# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549** 

## FORM S-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

## The Arena Group Holdings, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 68-0232575 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

200 Vesey Street 24th Floor New York, New York 10281 (212) 321-5002

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Ross Levinsohn Chief Executive Officer The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 200 Vesey Street 24th Floor New York, New York 10281 (212) 321-5002

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Robert A. Freedman, Esq. Jennifer J. Hitchcock, Esq. Fenwick & West LLP 555 California Street San Francisco, CA 94104 (415) 875-2300 Julie R. Fenster, Esq. General Counsel The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 200 Vesey Street 24th Floor New York, New York 10281 (212) 321-5002

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public**: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box:  $\Box$ 

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box: ⊠

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering:  $\Box$ 

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering:  $\Box$ 

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.  $\Box$ 

-	re amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General In rsuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following be	<u> </u>	urities
	ther the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non- the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "sm nange Act:		
Large accelerated filer		Accelerated filer	$\boxtimes$
Non-accelerated filer		Smaller reporting company	$\boxtimes$
		Emerging growth company	
new or revised financial accounting  The Registrant hereby amends the shall file a further amendment with the shall file and further amendment with the shal	is registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessar which specifically states that this registration statement shall the of 1933, as amended, or until the registration statement shall becapit, may determine.	et. □  Ty to delay its effective date until the Registereafter become effective in accordance	strant with

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities, and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities, in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

#### **SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JANUARY 24, 2023**

#### PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS



## The Arena Group Holdings, Inc.

505,655 Shares of Common Stock

The selling stockholders identified in this prospectus (the "Selling Stockholders") may offer and resell up to 505,655 shares of our common stock under this prospectus. The Selling Stockholders acquired these shares of common stock from us pursuant to certain securities purchase agreements (the "Stockholder Settlement Agreements") providing for the issuance and registration of shares of common stock in exchange for the cancellation, waiver and release of our obligations to pay such Selling Stockholders liquidated damages pursuant to (i) certain registration rights agreements that provide for damages if we do not register certain shares of our common stock within the requisite time frame; and (ii) certain securities purchase agreements that provide for damages if we do not maintain our periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission within the requisite time frame. We are not selling any shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus and we will not receive any proceeds from the sale of these shares by the Selling Stockholders.

The Selling Stockholders (which term as used herein includes their respective transferees, pledgees, distributees, donees or other successors) may also sell the shares of common stock described in this prospectus through public or private transactions at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. The Selling Stockholders will bear all underwriting fees, commissions, and discounts, if any, attributable to the sales of shares and any transfer taxes. We will bear all other costs, expenses, and fees in connection with the registration of the shares. We provide more information about how the Selling Stockholders may sell their shares of common stock in the section captioned "Plan of Distribution" beginning on page 14 of this prospectus.

Our common stock is listed on the NYSE American under the symbol "AREN." Prior to February 9, 2022, our common stock was quoted on the OTC Markets Group Inc.'s OTCQX® Best Market under the symbol "MVEN." On January 23, 2023, the last reported sales price of our common stock was \$8.01 per share.

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the information under the heading "<u>Risk Factors</u>" beginning on page 4 of this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is , 2023

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#### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, the Selling Stockholders may, from time to time, offer and sell shares of our common stock, as described in this prospectus, in one or more offerings. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale by such Selling Stockholders of the securities offered by them described in this prospectus.

Neither we nor the Selling Stockholders have authorized anyone to provide you with any information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement or, if permitted, any free writing prospectuses prepared by or on behalf of us or to which we have referred you. Neither we nor the Selling Stockholders take responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. Neither we nor the Selling Stockholders will make an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

We may also provide a prospectus supplement or, if required, a post-effective amendment, to the registration statement to add information to, or update or change information contained or incorporated by reference in, this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment to the registration statement together with the additional information to which we refer you in the sections of this prospectus entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" and "Incorporation of Information by Reference." Information incorporated by reference after the date of this prospectus may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Any information in such subsequent filings that is inconsistent with this prospectus will supersede the information in this prospectus or any earlier prospectus supplement.

This prospectus (as supplemented and amended) does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities described in this prospectus or an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any such securities in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus (as supplemented and amended) is accurate as of any dates other than their respective dates. We or the Selling Stockholders provided the information contained in the aforementioned documents only as of the date of the applicable document, and it is possible that the information, including our business, financial condition, and results of operations, may have changed since that date.

We urge you to read carefully this prospectus (as supplemented and amended) before deciding whether to purchase any of the shares of common stock being offered.

Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to the "Company," "The Arena Group" and "we," "us" and "our" refer to The Arena Group Holdings, Inc., and its subsidiaries. This prospectus, any accompanying prospectus and the information incorporated by reference herein and therein may contain additional trade names, trademarks and service marks of other companies, which are the property of their respective owners. We do not intend our use or display of other companies' trade names, trademarks or service marks to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by, these other companies.

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary may not contain all the information that you should consider before investing in our securities. You should read the entire prospectus and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus carefully, including "Risk Factors" and the financial statements and related notes incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment decision.

#### **Company Overview**

We are a tech-powered media company that focuses on building deep content verticals powered by a best-in-class digital media platform (the "Platform") empowering premium publishers who impact, inform, educate, and entertain. Our strategy is to focus on key verticals where audiences are passionate about a topic category (e.g., sports and finance), and where we can leverage the strength of our core brands to grow our audience and increase monetization both within our core brands as well as our media publishers (each, a "Publisher Partner"). Our focus is on leveraging our Platform and iconic brands in targeted verticals to maximize audience reach, improve engagement, and optimize monetization of digital publishing assets for the benefit of our users, our advertiser clients, and our 40 owned and operated properties as well as properties we run on behalf of independent Publisher Partners. We operate the media businesses for Sports Illustrated, own and operate TheStreet, Inc., College Spun Media Incorporated, and Athlon Holdings, Inc., and power more than 200 independent Publisher Partners, including Biography, History, and the many sports team sites that comprise FanNation, among others. Each Publisher Partner joins the Platform by invitation only and is drawn from premium media brands and independent publishing businesses with the objective of augmenting our position in key verticals and optimizing the performance of the Publisher Partner. Publisher Partners incur the costs in content creation on their respective channels and receive a share of the revenue associated with their content. Because of the state-of-the-art technology and large scale of the Platform and our expertise in search engine optimization, social media, subscription marketing and ad monetization, Publisher Partners continually benefit from our ongoing technological advances and bespoke audience development expertise. Additionally, we believe the lead brand within each vertical creates a halo benefit for all Publisher Partners in the vertical while each of them adds to the breadth and quality of content. While they benefit from these critical performance improvements, they also may save substantially in costs of technology, infrastructure, advertising sales, and member marketing and management.

Our growth strategy is to continue to expand by adding new premium publishers with high quality brands and content either as independent Publisher Partners or by acquiring publishers as owned and operated entities.

#### **Our Corporate History and Background**

We were originally incorporated in Delaware as Integrated Surgical Systems, Inc. ("Integrated") in 1990. On October 11, 2016, Integrated and TheMaven Network, Inc. ("Maven Network") entered into a share exchange agreement (the "Share Exchange Agreement"), whereby the stockholders of Maven Network agreed to exchange all of the then-issued and outstanding shares of common stock for shares of common stock of Integrated. On November 4, 2016, the parties consummated a recapitalization pursuant to the Share Exchange Agreement and, as a result, Maven Network became a wholly owned subsidiary of Integrated. Integrated changed its name to theMaven, Inc. on December 2, 2016. On September 20, 2021, we changed our name and re-branded to "The Arena Group."

#### **NYSE American Listing**

On February 9, 2022, our common stock began trading on the NYSE American.

#### **Corporate Information**

We are a Delaware corporation. Our principal executive office is located at 200 Vesey Street, 24th Floor, New York, New York, 10281. Our telephone number is (212) 321-5002. Our website address is <a href="https://www.thearenagroup.net">www.thearenagroup.net</a>. Information contained on our website or connected thereto does not constitute part of, and is not incorporated by reference into, this prospectus or the registration statement of which it forms a part.

#### **Selling Stockholders**

Selling Stockholders are persons or entities that, directly or indirectly, have acquired or will from time to time acquire from us, our securities. See the section entitled "Selling Stockholders" on page 9 of this prospectus.

THE OFFERING

Shares of common stock offered by the Selling

Stockholders

Up to 505,655 shares

Use of proceeds We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of common stock by the Selling

Stockholders

NYSE American symbol AREN

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#### RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should consider the risk factors described in the section titled "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, as updated by our subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other filings we make with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety, in addition to the below and other information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment, if required, before purchasing any of our securities. We may face additional risks and uncertainties that are not presently known to us, or that we currently deem immaterial, which may also impair our business or financial condition. See "Where You Can Find More Information," "Incorporation of Information by Reference" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

#### Future resales of our common stock could cause the market price of our common stock to drop significantly, even if our business is doing well.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could occur at any time. These sales, or the perception in the market that the holders of a large number of shares intend to sell shares, could reduce the market price of our common stock.

We had outstanding 18,303,193 shares of common stock as of December 31, 2022. The registration statement to which this prospectus relates registers the offer and sale from time to time by the Selling Stockholders of up to 505,655 shares of our common stock. To the extent shares are sold into the market pursuant to this prospectus, under Rule 144 under the Securities Act or otherwise, particularly in substantial quantities, the market price of our common stock could decline.

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain matters discussed in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus may constitute forward-looking statements for purposes of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from the future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "may," "expect" and similar expressions are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. Our actual results may differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements due to a variety of factors, including, without limitation, those discussed in the section entitled "Risk Factors," and elsewhere in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein, where such forward-looking statements appear. All written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about:

- the impact of the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic;
- our ability to attract new subscribers and to persuade existing subscribers to renew their subscriptions;
- our ability to attract new advertisers and to persuade existing advertisers to continue to advertise on our digital media platform;
- our ability to manage our growth effectively, including through strategic acquisitions;
- our ability to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting;
- our ability to grow market share in our existing markets or any new markets we may enter;
- our ability to recruit and retain qualified personnel;
- our ability to respond to general economic conditions;
- our ability to attract, develop, and retain capable publisher partners and expert contributors;
- our ability to achieve and maintain profitability in the future;
- the success of strategic relationships with third parties;
- our ability to continue to satisfy NYSE American listing rules;
- our estimates of the sufficiency of our existing capital resources combined with future anticipated cash flows to finance our operating requirements; and
- other factors detailed under the section entitled "*Risk Factors*."

The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein reflect our views and assumptions only as of the date of this prospectus or such document, as applicable. Except as required by law, we assume no responsibility for updating any forward-looking statements.

We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements. In addition, with respect to all of our forward-looking statements, we claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information about issuers, such as us, who file electronically with the SEC. The address of that website is http://www.sec.gov.

Our website address is <u>www.thearenagroup.net</u>. The information on our website, however, is not, and should not be deemed to be, a part of this prospectus.

This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement are part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC and do not contain all of the information in the registration statement. The full registration statement may be obtained from the SEC or us, as provided below. Statements in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement about these documents are summaries, and each statement is qualified in all respects by reference to the document to which it refers. You should refer to the actual documents for a more complete description of the relevant matters. You may inspect a copy of the registration statement through the SEC's website, as provided above.

#### INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC's rules allow us to "incorporate by reference" information that we file with the SEC into this prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this prospectus, and subsequent information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede that information. A Current Report (or portion thereof) furnished, but not filed, on Form 8-K shall not be incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Any statement contained in this prospectus or a previously filed document incorporated by reference will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or a subsequently filed document incorporated by reference modifies or replaces that statement.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents set forth below that have previously been filed with the SEC:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, filed with the SEC on April 1, 2022;
- our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2022, filed with the SEC on May 4, 2022, our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2022, filed with the SEC on August 9, 2022, and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2022, filed with the SEC on November 9, 2022;
- the Definitive Proxy Statement on <u>Schedule 14A</u> filed with the SEC on May 2, 2022;
- the Current Reports on Form 8-K (other than information furnished rather than filed) filed with the SEC on <u>January 10, 2022</u>, <u>January 26, 2022</u>, <u>January 28, 2022</u>, <u>February 9, 2022</u>, <u>February 11, 2022</u>, <u>February 15, 2022</u>, <u>March 11, 2022</u>, <u>March 24, 2022</u>, <u>April 6, 2022</u>, <u>May 3, 2022</u>, <u>June 3, 2022</u>, <u>July 15, 2022</u>, <u>November 25, 2022</u>, <u>December 13, 2022</u>, and <u>December 20, 2022</u>, and our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed with the SEC on <u>November 29, 2022</u>; and
- the description of our securities contained in <u>Exhibit 4.19</u> to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, filed by us with the SEC on April 1, 2022, including any amendment or report filed to update such description; and including any subsequent amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All reports and other documents we subsequently file pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act in this prospectus, prior to the termination of any offering of securities made by this prospectus, including all such documents we may file with the SEC after the date of the initial registration statement and prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement, but excluding any information furnished to, rather than filed with, the SEC, will also be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and deemed to be part of this prospectus from the date of the filing of such reports and documents.

We will provide, without charge, to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, other than exhibits to such documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into such documents. Requests may be made by telephone at (212) 321-5002, or by sending a written request to The Arena Group Holdings, Inc., Attn: Investor Relations, 200 Vesey Street, 24th Floor, New York, New York, 10281.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

All shares of common stock sold pursuant to this prospectus will be sold by the Selling Stockholders. We will not receive any of the proceeds from such sales.

The Selling Stockholders will pay any underwriting discounts and commissions and expenses they incur for brokerage, accounting, tax or legal services or any other expenses they incur in disposing of the securities. We will bear the costs, fees and expenses incurred in effecting the registration of the securities covered by this prospectus, including all registration and filing fees and fees and expenses of our counsel and our independent registered public accounting firm.

#### SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

Up to 505,655 shares of our common stock are being offered by this prospectus, all of which are being offered for resale for the account of the Selling Stockholders. The shares being offered and sold by the Selling Stockholders were acquired from us pursuant to certain securities purchase agreements (the "Stockholder Settlement Agreements") providing for the issuance and registration of shares of common stock in exchange for the cancellation, waiver and release of our obligations to pay such Selling Stockholders liquidated damages pursuant to (i) certain registration rights agreements that provide for damages if we do not register certain shares of our common stock within the requisite time frame; and (ii) certain securities purchase agreements that provide for damages if we do not maintain our periodic filings with the SEC within the requisite time frame. When we refer to the "Selling Stockholders" in this prospectus, we mean the selling stockholders listed in the table below, together with their respective transferees, pledgees, distributees, donees or other successors.

The table below sets forth certain information known to us, based upon written representations from the Selling Stockholders, with respect to the beneficial ownership of our shares of common stock held by the Selling Stockholders as of December 31, 2022. We have not independently verified this information. Because the Selling Stockholders may sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of all, some or none of the shares of our common stock covered by this prospectus, we cannot determine the number of such shares that will be sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of by the Selling Stockholders, or the amount or percentage of shares of our common stock that will be held by the Selling Stockholders upon termination of any particular offering. See the section of this prospectus captioned "Plan of Distribution" for additional information. For purposes of the table below, we assume that the Selling Stockholders will sell all their shares of common stock covered by this prospectus.

In the table below, the percentage of shares beneficially owned is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act and based on 18,303,193 shares of our common stock outstanding on December 31, 2022. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes below, based on representations made to us by the Selling Stockholders, none of the Selling Stockholders has or within the past three years has had, any position, office or other material relationship with us or any of our affiliates.

	Shares of Common Stock			
	Number Beneficially	Number	Number Beneficially	Percent
	Owned Prior to	Registered for	Owned After	Owned After
Name of Selling Stockholders	Offering	Sale Hereby	Offering	Offering
Invenire Partners, LP	327,734	27,369 (1)	300,365	1.6%
Athletes First Media, LLC	761,623	79,804 (2)	681,819	3.7%
Daniel H. Crow	42,357	960 (3)	41,397	*
David Shelton Hunt	85,089	5,535 (4)	79,554	*
Hassie Hunt – Douglas H. Hunt Trust	39,111	960 (5)	38,151	*
Hunt Technology Ventures, L.P.	58,740	1,921 (6)	56,819	*
Kingdom Investments, Limited	58,740	1,921 (7)	56,819	*
Lyda Hunt – Herbert Trusts – Bruce William Hunt	91,208	1,921 (8)	89,287	*
Lyda Hunt – Herbert Trusts – Douglas Herbert Hunt	39,111	960 (9)	38,151	*
William Herbert Hunt Trust Estate	565,510	7,879(10)	557,631	3.0%
Allred 2002 Trust – NLA	43,479	4,507 (11)	38,972	*
Lyda Hunt – Herbert Trusts – Lyda Bunker Hunt	91,208	1,921(12)	89,287	*
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Shares	οf	Commo	n Stock	,

	Shares of Common Stock			
	Number Number			
	Beneficially	Number	Beneficially	Percent
	Owned Prior to	Registered for	Owned After	Owned After
Name of Selling Stockholders	Offering	Sale Hereby	Offering	Offering
MACABA Holdings, L.L.C.	54,725	1,153(13)	53,572	*
Redcap Investments, LP	64,650	4,428(14)	60,222	*
Herbert Hunt Allred	18,775	876 (15)	17,899	*
Allred 2002 Trust – HHA	43,479	4,507(16)	38,972	*
180 Degree Capital Corp.	1,135,009	106,799 (17)	1,028,210	5.6%
Julie Bamburg and Michael Bamburg TTEE Julie				
Bamburg dtd 12/5/2007	2,065	2,065(18)	-	-
Manatuck Hill Scout Fund, LP	2,101	2,101(19)	-	-
Emancipation Capital Master Ltd.	5,163	5,163(20)	-	-
Richard J. Reisman	7,830	1,074(21)	6,756	*
Bradley Silver	551	551 (22)	-	-
Reiss Capital Management LLC	36,117	1,117 (23)	35,000	*
John Aaron Fichthorn	39,256	545 (24)	38,711	*
Voss Value Master Fund, LP	145,987	13,623 (25)	132,364	*
Choice Equities Fund, LP	10,540	1,446 (26)	9,094	*
BRC Partners Opportunity Fund, LP	752,869	50,501(27)	702,368	3.8%
Manatuck Hill Navigator Master Fund, LP	818	818 (28)	-	-
Warlock Partners, LLC	1,792,217	134,875 (29)	1,657,342	8.9%
Parity Capital, L.P.	29,370	960 (30)	28,410	*
Placid Ventures, L.P.	58,740	1,921(31)	56,819	*
Robert Nathaniel Crow 2015 Revocable Trust	23,496	768 (32)	22,728	*
Jon D. and Linda W. Gruber Trust	53,272	10,253 (33)	43,019	*
Michael Ray Crawford	23,997	1,447 (34)	22,550	*
Dan Weirich	9,030	280 (35)	8,750	*
Scott Gaffield	10,155	1,064(36)	9,091	*
Luke E. Fichthorn III Trust dated 8/24/2005	61,703	2,708(37)	58,995	*
Todd Sims	45,181	542 (38)	44,639	*
Catalysis Partners LLC	1,168	1,168 (39)	-	-
David A Durkin	2,918	2,918(40)	-	-
David Jonathan Merriman	1,448	1,448(41)	-	-
James Baker	2,626	272 (42)	2,354	*
Patrice Mcnicoll	37,418	2,918 (43)	34,500	*
Peter B Mills & Mary W Mills Ttees Mills Family				
Trust U/A Dtd 06/17/1998	35,612	386 (44)	35,226	*
Robert Scott	7,484	584(45)	6,900	*
Ross Levinsohn	180,055	7,655 (46)	172,400	*
Timothy B Petersen	5,934	1,063 (47)	4,871	*
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<sup>\*</sup> Less than 1%.

- (1) Consists of an aggregate 27,369 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series J Preferred Stock and Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Chad M. Nelson as managing partner.
- (2) Consists of 79,804 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series I Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Brian G. Murphy.
- (3) Consists of 960 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock.
- (4) Consists of an aggregate 5,535 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series J Preferred Stock and Series K Preferred Stock.
- (5) Consists of 960 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Margaret F. Hunt, as trustee.
- (6) Consists of 1,921 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by David S. Hunt, president of D.S. Hunt Corp., as the shareholder's general partner.
- (7) Consists of 1,921 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Gage A. Prichard, Sr., Trustee of the William Herbert Hunt Trust Estate, as the shareholder's general partner.
- (8) Consists of 1,921 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Ronald D. Hurst, as trustee.
- (9) Consists of 960 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by J.M. Mason, as trustee.
- (10) Consists of 7,879 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Gage A. Prichard, Sr., as trustee.
- (11) Consists of an aggregate 4,507 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Brittny Allred, as trustee. Mr. Herbert Hunt Allred, who is also a member of our Board of Directors, is a beneficiary.
- (12) Consists of 1,921 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Davin P. Hunt, as trustee.
- (13) Consists of 1,153 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Carter W. Hunt, as president.
- (14) Consists of an aggregate 4,428 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock, Series J Preferred Stock, and Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Herbert Hunt Allred, who is also a member of our Board of Directors.

- (15) Consists of 876 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock. Mr. Herbert Hunt Allred is a member of our Board of Directors.
- (16) Consists of an aggregate 4,507 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Brittny Allred, as trustee. Mr. Herbert Hunt Allred, who is also a member of our Board of Directors, is a beneficiary.
- (17) Consists of an aggregate 106,799 shares of our common stock that were issued to: (i) 180 Degree Capital Corp. ("180 Capital") or (ii) the B&W Pension Trust (the "B&W Trust"), respectively, pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between 180 Capital and us. Such shares were issued to 180 Capital in connection with investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series I Preferred Stock. Such shares were issued to the B&W Trust in connection with its investment in our Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over 180 Capital is held by Kevin M. Rendino. Voting and investment control over the B&W Trust is also held by Kevin M. Rendino, as its investment manager.
- (18) Consists of 2,065 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Michael Lee Bamburg, as its trustee.
- (19) Consists of 2,101 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Thomas Scalia.
- (20) Consists of 5,163 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Charles Frumberg.
- (21) Consists of 1,074 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series J Preferred Stock.
- (22) Consists of an aggregate 551 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock.
- (23) Consists of 1,117 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our 12% convertible debentures. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Richard Reiss.
- (24) Consists of 545 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our 12% Convertible Debentures. Mr. John A. Fichthorn is a former member of our Board of Directors.
- (25) Consists of an aggregate 13,623 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Travis Cocke.
- (26) Consists of 1,446 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Peter Mitchell Scott, IV.
- (27) Consists of an aggregate 50,501 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our 12% Convertible Debentures, Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Bryant Riley. Mr. Riley is also a principal of B. Riley Principal Investments, LLC and its affiliate BRF Investments, LLC.

- (28) Consists of 818 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Thomas Scalia.
- (29) Consists of an aggregate 134,875 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our 12% Convertible Debentures, Series H Preferred Stock and Series I Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Brock Pierce.
- (30) Consists of 960 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Bruce W. Hunt, as president of its general partner.
- (31) Consists of 1,921 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by David S. Hunt, as president of its general partner.
- (32) Consists of 768 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series K Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Robert Nathaniel Crow, as trustee.
- (33) Consists of an aggregate 10,253 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Jon D. Gruber, as trustee.
- (34) Consists of an aggregate 1,447 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our 12% Convertible Debentures and Series H Preferred Stock.
- (35) Consists of 280 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our 12% Convertible Debentures.
- (36) Consists of 1,064 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series I Preferred Stock.
- (37) Consists of an aggregate 2,708 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our 12% Convertible Debentures and Series J Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Luke E. Fichthorn, as trustee.
- (38) Consists of 542 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our 12% Convertible Debentures. Mr. Sims is a member of our Board of Directors and he is also on the Board of Directors of B. Riley Financial, Inc.
- (39) Consists of 1,168 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by John P. Francis as the managing member to its general partner.
- (40) Consists of 2,918 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock.
- (41) Consists of 1,448 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock.
- (42) Consists of an aggregate 272 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series J Preferred Stock.
- (43) Consists of 2,918 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock.
- (44) Consists of 386 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock. Voting and investment control over the shareholder is held by Peter B. Mills, as trustee. Mr. Mills is a former member of our Board of Directors.
- (45) Consists of 584 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to a Stockholder Settlement Agreement previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investment in our Series H Preferred Stock.
- (46) Consists of an aggregate 7,655 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series H Preferred Stock and Series I Preferred Stock. Mr. Levinsohn is a member of our Board of Directors and he is our Chief Executive Officer.
- (47) Consists of an aggregate 1,063 shares of our common stock that were issued pursuant to one or more Stockholder Settlement Agreements previously entered into by and between the shareholder and us, in connection with the shareholder's investments in our Series J Preferred Stock and Series K Preferred Stock.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We are registering the shares of common stock held by the Selling Stockholders to be sold from time to time after the date of this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale by the Selling Stockholders of the shares of common stock.

Each Selling Stockholder of the common stock and any of its transferees, pledgees, distributees, donees, and successors may, from time to time, sell any or all of their securities covered hereby on the principal trading market for the common stock or any other stock exchange, market, or trading facility on which the common stock is traded or in private transactions. These sales may be at fixed or negotiated prices. A Selling Stockholder may use any one or more of the following methods when selling securities:

- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the common stock as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;
- an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- settlement of short sales;
- in transactions through broker-dealers that agree with the Selling Stockholders to sell a specified number of such common stock at a stipulated price per security;
- through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;
- a combination of any such methods of sale; or
- any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

The Selling Stockholders may elect to make a pro rata in-kind distribution of their shares of common stock to their respective members, partners, or stockholders. To the extent that such members, partners, or stockholders are not affiliates of ours, such members, partners, or stockholders would thereby receive freely tradeable shares of our common stock pursuant to the distribution through this prospectus.

The Selling Stockholders may also sell the shares of common stock under Rule 144 or any other exemption from registration under the Securities Act, if available, rather than under this prospectus.

The Selling Stockholders also may transfer the shares of common stock in other circumstances, in which case the transferees or other successors in interest will be the selling beneficial owners for purposes of this prospectus.

Broker-dealers engaged by the Selling Stockholders may arrange for other brokers-dealers to participate in sales. Broker-dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the Selling Stockholders (or, if any broker-dealer acts as agent for the purchaser of common stock, from the purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated, but, except as set forth in a supplement to this prospectus, in the case of an agency transaction not in excess of a customary brokerage commission in compliance with Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") Rule 5110; and in the case of a principal transaction a markup or markdown in compliance with FINRA Rule 2121.

In connection with the sale of the common stock or interests therein, the Selling Stockholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The Selling Stockholders may also sell common stock short and deliver these shares to close out their short positions, or loan or pledge the securities to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these shares. The Selling Stockholders may enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or create one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to such broker-dealer or other financial institution of securities offered by this prospectus, which securities such broker-dealer or other financial institution may resell pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transaction).

The Selling Stockholders and any broker-dealers or agents that are involved in selling the securities may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In such event, any commissions received by such broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares of common stock purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. Each Selling Stockholder has informed us that it does not have any written or oral agreement or understanding, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the shares of common stock.

We are required to pay certain fees and expenses incurred by us incident to the registration of the shares of common stock. We have agreed to indemnify the Selling Stockholders against certain losses, claims, damages, and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The resale securities will be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in certain states, the resale securities covered hereby may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the resale shares of common stock may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to the common stock for the applicable restricted period, as defined in Regulation M, prior to the commencement of the distribution. In addition, the Selling Stockholders will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of the common stock by the Selling Stockholders or any other person. We will make copies of this prospectus available to the Selling Stockholders and have informed them of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale (including by compliance with Rule 172 under the Securities Act).

#### DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following summary sets forth certain material terms and provisions of our capital stock. This description also summarizes relevant provisions of the General Corporation Law of Delaware (the "DGCL"). The following description is a summary and does not purport to be a complete description of the rights and preferences of our capital stock. It is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the applicable provisions of the DGCL and our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as amended (our "Certificate of Incorporation") and our bylaws, as amended and restated from time to time (our "Bylaws"), each of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. We encourage you to read our Certificate of Incorporation, our Bylaws and the applicable provisions of the DGCL for additional information.

#### General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 1,001,000,000 shares, of which 1,000,000,000 shares of common stock and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock are authorized. Under our Certificate of Incorporation, our Board has the authority to issue such shares of our common stock and preferred stock in one or more classes or series, with such voting powers, designations, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights, if any, and such qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, if any, as shall be provided for in a resolution or resolutions adopted by our Board and filed as designations.

#### **Common Stock**

As of December 31, 2022, 18,303,193 shares of our common stock were outstanding. The outstanding shares of our common stock are duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors, and are entitled to receive dividends when and as declared by our Board out of funds legally available therefore for distribution to stockholders and to share ratably in the assets legally available for distribution to stockholders in the event of the liquidation or dissolution, whether voluntary or involuntary, of The Arena Group. We have not paid any dividends and do not anticipate paying any dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. It is our present policy to retain earnings, if any, for use in the development of our business. Holders of common stock do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors or for any other purpose, and have no preemptive, subscription, or conversion rights. Our common stock is not subject to redemption by us.

#### **Preferred Stock**

Of the 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock authorized, our Board has previously designated:

- 1,800 shares of preferred stock as Series G Convertible preferred stock ("Series G Preferred Stock"), of which approximately 168 shares remain outstanding as of December 31, 2022; and
- 23,000 shares of preferred stock as Series H preferred stock ("Series H Preferred Stock"), of which 14,356 shares remain outstanding as of December 31, 2022.

Of the 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, 975,200 shares of preferred stock remain available for designation by our Board as of December 31, 2022. Accordingly, our Board is empowered, without stockholder approval, to issue preferred stock with dividend, liquidation, conversion, voting, or other rights that could adversely affect the voting power or other rights of the holders of our common stock. The issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of restricting dividends on our common stock, diluting the voting power of our common stock, impairing the liquidation rights of our common stock, or delaying or preventing a change in control of us, all without further action by our stockholders.

#### Series G Preferred Stock

The Series G Preferred Stock is convertible into shares of our common stock, at the option of the holder, subject to certain limitations. We may require holders to convert all (but not less than all) of the Series G Preferred Stock or buy out all outstanding shares of Series G Preferred Stock at the liquidation value of approximately \$168,500. Holders of Series G Preferred Stock are not entitled to dividends and have no voting rights, unless required by law or with respect to certain matters relating to the Series G Preferred Stock. Upon a change in control, sale of or similar transaction, as defined in the Certificate of Designation for the Series G Preferred Stock, the holder of the Series G Preferred Stock has the option to deem such transaction as a liquidation and may redeem the approximately 168 shares outstanding at the liquidation value of \$1,000 per share, or an aggregate amount of approximately \$168,500. The sale of all our assets on June 28, 2007 triggered the redemption option.

#### Series H Preferred Stock

The Series H Preferred Stock has a stated value of \$1,000, convertible into shares of our common stock, at the option of the holder subject to certain limitations, at a conversion rate equal to the stated value divided by the conversion price of \$7.26 per share. In addition, if at any time prior to the nine month anniversary of the closing date, we sell or grant any option or right to purchase or issue any shares of our common stock, or securities convertible into shares of our common stock, with net proceeds in excess of \$1.0 million in the aggregate, entitling any person to acquire shares of our common stock at an effective price per share that is lower than the then conversion price (such lower price, the "Base Conversion Price"), then the conversion price will be reduced to equal the Base Conversion Price. All the shares of Series H Preferred Stock automatically convert into shares of our common stock on the fifth anniversary of the closing date at the then-conversion price. The number of shares issuable upon conversion of the Series H Preferred Stock will be adjusted in the event of stock splits, stock dividends, combinations of shares, and similar transactions. Each share of Series H Preferred Stock is entitled to vote on an as-if-converted-to-common-stock basis, subject to beneficial ownership blocker provisions and other certain conditions.

#### Certain Anti-Takeover Provisions of Delaware Law and Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Provisions of the DGCL and our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws could make it more difficult to acquire us by means of a tender offer, a proxy contest or otherwise, or to remove incumbent officers and directors. These provisions, summarized below, are intended to discourage coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with the board of directors. We believe that the benefits of these provisions outweigh the disadvantages of discouraging certain takeover or acquisition proposals because, among other things, negotiation of these proposals could result in an improvement of their terms and enhance the ability of our Board to maximize stockholder value.

#### **Delaware Law**

We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the DGCL regulating corporate takeovers. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a "business combination" with an "interested stockholder" for a period of three years following the date on which the person became an interested stockholder unless:

• prior to the date of the transaction, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

- the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the voting stock outstanding, but not the outstanding voting stock owned by the interested stockholder, (i) shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and (ii) shares owned by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or
- at or subsequent to the date of the transaction, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66.67% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Generally, a business combination includes a merger, asset or stock sale, or other transaction or series of transactions together resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. An interested stockholder is a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns or, within three years prior to the determination of interested stockholder status, did own 15% or more of a corporation's outstanding voting stock.

#### Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws Provisions

Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws include a number of provisions that could deter hostile takeovers or delay or prevent changes in control of our company, including the following:

- Special Meetings of Stockholders. Our Bylaws provide that special meetings of our stockholders may be called only by a majority of our Board, the Chairman of our Board, our Chief Executive Officer, or President (in the absence of our Chief Executive Officer).
- Stockholder Advance Notice Procedures. Our Bylaws provide that stockholders seeking to present proposals before a meeting of stockholders or to nominate candidates for election as directors at a meeting of stockholders must provide timely notice in writing and also specify requirements as to the form and content of a stockholder's notice. These provisions may delay or preclude stockholders from bringing matters before a meeting of our stockholders or from making nominations for directors at a meeting of stockholders, which could delay or deter takeover attempts or changes in our management.
- Exclusive Forum. Our Bylaws provide that unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the courts in the State of Delaware are, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the sole and exclusive forum for any claims, including claims in the right of the Company, any action asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the DGCL, our Certificate of Incorporation, or our Bylaws, any action to interpret, apply, enforce, or determine the validity of our Certificate of Incorporation or our Bylaws, or any action asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine.
- *No Action by Written Consent.* Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders must be effected at a duly constituted annual or special meeting of the stockholders.
- Amendments to our Certificate of Incorporation. Any amendments to our Certificate of Incorporation requires a supermajority vote unless our Board recommends to our stockholders that they approve such amendment.
- *Undesignated Preferred Stock*. Because our Board has the power to establish the preferences and rights of the shares of any additional series of Preferred Stock, it may afford holders of any Preferred Stock preferences, powers, and rights, including voting and dividend rights, senior to the rights of holders of our common stock, which could adversely affect the holders of common stock and could discourage a takeover of us even if a change of control of the Company would be beneficial to the interests of our stockholders.

These and other provisions contained in our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws are expected to discourage coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our Board. However, these provisions could delay or discourage transactions involving an actual or potential change in control of us, including transactions in which stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares over then current prices. Such provisions could also limit the ability of stockholders to remove current management or approve transactions that stockholders may deem to be in their best interests.

#### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC at 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11219. The transfer agent's telephone number is (800) 937-5449.

#### **NYSE American Listing**

Our common stock is traded on the NYSE American under the symbol "AREN."

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the securities offered hereby has been passed upon for us by Fenwick & West LLP.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries appearing in The Arena Group Holdings, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2021, have been audited by Marcum LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements are, and audited financial statements to be included in subsequently filed documents will be, incorporated herein in reliance upon the report of Marcum LLP pertaining to such financial statements (to the extent covered by consents filed with the SEC) given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

#### PART II

#### INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

#### Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

The following table sets forth estimated expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered:

SEC registration fee	\$ 427
Legal fees and expenses	\$ 25,000
Accounting fees and expenses	\$ 25,000
Miscellaneous expenses	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 55,427

#### Item 15. Indemnification of Officers and Directors

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law authorizes a court to award, or a corporation's board of directors to grant, indemnity to directors and officers under certain circumstances and subject to certain limitations. The terms of Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law are sufficiently broad to permit indemnification under certain circumstances for liabilities, including reimbursement of expenses incurred, arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").

As permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, the Registrant's restated certificate of incorporation contains a provision that eliminates, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the personal liability of a directors for monetary damages resulting from breach of his or her fiduciary duties as a director, except for liability:

- for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the Registrant or its stockholders;
- for acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- under Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (regarding unlawful dividends, stock purchases or redemptions); or
- for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

As permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, the Registrant's restated bylaws provide that:

- the Registrant is required to indemnify its directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, subject
  to certain very limited exceptions;
- the Registrant may indemnify its other employees and agents as set forth in the Delaware General Corporation Law;
- the Registrant is required to advance expenses, as incurred, to its directors and officers in connection with a legal proceeding to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, subject to certain very limited exceptions; and
- the rights conferred in the restated bylaws are not exclusive.

The Registrant has entered, and intends to continue to enter, into indemnification agreements with each of its directors and executive officers to provide these directors and executive officers additional contractual assurances regarding the scope of the indemnification set forth in the Registrant's restated certificate of incorporation and restated bylaws and to provide additional procedural protections. At present, there is no pending litigation or proceeding involving a director or executive officer of the Registrant for which indemnification is sought. The indemnification provisions in the Registrant's restated certificate of incorporation, restated bylaws and the indemnification agreements entered into or to be entered into between the Registrant and each of its directors and executive officers may be sufficiently broad to permit indemnification of the Registrant's directors and executive officers for liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

The Registrant currently carries liability insurance for its directors and officers.

#### Item 16. Exhibits

			Incorpora	ted by Referen	ice
Exhibit					Filed
Number	Description	Form	Exhibit	<b>Filing Date</b>	Herewith
2.1	Stock Purchase Agreement by and among Athlon Holdings, Inc., the Company, and the sellers	8-K	10.1	04/06/2022	
	set forth therein, dated as of April 1, 2022				
2.2	Asset Purchase Agreement, dated December 7, 2022, by and among The Arena Media Brands,	8-K	2.1	12/20/2022	
	LLC, Weider Publications, LLC and A360 Media, LLC				
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation	8-K	3.1	10/13/2021	
3.2	Second Amended and Restated Bylaws	8-K	3.2	10/13/2021	
3.3	Certificate of Amendment to the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, filed with	8-K	3.1	01/26/2022	
	the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on January 20, 2022				
3.4	Certificate of Correction of the Certificate of Amendment of the Amended and Restated	8-K	3.2	01/26/2022	
	Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on January				
	<u>26, 2022</u>				
3.5	Certificate of Correction of the Certificate of Amendment of the Amended and Restated	8-K	3.1	02/09/2022	
	Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on				
	<u>February 3, 2022</u>				
4.1	Specimen Common Stock Certificate	SB-2/A	4.3	09/23/1996	
5.1	<u>Legal Opinion of Fenwick &amp; West LLP</u>				X
23.1	Consent of Marcum LLP, independent registered public accounting firm for the Company				X
23.2	Consent of Fenwick & West LLP (included as part of Exhibit 5.1)				X
24.1	<u>Power of Attorney (included on the signature page hereto)</u>				X
107.1	<u>Filing Fee Table</u>				X
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#### Item 17. Undertakings

- (a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:
  - (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
    - (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;
    - (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and
    - (iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;
      - provided, however, that subparagraphs (i), (ii), and (iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.
  - (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
  - (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
  - (4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser:
    - (i) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and
    - (ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.
- (b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers, and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer, or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit, or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer, or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement on Form S-3 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, State of New York, on January 24, 2023.

#### THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ Ross Levinsohn

Ross Levinsohn
Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board (Principal Executive Officer)

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Ross Levinsohn and Douglas B. Smith, and each of them, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact, proxies and agents, each with full power of substitution and resubstitution and full power to act without the other, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to execute a Registration Statement on Form S-3 of the Company, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to such Registration Statement and any Registration Statement relating to any offering made pursuant to this Registration Statement, and to file such Registration Statement(s) and any and all amendments thereto, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact, proxies and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing necessary or desirable to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes, as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact, proxies and agents, or their or his or her substitute or substitutes may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement on Form S-3 has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Ross Levinsohn	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	January 24, 2023
Ross Levinsohn	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ Douglas B. Smith	Chief Financial Officer	January 24, 2023
Douglas B. Smith	(Principal Financial Officer)	
/s/ Spiros Christoforatos	Chief Accounting Officer	January 24, 2023
Spiros Christoforatos	(Principal Accounting Officer)	
/s/ H. Hunt Allred	Director	January 24, 2023
H. Hunt Allred		•
/s/ Carlo Zola	Director	January 24, 2023
Carlo Zola		<b>,</b>
/s/ Laura Lee	Director	January 24, 2023
Laura Lee		<b>,</b>
/s/ Christopher Petzel	Director	January 24, 2023
Christopher Petzel		<b>y</b>
/s/ Daniel Shribman	Director	January 24, 2023
Daniel Shribman		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
/s/ Todd D. Sims	Director	January 24, 2023
Todd D. Sims	Director.	January 2 1, 2020
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555 California Street 12th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104 415.875.2300 Fenwick.com

January 24, 2023

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 200 Vesey Street 24th Floor New York. New York 10281

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At your request, we have examined the Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed by The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") on January 24, 2023 (the "Registration Statement"), in connection with the registration for resale under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), of up to an aggregate of 505,655 shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock," and such shares of Common Stock, the "Selling Stockholders' Shares"), previously issued to certain selling stockholders of the Company (the "Selling Stockholders") pursuant to certain securities purchase agreements by and between the Company and each of the Selling Stockholders, as set forth in the Registration Statement and the prospectus contained within the Registration Statement (the "Prospectus").

In connection with our opinion expressed below, we have examined originals or copies of the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") and Second Amended and Restated Bylaws (the "Bylaws," together with the Certificate of Incorporation, as each may be amended, modified or restated, the "Charter Documents"), certain corporate proceedings of the Company's board of directors and stockholders relating to the Registration Statement, the Charter Documents, and such other agreements, documents, certificates and statements of the Company, its transfer agent and public or government officials, as we have deemed advisable, and have examined such questions of law as we have considered necessary. We have assumed, and express no opinion as to, the genuineness of all signatures on documents submitted to us, the authenticity and completeness of all documents submitted to us as copies, the legal capacity of all persons or entities (except for the Company) executing the same, the absence of any undisclosed termination, modification, waiver or amendment to any document reviewed by us, the absence of any other extrinsic agreements or documents that might change or affect the interpretation or terms of documents we have reviewed, and the due authorization, execution and delivery of all such documents where due authorization, execution and delivery are prerequisites to the effectiveness thereof. In giving our opinion, we have also relied upon a good standing certificate regarding the Company issued by the Delaware Secretary of State dated January 24, 2023 and a management certificate addressed to us and dated of even date herewith executed by the Company containing certain factual representations.

We render this opinion only with respect to, and express no opinion herein concerning the application or effect of the laws of any jurisdiction other than, the existing laws of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Selling Stockholders' Shares to be sold by the Selling Stockholders pursuant to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus are validly issued, nonassessable and fully paid.

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. Page 2 January 24, 2023

We consent to the use of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and further consent to all references to us, if any, in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus constituting a part thereof and any amendments thereto. This opinion is intended solely for use in connection with sale of the Selling Stockholders' Shares to be sold by the Selling Stockholders pursuant to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus and is not to be relied upon for any other purpose. In providing this letter, we are opining only as to the specific legal issues expressly set forth above, and no opinion shall be inferred as to any other matter or matters. This opinion is rendered on, and speaks only as of, the date of this letter first written above, and does not address any potential change in facts or law that may occur after the date of this opinion letter. We assume no obligation to advise you of any fact, circumstance, event or change in the law or the facts that may hereafter be brought to our attention, whether or not such occurrence would affect or modify any of the opinions expressed herein.

Very Truly Yours,

/s/ Fenwick & West LLP

Fenwick & West LLP

#### INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. on Form S-3 of our report dated March 31, 2022 with respect to our audits of the consolidated financial statements of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 and for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2021. We also consent to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in the Prospectus, which is part of this Registration Statement.

/s/ Marcum LLP

Marcum LLP Los Angeles, CA January 24, 2023

Filing Fee

## Calculation of Fee Filing Tables Form S-3

(Form Type)

#### The Arena Group Holdings, Inc.

(Exact name of Registration as Specified in its Charter)

#### **Table 1 - Newly Registered and Carry Forward Securities**

Previously Paid in Connection with Unsold Proposed Maximum Fee Carry Calculation Maximum Carry Carry Securities Aggregate Offering Security Offering or Carry Amount of Forward Forward Initial to be Amount Security File Carried Class Forward **Price** Fee Registration Form Effective Registered<sup>(1)</sup> Title Rule Price Number Date Туре Per Unit Rate Type Forward Newly Registered Securities Common stock, par value \$0.01 Fees to be Paid 457(c) 505,655 \$ 7.65(2) \$ 3868260.75 \$ 0.0001102 \$ Equity per share Fees Previously Paid Carry Forward Securities Carry Forward Securities \$ 3868260.75 **Total Offering Amounts** 426.28 Total Fees Previously Paid Total Fee Offsets \$ 426.28

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this registration statement also covers any additional securities that may be offered or issued in connection with any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or similar transaction.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act, based on the average of the high and low reported trading prices of the registrant's common stock as reported on the NYSE American on January 19, 2023, a date within five business days prior to January 19, 2023.