Rich Dozer Resigns as President of Diamondbacks

Written by Press Release Wednesday, 06 September 2006 10:40



The Arizona Diamondbacks today announced that Rich Dozer, who was named the club's President when Major League Baseball awarded Arizona an expansion baseball franchise on March 9, 1995, has resigned and that Derrick Hall has been named to succeed him as President. Dozer and Hall will work together during a transitional period this month prior to Dozer being available to the team as an organizational consultant starting October 1.

During his 11 1/2-year tenure with the club, Dozer helped lead the organization that became the youngest expansion franchise to win a championship by doing so in just their fourth season of play after defeating the New York Yankees in the 2001 World Series. Dozer spent eight seasons with the Phoenix Suns prior to working for the Diamondbacks, joining the NBA franchise in July 1987 as business manager and eventually ascending to Vice President and Chief Operating Officer by June 1989. He also served as President of the America West Arena and was intimately involved in the facility's development. The former Certified Public Accountant also specialized as an audit manager for clients in sports, hospitality and retail industries.

"When the Diamondbacks' ownership changed hands in 2004, many key management changes followed and we agreed it was best for me to remain as President," said Dozer. "It would have been premature to leave the team at that time, but now that so many key positions have been filled, there is a solid front office staff ready to take the Diamondbacks well into the future. Although it is hard to say goodbye, now is an ideal time. This team, its employees and players, and indeed this building, have all been a tremendous and positive part of my past 12 years. I am grateful for everyone here who was a part of the memories I will take with me. I wish Derrick the best of luck and look forward to making this transition as seamless as possible."

Known for his long-standing community involvement, Dozer has been serving on boards for the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation, Phoenix Valley of the Sun Convention and Visitors Bureau, YMCA and Goodwill Industries. He recently chaired successful capital campaigns for Phoenix Children's Hospital, United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona and the Valley of the Sun United Way. Dozer is a member of the Greater Phoenix Leadership and the Greater Phoenix Economic

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Council, as well as a life member of The Thunderbirds.

"Rich has been a terrific leader for this organization and a true friend of mine," said Diamondbacks' Managing General Partner Ken Kendrick. "His impact on this franchise and the community will be felt for many years to come. He is the consummate professional and will forever be considered a valuable member of the Diamondback family."

"We would like to thank Rich for his countless contributions to the organization and the facility," said Diamondbacks' General Partner Jeff Moorad. "He has been a tremendous executive who has cared deeply for his employees and the community. This is a loss for the franchise, yet we are excited for the opportunity this provides for Derrick, who has proven throughout the industry that he is more than prepared for the task."

Having amassed an impressive resume during his 14 seasons in professional baseball, Hall takes the lead with the Diamondbacks after quickly establishing himself in the community since joining the organization as Senior Vice President, Communications in May 2005. He later took on various marketing-related responsibilities as Senior Vice President, Marketing and Communications, including establishing the state's first-ever presenting sponsor for a sports franchise when the team announced all aspects of the organization would be presented by Gila River Casinos beginning this season. He is also responsible for the creation of several necessary departments, such as Publicity and Special Projects and Events, and established kid-friendly programs to enhance the family experience. He and Joe Garagiola, Sr. created the "No Chew Crew" to educate children and the public on the harms of chewing tobacco. Hall was recently promoted to Executive Vice President and currently serves on the boards of the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, the Valley of the Sun United Way and the United Blood Services Leadership Council. He is also an active member of The Thunderbirds, has been appointed a Commissioner for the Phoenix Pride Commission, serves in a volunteer role for "Rodel All A's for Arizona," and has been a member of the strategic marketing committee for Phoenix Children's Hospital.

"I am extremely grateful for this wonderful opportunity," said Hall. "Rich has left some large shoes to fill, but I look forward to the challenge and to picking up where his legacy has left off. He is a good friend and will be a necessary resource and asset for me moving forward. This organization will continue to provide the greatest fans in baseball with a level of wholesome and family-friendly entertainment that is unmatched."

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Hall spent parts of 12 seasons with the Los Angeles Dodgers, joining the organization's Single-A Florida State League affiliate in Vero Beach, Fla., in 1992 and departing as the club's Senior Vice President, Communications in 2004. In between, he was considered an industry-wide specialist in strategic communications as well as serving key roles during three ownership changes with the Dodgers. Hall twice stepped outside of baseball for employment, first as a member of the media when he hosted a three-hour morning talk show on the Dodgers' flagship station (XTRA 1150 AM) during the 1999 season while also stepping in front of the camera as a fill-in sports anchor at KNBC-TV Channel 4 in Los Angeles. He also served as Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications at KB Home, a Fortune 500 company based in Westwood, Calif. In a short time, Hall was credited for increasing brand awareness for the nation's fifth-largest homebuilder after successfully overhauling the company's communications processes.

Hall received a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University in broadcasting and journalism and a master's degree from Ohio University in sports administration. In 2002, Hall was inducted into the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications Alumni Hall of Fame and was awarded the ASU Young Alumni Achievement Award in 2003. Earlier this year, Ohio University's Sports Administration Program awarded Hall as the 25th recipient of the Charles R. Higgins Distinguished Alumnus Award.