



June 11, 2025

**PREPARATIONS CONTINUE WITH ONE YEAR TO GO UNTIL  
THE FIFA WORLD CUP 26™**

*Dan Hunt and Nina Vaca Announced as Co-Chairs of the  
North Texas FWC Organizing Committee*

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**DALLAS** - As part of the “One Year to Go” celebration held today across North America at all 16 Host Cities for FIFA World Cup 26™, which will kickoff one year to the day on June 11, 2026, the North Texas FWC Organizing Committee today officially announced its co-chairs Dan Hunt and Nina Vaca.

“With exactly one year to go until FIFA World Cup 26™, we are proud to officially introduce Dan and Nina as co-chairs of the North Texas FWC Organizing Committee,” said Monica Paul, President of the North Texas FWC Organizing Committee. “Their leadership, commitment and proven expertise are essential to our continued progress as a Host City. As we gear up for the global stage next summer, their guidance will be instrumental in ensuring our region delivers a world-class experience.”

Hunt has served as the President of FC Dallas since 2014, and under his leadership has spent years working on the design and construction of Toyota Stadium and Toyota Soccer Center with his late father and American sports icon, Lamar Hunt. Since the venue’s opening in 2005, Hunt has used the facility to help establish FC Dallas as the leader in youth development in North America.

Most recently, Hunt oversaw the successful negotiation with the City of Frisco on a \$182 million public-private renovation of Toyota Stadium, and also spearheaded the \$58 million construction of the National Soccer Hall of Fame in the south end of Toyota Stadium which opened in 2018.

“It’s a tremendous honor to represent Dallas and the North Texas region as co-chair of the North Texas FWC Organizing Committee,” said Dan Hunt. “The World Cup holds a special place in my heart for my family and me. We look forward to the legacy and transformative impact this global event will leave on our communities for generations to come. I can’t wait to share the passion of the World Cup with my fellow North Texans and guests from around the world.”

Vaca is an award-winning entrepreneur, CEO, board member and philanthropist who founded Pinnacle Group in 1996, which has grown into the largest Hispanic-owned workforce solutions company in North America serving over 20 percent of the Fortune 100. Under Vaca’s leadership, Pinnacle Group has received numerous awards and recognitions over the years.

Vaca is also a committed civic leader and philanthropist. In 2014, she was appointed by the White House as one of the inaugural Presidential Ambassadors for Global

Entrepreneurship (PAGE), traveling to five continents uplifting individuals, families, and communities. She is currently serving as Entrepreneur in Residence for the City of Dallas appointed by Mayor Eric Johnson.

“I am so excited to serve as a co-chair for the North Texas FWC Organizing Committee,” said Nina Vaca. “Hosting the FIFA World Cup 26 is more than a global sports milestone - it’s a defining moment for Dallas. This is our chance to welcome the world, showcase our culture and create unforgettable memories for fans and families alike.”

FIFA World Cup 26™ will kick off June 11, 2026 with the opening match in Mexico City, while the first match in North Texas will be played on June 14, 2026 at Dallas Stadium. In total, Dallas and the North Texas region will host a tournament-high nine matches, including a semi-final, throughout the 39-day competition from June 11 to July 19, 2026 that will be the largest World Cup in history with 48 teams playing in 104 matches - both the most in the tournament’s history.

The North Texas FWC Organizing Committee full board members and committee members consist of:

### **North Texas FWC Organizing Committee Board of Directors**

Dan Hunt - Co-Chair  
Nina Vaca - Co-Chair  
Monica Paul - President  
Jimmy Smith - Treasurer  
Andy Swift - Secretary  
Chad Estis  
Adam McGough

### **North Texas FWC Organizing Committee Staff**

Gillian Breidenbach – Chief Partnership Officer  
Rick Burkhead – Regional Safety and Security Liaison  
Jaime Cabrera – Director of Donor Relations  
Ginger Lively Cade – Accommodations Liaison  
Minal Davis – Chief Human Rights Officer  
Steve Davis – Director of Legacy Programs  
Allie Dunlap – Director of Volunteer Services  
Noelle LeVeaux – Chief Marketing Officer  
Jair Martinez – Social Media Manager  
Nancy Rodriguez – Project Manager  
Jacqueline Rutledge – Chief Financial Officer  
Anita Simmons – Director of Marketing  
Cindy Solomon – Director of Events and Entertainment  
Meghna Tare – Chief Sustainability Officer  
Joe Trahan – Director of PR and Communications  
Rocky Vaz – Director of City Services and International Broadcast Center  
J.D. Wood – Team and Venue Services Manager

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### **About FIFA World Cup 26™ - Dallas**

We Welcome the World – In Dallas, the city of big ideas and even greater accomplishments, sports are no exception!

<https://www.dallasfwc26.com/>

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#WeAre26 #WeAreDallas

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