

Personnel Changes: Shannon Kussman Steps Down, Leslie Ray Steps Up as New Club Director for 2017-2018 Season

(September 12, 2017 - Martinez, CA) – Xceleration today announced that Shannon Kussman will vacate the role of Club Director and hand over the reins to Leslie Ray effective immediately.

As Club Director, Leslie will be responsible for all operational activities and needs of the club, including management of the support and coaching staff, finance, and detailed tournament, practice, and travel planning. She can be reached at lesrayxcelvbc@yahoo.com.

Please join us in thanking Shannon for her tireless work during the past two years and congratulating Leslie on her new role as Club Director, in addition to her current position as the head coach of the 17Blue. Shannon's note to you is provided below.



Shannon Kussman (left) and Leslie Ray.

Dear Xceleration Family,

It is with sadness that I write to all of you for the final time. I am leaving the club effective immediately and Leslie Ray, our fantastic 17Blue Head Coach, will be taking over as Club Director. Leslie will remain the 17Blue head coach as well. I have had an amazing 2 years with the club over which time I have gotten to know many terrific coaches, players and families that I am going to miss very much. The club has done so many great things that I'm very proud of in the last couple of years and I know it is only the start of more great things to come. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support. Working with all of you and your daughters has been a true joy for me and one that I will never forget.

I have to also thank the amazing Xceleration coaching staff. Without your dedication, passion for the game and our club, and your support for me this club would not be in the position it is today. I am so proud and grateful for the time we spent working together. You made my job easy and created lasting memories for me!

I have to thank the fantastic Xceleration staff as well. Normie and Tomas Pineda, John David, Paul Harrison and Kim Borch. Your unwavering support and dedication to this club is unmatched and I simply could not have done my job without all of you! I will miss you all more than you know!!

Lastly, to Andy, Jeremy and my Dad, Jim, I don't even know how to begin to thank you for your support and guidance over the past 2 years. This club is where it is today because the 3 of you know what you want for the girls in this club and have worked so very hard to achieve those goals. I also know you will always continue to have a vision for your girls and that hard work will never ever stop. Xceleration is beyond lucky to have the 3 of you as owners and I was incredibly lucky to have the 3 of you as bosses!

I was given a lot of support by coaches, staff, parents and players throughout my time here and I am forever grateful for that. I will miss you all and treasure the relationships we have built. I trust that all of you will show the same respect, support and love for Leslie that you have shown me. She is going to be an amazing Club Director. She already is an amazing Head Coach! In conjunction with the owners, she will work her tail off to continue growing Xceleration and to make it the best possible club for the girls. I'm so excited for the future of Xceleration and even though I'll be watching from afar now, I will always be cheering... GO XCEL!!

Shannon