

A JOINT LETTER TO THE PARENTS AND COACHES OF THE KNOXVILLE SOCCER COMMUNITY

Dear Parents and Coaches;

This joint communication from FC Alliance and the Knoxville Football Club is meant to update you on what has been a time of discussion between the respective boards of these clubs in regards to the opportunity to form one entity to serve the Knoxville soccer community.

Both boards appointed a group of delegates who held a series of meetings over the past 90 days with open dialogue and frank discussions of the positives and negatives that a 'one-club' scenario would cause for the children of Knoxville soccer. The meetings were productive and showed both of us that the two clubs had much more alike than they had in differences.

After thorough analysis and periods of consultation with the coaching staff and boards of both programs, we feel it is not feasible at this time to continue merger discussions for the upcoming year. A variety of factors were involved in this decision. These included primarily the limited amount of time available to complete the merger, lack of consensus in a viable model for the new club, and quite frankly a pervasive aura of uncertainty among the coaches. Yet despite this both boards have agreed to continue talks with the idea of creating an atmosphere of cooperation. To that end we will begin planning some joint ventures in the future. Opportunities for cooperation may include a joint summer 3v3 league, summer camp coordination/integration, and a joint tournament in the fall. It is our hope that these joint efforts will provide a stepping stone for further merger plans.

We both hope these meetings can be used as a springboard to usher in a new era of respectful competition between the clubs, coaches, and players as we both strive to improve soccer in Knoxville. Positive outcome of these meetings will be a renewed cooperation and support for each other's tournaments and a commitment to review other programs that would allow Knoxville soccer players access to the best training and soccer opportunities possible.

We appreciate the commitment of all who were involved in reviewing this opportunity and look forward to a continued effort from both sides to do what is right for those involved in Knoxville soccer.

Best regards,

Scott Cassity
President
Knoxville Football Club

Randy Denton
President
FC Alliance