washington as well as Region IV. We are excited about his willingness to accept this challenge and will do everything we can to help him be successful.”

“Washington Youth Soccer has a long tradition of providing high quality coaching education courses with Directors such as Bobby Howe, Dave Schumacher and Gary White,” says James Charette, Washington Youth Soccer Director of Coaching Education. “I have had the opportunity to work with all three Directors and I appreciate them sharing their expertise, laying the ground work for my coach development and guidance over the years.”

Charette joins the staff after years of being involved as a player, coach and Technical Director in WA Youth Soccer. Charette has played and coached at many levels. As a player, he received an athletic scholarship to Belhaven College in Jackson MS where he was an Academic/Athletic All American. He went on to tour in Russia with the USL Charlotte Eagles where he received the Bud Shaffer MVP Award.

Charette has since spent his professional career coaching at various levels, including Blackhills FC where he is the Technical Director, and as an Elite Player Development/Olympic Development/Sounders FC head coach. As a United States Soccer Federation “A” License coach, Charette has also been a part of the WA Youth Soccer Coaching Education staff and a US Soccer National Staff Instructor, and continues to take coaching education courses throughout the world to provide innovative and fresh coaching ideas to improve the WA Youth Soccer Coaching Education Staff.

To learn more about Washington Youth Soccer, visit [washingtoneyouthsoccer.org](http://washingtoneyouthsoccer.org).

### **About Washington Youth Soccer**

Washington Youth Soccer is the largest youth soccer organization in Washington. Washington Youth Soccer is the state's affiliate for US Youth Soccer, which is the largest sports organization in the United States and the most populous member of the United States Soccer Federation, the governing body for soccer in the United States. Washington Youth Soccer is the sixth largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 128,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 12,000 teams and 6,500 referees in the state of Washington. Washington Youth Soccer's mission is to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition.

Media Request: When referring to Washington Youth Soccer, please refer to the association only as Washington Youth Soccer, and never as WYS or WSYSA. We appreciate your cooperation.

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