



US Youth Soccer National Office
9220 World Cup Way
Frisco, TX 75033

Date: March 31, 2021

To: All USYS State Association EDs/Presidents/CEOs, National Staff and supporting personnel

From: Hugh Goodridge, Chair, USYS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Subject: Women's History Month

I would like to thank the USYS Family for your ongoing support as we continue to support and build a diverse, inclusive and equitable soccer community for all our members. US Youth Soccer is committed to creating a more inclusive environment for everyone. In celebration of Women's History Month, we would like to recognize the valuable contribution of women and girls in sports, from players, coaches and referees, to administrators, organizational leaders and volunteers. As we work to develop initiatives that support women and girls in soccer, we celebrate the positive impact of soccer on the overall physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of women and girls.

We thank everyone who works behind the scenes, as well as those who lead from the front including our women State Association Presidents, Executive Directors and Technical Directors listed below. These leaders shape the programming and development that change the lives of over a million girls every day.

- Jen Pfeiffer – AL
- Linda Burke – AK
- Laura Sturdivant – DE
- Laura Halfpenny – GA
- Nicole Arsenault – ID
- Mary Jane Bender – IL
- Shari Levesque – ME
- Kay Bouler – MS
- Melanie Stafford – NV
- Anne Fichera – NH
- Gloria Faber – NM
- Laura Francis – ENY
- Kathy Robinson – NC
- Jen Fickett – OH-N
- Roberta Cloutier – OR
- Janet Campbell – NTX
- Jene Baclawski – STX
- Jennifer Davis – STX
- Melissa Zielinski – WI
- Lisa Hulshizer – WY
- Meg Munson – VT
- Denise Edwards - VA



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It is vital that this recognition and drive to promote gender equality continue long after this month of celebration ends. With that in mind, we ask each of you to encourage your members to:

1. Once a week, or month, recognize the achievement/accomplishment of a woman/girl within your organization, workplace, team or family.

OR

2. Promote in your program's marketing campaign a historical accomplishment of a woman/girl in science, politics, law, sports, the arts, entertainment, and any other appropriate field of endeavor.

We are proud of the work that has been done and are excited to bring more attention and more focus to the role women and girls play in the sport we all love.

Regards,

Hugh Goodridge
Chair, USYS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee