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Sports Council**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Alan Rothenberg Elected New Chairman of Los Angeles Sports Council**

**LOS ANGELES** – Alan I. Rothenberg, one of the area’s most prominent sports, civic and business leaders, was elected the new chairman of the Los Angeles Sports Council. The announcement was made today following a meeting of the organization’s board of directors.

Rothenberg replaces founding chairman John C. Argue, who passed away in August following a 7-month battle with leukemia.

The Sports Council also elected two Vice-Chairs: Richard W. Cook, chairman, Walt Disney Studios, and Robert S. Rollo, managing partner, TMP Worldwide.

“This is a bittersweet moment. I am honored to be selected to chair the Los Angeles Sports Council and look forward to working with David Simon and our Board to continue to bring major sports events to Southern California. But the fact that this arises only because of the untimely death of John Argue, one of the great men in our community, saddens me deeply. He was extraordinary. I will follow him. No one can replace him,” Rothenberg said.

In addition to being a longtime prominent attorney in Southern California, Rothenberg has a considerable sports resume and is perhaps best recognized for his work in the sport of soccer. He served as chairman of the board of the breakthrough 1999 FIFA Women’s World Cup; chairman and CEO of the 1994 World Cup Organizing Committee, which staged the historic and incredibly successful ‘94 World Cup; and president of the United States Soccer Federation. He also is the founder of Major League Soccer, which began in April 1996.

In the past, he has acted as soccer commissioner for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, and also served as a member of the NBA’s Board of Governors (1971-79, 1982-90) while representing the L.A. Lakers and L.A. Clippers, respectively.

Prominent in both civic and business realms, Alan was a law partner at Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg & Phillips for more than 20 years, before joining the prestigious firm Latham & Watkins in 1990. He retired from the firm as a partner in 2001 and now serves as a professional mediator and arbitrator.

**More**

“Alan is one of the rare individuals who bridges the world of business and sports very effectively, and he has an international reputation that will help us attract more events to Southern California,” said David Simon, Sports Council president.

The Los Angeles Sports Council is a private, nonprofit corporation created as a bidding agent for bringing world-class sporting events to Southern California. Its 67-member board of directors consists of a cross-section of the leadership of Southern California’s sports and business communities. In its 14-year existence, the Sports Council has brought more than \$1 billion in economic activity to the region. Among the major events it has attracted include the 1993 Super Bowl, 1994 FIFA World Cup, 1997 Breeders’ Cup, 1999 NCAA Ice Hockey Championships, 1999 Women’s World Cup, 2002 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, and 2003 World Gymnastics Championships.

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**(NOTE: Alan Rothenberg photo available upon request-)**