

THE *Hollywood* REPORTER

August 12, 2014

IMG Sports Head George Pyne Exiting to Form "New Venture"



He will stay on as a senior adviser. WME-IMG sports head **George Pyne** is making his exit.

Pyne, the President of IMG Sports and Entertainment, said he is leaving to form a new venture but will remain a senior adviser to the agency.

In a statement, Pyne thanked the "many talented men and women" he worked with as well as the agency's "amazing clients." He also praised WME's **Ari Emanuel** and **Patrick Whitesell**.

"Ari Emanuel and Patrick Whitesell are entrepreneurs and dynamic leaders whom I greatly respect and admire, and I look forward to collaborating with them as I take this next step," said Pyne.

The co-CEOs said they were "grateful" for Pyne's contributions and that they "look forward to working with him in this next chapter."

WME-IMG has suffered some losses since WME acquired IMG in a \$2.4 billion deal.

In June, the University of Kentucky severed its 40-year relationship with the agency, signing with JMI Sports in a \$210 million deal. On July 1, Syracuse University told sponsors it had terminated its agreement with IMG that ran through 2020-21.

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/img-sports-head-george-pyne-725177>