
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended April 29, 2017

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER:

000-20969

HIBBETT

S P O R T S

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

20-8159608

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2700 Milan Court, Birmingham, Alabama 35211

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

205-942-4292

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

NONE

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes

No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share, outstanding as of May 26, 2017, were 20,766,453 shares.

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Financial Statements.

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(in thousands, except share and per share information)

ASSETS	April 29, 2017	January 28, 2017
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 75,856	\$ 38,958
Inventories, net	249,359	280,701
Other current assets	13,664	18,605
Total current assets	338,879	338,264
Property and equipment	248,994	247,416
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	135,681	135,782
Property and equipment, net	113,313	111,634
Other assets, net	6,590	8,956
Total Assets	\$ 458,782	\$ 458,854
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' INVESTMENT		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 69,922	\$ 77,046
Accrued payroll expenses	7,690	8,268
Deferred rent	5,091	5,050
Short-term capital lease obligations	603	595
Other accrued expenses	11,240	5,113
Total current liabilities	94,546	96,072
Deferred rent	21,888	21,664
Other liabilities, net	7,160	7,078
Total liabilities	123,594	124,814
Stockholders' Investment:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued	-	-
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 80,000,000 shares authorized, 38,836,069 and 38,739,079 shares issued at April 29, 2017 and January 28, 2017, respectively	388	387
Paid-in capital	178,080	174,719
Retained earnings	717,781	697,658
Treasury stock, at cost; 17,815,616 and 17,067,482 shares repurchased at April 29, 2017 and January 28, 2017, respectively	(561,061)	(538,724)
Total stockholders' investment	335,188	334,040
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Investment	\$ 458,782	\$ 458,854

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations
(in thousands, except per share information)

	<u>Thirteen Weeks Ended</u>	
	<u>April 29,</u> <u>2017</u>	<u>April 30,</u> <u>2016</u>
Net sales	\$ 275,688	\$ 282,092
Cost of goods sold, including wholesale, logistics and store occupancy costs	177,470	177,090
Gross profit	98,218	105,002
Store operating, selling and administrative expenses	58,337	56,061
Depreciation and amortization	5,713	4,599
Operating income	34,168	44,342
Interest expense, net	66	65
Income before provision for income taxes	34,102	44,277
Provision for income taxes	13,192	16,371
Net income	<u>\$ 20,910</u>	<u>\$ 27,906</u>
Earnings per share:		
Basic	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.23
Diluted	<u>\$ 0.97</u>	<u>\$ 1.22</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	21,316	22,780
Diluted	<u>21,466</u>	<u>22,947</u>

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(in thousands)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 20,910	\$ 27,906
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	5,713	4,599
Stock-based compensation	1,703	2,149
Other non-cash adjustments to net income	96	19
Decrease in inventories, net	31,342	31,258
Decrease in prepaid expenses	9,592	8,053
Decrease in accounts payable	(7,123)	(22,784)
Changes in other operating assets and liabilities	4,637	4,809
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>66,870</u>	<u>56,009</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Capital expenditures	(7,796)	(6,780)
Other, net	(80)	147
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(7,876)</u>	<u>(6,633)</u>
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Cash used for stock repurchases	(21,636)	(7,378)
Payments on capital lease obligations	(146)	(113)
Proceeds from options exercised and purchase of shares under the employee stock purchase plan	387	169
Other, net	(701)	(913)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(22,096)</u>	<u>(8,235)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	36,898	41,141
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	38,958	32,274
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 75,856</u>	<u>\$ 73,415</u>

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Basis of Presentation and Accounting Policies

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of Hibbett Sports, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (including the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of January 28, 2017, which has been derived from audited financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (U.S. GAAP) for interim financial information and are presented in accordance with the requirements of Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. References to "we," "our," "us" and the "Company" refer to Hibbett Sports, Inc. and its subsidiaries as well as its predecessors.

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017 filed on March 28, 2017. In our opinion, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included herein contain all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation of our financial position as of April 29, 2017 and the results of our operations and cash flows for the periods presented.

There have been no material changes in our significant accounting policies as compared to the significant accounting policies described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 28, 2017.

2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standard Update (ASU) 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*. This ASU updates accounting guidance on revenue recognition. In August 2015, the FASB provided a one-year deferral of the effective date for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. The FASB has also issued clarification guidance as it relates to principal versus agent considerations for revenue recognition purposes and clarification guidance on other various considerations related to the new revenue recognition guidance. Additionally, during April 2016, the FASB issued further clarification guidance related to identifying performance obligations and licensing. We will adopt this ASU in the first quarter of Fiscal 2019. We continue to evaluate the impact of the new standard and available adoption methods on our consolidated financial statements. The standard will result in the implementation of new processes and internal controls over revenue recognition primarily related to gift card breakage and our customer loyalty program.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, *Inventory – Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory*, which requires all inventory, other than inventory measured at last-in, first out (LIFO) or the retail inventory method, to be measured at the lower of cost and net realizable value. This ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. The adoption of ASU 2015-11 did not have any impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02 – *Leases*, which requires lessees to recognize leases on the balance sheet and disclose key information about leasing arrangements. The new standard establishes a right-of-use model (ROU) that requires a lessee to recognize a ROU asset and lease liability on the balance sheet for all leases with a term longer than 12 months. Leases will be classified as finance or operating, with classification affecting the pattern and classification of expense recognition in the income statement. ASU 2016-02 is effective for us with the fiscal year beginning February 3, 2019 (Fiscal 2020), with early adoption permitted. We expect to adopt ASU 2016-02 in Fiscal 2020. A modified retrospective transition approach is required for leases existing at, or entered into after, the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented in the financial statements (Fiscal 2018), with certain practical expedients available.

While we continue to assess the effect of adoption of ASU 2016-02, we anticipate its implementation will result in recognition of approximately \$195.0 million in net ROU assets and approximately \$220.0 million in lease liabilities in the earliest comparative period. We do not expect a significant change in our leasing strategy between now and adoption. We expect to elect all of the standard's available practical expedients on adoption. The discount rate used in the modified retrospective transition will be our incremental borrowing rate as of January 29, 2017 or 4.0%. We plan to elect to separate non-lease components from lease components on all asset classes.

In the first quarter of Fiscal 2018, we adopted ASU 2016-09 – *Compensation – Stock Compensation: Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting*, that aims to simplify several aspects of accounting and reporting for share-based payment transactions. One provision of this pronouncement requires that excess income tax benefits and tax deficiencies related to share-based payments be recognized within income tax expense in the statement of income, rather than within additional paid-in capital on the balance sheet. The impact to our results of operations related to this provision in the first quarter of Fiscal 2018 was an increase in the provision for income taxes of \$0.6 million. The future impact of this provision on our future results of operations will depend in part on the market prices of our common stock on the dates there are taxable events related to equity awards, and therefore the impact is difficult to predict. In another provision of this pronouncement, we elected to account for forfeitures of share-based awards as they occur rather than estimate expected forfeitures, with the change being applied on a modified retrospective basis that resulted in a cumulative effect reduction to retained earnings of \$0.8 million as of January 28, 2017. We do not expect that any other provisions within the pronouncement will have a material impact on our financial statements.

We continuously monitor and review all current accounting pronouncements and standards from the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) of U.S. GAAP for applicability to our operations. As of April 29, 2017, there were no other new pronouncements, interpretations or staff positions that had or were expected to have a significant impact on our operations since our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017 filed on March 28, 2017.

3. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Subtopic 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, establishes a three-level fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. The three levels of inputs used to measure fair value are as follows:

Level I – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level II – Observable inputs other than quoted prices included in Level I.

Level III – Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

The table below segregates all financial assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis (at least annually) into the most appropriate level within the fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used to determine the fair value as of April 29, 2017 and January 28, 2017 (in thousands):

	April 29, 2017			January 28, 2017		
	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level I	Level II	Level III
Short-term investments	\$ 79	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79	\$ -	\$ -
Long-term investments	2,795	-	-	2,666	-	-
Total investments	\$ 2,874	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,745	\$ -	\$ -

Short-term investments are reported in other current assets on our unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheets. Long-term investments are reported in other assets on our unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheets.

4. Debt

At April 29, 2017, we had two unsecured credit facilities, which are renewable annually in August and November. The August facility allows for borrowings up to \$30.0 million with an interest rate at one month LIBOR plus 2.0%. The November facility allows for borrowings up to \$50.0 million at a rate of prime plus 2.0%. Under the provisions of both facilities, we do not pay commitment fees and are not subject to covenant requirements. There were 7 days during the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, where we incurred borrowings against our credit facilities for an average and maximum borrowing of \$4.2 million and \$4.9 million, respectively, and an average interest rate of 2.78%. At April 29, 2017, a total of \$80.0 million was available to us from these facilities.

At January 28, 2017, we had two unsecured credit facilities, which are renewable in August and November 2017. The August facility allows for borrowings up to \$30.0 million with an interest rate at one month LIBOR plus 2.0%. The November facility allows for borrowings up to \$50.0 million at a rate of prime plus 2.0%. Under the provisions of both facilities, we do not pay commitment fees and are not subject to covenant requirements. There were 19 days during the fifty-two weeks ended January 28, 2017, where we incurred borrowings against our credit facilities for an average and maximum borrowing of \$6.6 million and \$11.8 million, respectively, and an average interest rate of 2.5%.

5. Stock-Based Compensation

The compensation costs that have been charged against income for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016 were as follows (in thousands):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Stock-based compensation expense by type:		
Stock options	\$ 173	\$ 381
Restricted stock unit awards, including performance-based	1,491	1,709
Employee stock purchases	33	36
Director deferred compensation	6	23
Total stock-based compensation expense	1,703	2,149
Income tax benefit recognized	614	781
Stock-based compensation expense, net of income tax	<u>\$ 1,089</u>	<u>\$ 1,368</u>

In the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, we granted the following equity awards:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Stock options	20,372	36,041
Restricted stock unit awards	108,429	100,775
Performance-based restricted stock unit awards	54,900	45,300
Deferred stock units	201	13,482

At April 29, 2017, the total compensation costs, related to nonvested restricted stock unit awards not yet recognized was \$9.4 million and the weighted-average period over which such awards are expected to be recognized was 2.8 years. There are no future compensation costs related to nonvested stock options to be recognized at April 29, 2017.

Under the 2012 Non-Employee Director Equity Plan (2012 Plan), a total of 3,361 and 2,851 shares of our common stock were awarded during the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively, as part of the annual equity award to directors in the first quarter. The weighted-average grant date fair value of stock options granted during the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016 was \$8.47 and \$10.56 per share, respectively.

Our employee purchases of common stock, the average price per share and the weighted-average grant date fair value of shares purchased through our employee stock purchase plan were as follow:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Shares purchased	5,464	5,617
Average price per share	\$ 25.08	\$ 25.70
Weighted average fair value at grant date	\$ 5.59	\$ 6.47

6. Earnings Per Share

The computation of basic earnings per share (EPS) is based on the number of weighted average common shares outstanding during the period. The computation of diluted EPS is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding plus the incremental shares that would be outstanding assuming exercise of dilutive stock options and issuance of restricted stock. The number of incremental shares is calculated by applying the treasury stock method. The following table sets forth the weighted average common shares outstanding (in thousands):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Weighted-average shares used in basic computations	21,316	22,780
Dilutive equity awards	150	167
Weighted-average shares used in diluted computations	21,466	22,947

For the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, we excluded 203,757 options from the computation of diluted weighted-average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding because of their anti-dilutive effect. For the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, we excluded 144,148 options from the computation of diluted weighted-average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding because of their anti-dilutive effect.

We excluded 92,200 nonvested stock awards granted to certain employees from the computation of diluted weighted-average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding because they are subject to certain performance-based annual vesting conditions which had not been achieved by April 29, 2017. Assuming the performance-criteria had been achieved as of April 29, 2017, the incremental dilutive impact would have been 46,314 shares.

7. Stock Repurchase Activity

In November 2015, the Board of Directors (Board) authorized a Stock Repurchase Program (Program) of \$300.0 million to repurchase our common stock through February 2, 2019. The Program replaced an existing program and authorizes repurchases of our common stock in open market or negotiated transactions, with the amount and timing of repurchases dependent on market conditions and at the discretion of our management. In addition to the Program, we also acquire shares of our common stock from holders of restricted stock unit awards to satisfy tax withholding requirements due at vesting. Shares acquired from holders of restricted stock unit awards to satisfy tax withholding requirements do not reduce the Program authorization.

During the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, we repurchased 748,134 shares of our common stock at a cost of \$22.3 million, including 23,690 shares acquired from holders of restricted stock unit awards to satisfy tax withholding requirements of \$0.7 million. During the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016, we repurchased 237,382 shares of our common stock at a cost of \$8.3 million, including 25,882 shares acquired from holders of restricted stock unit awards to satisfy tax withholding requirements of \$0.9 million.

As of April 29, 2017, we had approximately \$236.2 million remaining under the Program for stock repurchases. Subsequent to April 29, 2017, we have repurchased 254,600 shares of our common stock at a cost of \$6.3 million through May 26, 2017.

8. Commitments and Contingencies

Lease Commitments.

We have entered into capital leases for certain property. At April 29, 2017, the total capital lease obligations were \$3.3 million, of which \$0.6 million was included in short-term capital lease obligations and \$2.7 million was included in other liabilities, net, on our unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet. At January 28, 2017, the total capital lease obligations were \$3.5 million, of which \$0.6 million was included in short-term capital lease obligations and \$2.9 million was included in other liabilities, net, on our unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.

During the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, we opened 13 stores and closed nine stores, thus increasing our lease commitments by a net of four retail stores. The stores we opened have initial lease termination dates between April 2022 and July 2027.

Annual Bonuses and Equity Incentive Awards.

Specified officers and corporate employees of our Company are eligible to receive annual bonuses, based on measures of Company operating performance. At April 29, 2017 and January 28, 2017, there was \$0.9 million and \$3.3 million, respectively, of annual bonus related expenses included in accrued payroll expenses on our unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheets.

In addition, the Compensation Committee of the Board has placed performance criteria on awards of restricted stock units (PSUs) to our "named executive officers" as determined in accordance with Item 402(a) of Regulation S-K. The performance criteria are tied to performance targets with respect to future return on invested capital and earnings before interest and taxes over a specified period of time. These PSUs are expensed under the provisions of ASC Topic 718, *Compensation – Stock Compensation*, and are evaluated each quarter to determine the probability that the performance conditions set within will be met.

Legal Proceedings and Other Contingencies.

If we believe that a loss is both probable and estimable for a particular matter, the loss is accrued in accordance with the requirements of ASC Topic 450, *Contingencies*. No material amounts were accrued at April 29, 2017 and January 28, 2017 pertaining to legal proceedings or other contingencies.

9. Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate is based on expected annual income, statutory tax rates and tax planning opportunities available in the various jurisdictions in which we operate. For interim financial reporting, we estimate the annual effective tax rate based on expected taxable income for the full year and record a quarterly income tax provision in accordance with the anticipated annual effective rate and adjust for discrete items. We update the estimates of the taxable income throughout the year as new information becomes available, including year-to-date financial results. This process often results in a change to our expected effective tax rate for the year. When this occurs, we adjust the income tax provision during the quarter in which the change in estimate occurs so that the year-to-date provision reflects the expected annual effective tax rate. Significant judgment is required in determining our effective tax rate and in evaluating our tax positions.

We apply the provisions of ASC Subtopic 740-10 in accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. In accordance with ASC Subtopic 740-10, we recognize a tax benefit associated with an uncertain tax position when, in our judgment, it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination by a taxing authority. For a tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold, we initially and subsequently measure the tax benefit as the largest amount that we judge to have a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority. Our liability associated with unrecognized tax benefits is adjusted periodically due to changing circumstances, such as the progress of tax audits, case law developments and new or emerging legislation. Such adjustments are recognized entirely in the period in which they are identified. Our effective tax rate includes the net impact of changes in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits and subsequent adjustments as considered appropriate by management.

At April 29, 2017, we had a liability of \$1.5 million associated with unrecognized tax benefits. We file income tax returns in the U.S. federal and various state jurisdictions. Generally, we are not subject to changes in income taxes by the U.S. federal taxing jurisdiction for years prior to Fiscal 2014 or by most state taxing jurisdictions for years prior to Fiscal 2013.

ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Important Notice Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is used in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements address future events, developments and results. They include statements preceded by, followed by or including words such as "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "intend," "plan" or "estimate." For example, our forward-looking statements would include:

- our expectations concerning store growth, locations, types and size;
- our expectations concerning cash needs and capital expenditures, including our intentions and ability to fund our new stores and other future capital expenditures and working capital requirements;
- our ability and plans to renew or increase our revolving credit facilities;
- our estimates and assumptions as they relate to preferable tax and financial accounting methods, accruals, inventory valuations, long-lived assets, store closures, carrying amount and liquidity of financial instruments, fair value of options and other stock-based compensation, economic and useful lives of depreciable assets and leases, income tax liabilities, deferred taxes and uncertain tax positions;
- our assessment of the materiality and impact on our business of recent accounting pronouncements adopted by the Financial Accounting Standards Board;
- our assumptions as they relate to pending legal actions and other contingencies; and
- seasonality and the effect of inflation.

You should assume that the information appearing in this report is accurate only as of the date it was issued. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date. For a discussion of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could affect our future events, developments or results, you should carefully consider the risk factors described from time to time in our other documents and reports, including the factors described under "Risk Factors," "Business" and "Properties" in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 28, 2017. You should also read such information in conjunction with our unaudited condensed financial statements and related notes and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in this report.

Our forward-looking statements could be wrong in light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions. The future events, developments or results described in this report could turn out to be materially different. We have no obligation to publicly update or revise our forward-looking statements after the date of this Quarterly Report and you should not expect us to do so. Investors should also be aware that while we do, from time to time, communicate with securities analysts and others, we do not, by policy, selectively disclose to them any material non-public information with any statement or report issued by any analyst regardless of the content of the statement or report. We do not, by policy, confirm forecasts or projections issued by others. Thus, to the extent that reports issued by securities analysts contain any projections, forecasts or opinions, such reports are not our responsibility.

Investor Access to Company Filings

We make available free of charge on our website, www.hibbett.com under the heading "Investor Relations," copies of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Securities Exchange Act) as well as all Forms 3, 4 and 5 filed by our executive officers and directors, as soon as the filings are made publicly available by the Securities and Exchange Commission on its EDGAR database at www.sec.gov. In addition to accessing copies of our reports online, you may request a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017, at no charge, by writing to: Investor Relations, Hibbett Sports, Inc., 2700 Milan Court, Birmingham, Alabama 35211.

General Overview

Hibbett Sports, Inc. is an athletic specialty retailer operating predominantly in small to mid-sized markets in the South, Southwest, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions of the United States. Hibbett Sports stores provide an extensive selection of premium brand footwear, apparel and team sports equipment, emphasizing convenient locations and a high level of customer service. As of April 29, 2017, we operated a total of 1,082 retail stores in 35 states composed of 1,063 Hibbett Sports stores and 19 Sports Additions athletic shoe stores. We became a public company in October 1996.

The Hibbett Sports store is our primary retail format and growth vehicle and is an approximately 5,000 square foot store located primarily in strip centers which are frequently influenced by a major chain retailer such as a Wal-Mart store. Our Hibbett Sports store base consisted of 846 stores located in strip centers, 26 free-standing stores and 191 enclosed mall locations. We expect to continue to grow our store base in strip centers versus enclosed malls.

Our current primary merchandising strategy is to provide a broad assortment of quality brand name footwear, apparel, accessories and athletic equipment at competitive prices in a conveniently located full-service environment. We believe that the breadth and depth of our brand name merchandise consistently exceeds the product selection carried by most of our competitors, particularly in our smaller markets. Many of these brand name products are highly technical and require expert sales assistance. We continuously educate our sales staff on new products and trends through coordinated efforts with our vendors.

Comparable store sales data for the periods presented reflects sales for our traditional format Hibbett Sports and Sports Additions stores open throughout the period and the corresponding period of the prior fiscal year. If a store remodel, relocation or expansion results in the store being closed for a significant period of time, its sales are removed from the comparable store sales base until it has been open a full 12 months. During the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, we included 1,003 stores in comparable store sales.

Executive Summary

Net sales for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, decreased 2.3% to \$275.7 million compared with \$282.1 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016. Comparable store sales decreased 4.9%, with apparel and equipment experiencing negative comparable store sales, while footwear experienced positive comparable store sales. Gross profit was 35.6% of net sales for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, compared with 37.2% for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016. The decrease in the gross profit percentage was mainly due to markdowns taken to liquidate excess and aged inventory, and de-leverage of logistics and store occupancy expenses associated with lower comparable sales.

During the first quarter of Fiscal 2018, we opened 13 new stores, expanded four high performing stores and closed nine underperforming stores, bringing the store base to 1,082 in 35 states as of April 29, 2017. We ended the first quarter of Fiscal 2018 with \$75.9 million of available cash and cash equivalents on the unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet and full availability under our credit facilities. We also acquired 0.7 million shares of our common stock for a total expenditure of \$22.3 million during the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017.

Significant Accounting Estimates

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in conformity with U.S. GAAP. The preparation of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements requires the use of estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the periods presented. Actual results could differ from those estimates and assumptions. Our significant accounting policies and estimates are described more fully in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017, as filed on March 28, 2017. There have been no changes in our accounting policies in the current period that had a material impact on our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q for the period ended April 29, 2017, for information regarding recent accounting pronouncements.

Results of Operations

Summarized Unaudited Information

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Statements of Operations		
Net sales (decrease) increase	-2.3%	4.6%
Comparable store sales (decrease) increase	-4.9%	1.1%
Gross profit (as a % to net sales)	35.6%	37.2%
Store operating, selling and administrative expenses (as a % to net sales)	21.2%	19.9%
Depreciation and amortization (as a % to net sales)	2.1%	1.6%
Provision for income taxes (as a % to net sales)	4.8%	5.8%
Net income (as a % to net sales)	7.6%	9.9%
Earnings per diluted share	\$ 0.97	\$ 1.22
Weighted-average dilutive shares (in thousands)	21,466	22,947
Balance Sheets		
Ending cash and cash equivalents (in thousands)	\$ 75,856	\$ 73,415
Average inventory per store	\$ 230,461	\$ 239,166
Store Information		
Beginning of period	1,078	1,044
New stores opened	13	17
Stores closed	(9)	(8)
End of period	<u>1,082</u>	<u>1,053</u>
Stores expanded	4	1
Estimated square footage at end of period (in thousands)	6,158	6,019
Share Repurchase Activity		
Shares purchased	748,134	237,382
Cost (in thousands)	\$ 22,337	\$ 8,316

Thirteen Weeks Ended April 29, 2017 Compared to Thirteen Weeks Ended April 30, 2016

Net sales. Net sales decreased \$6.4 million, or 2.3%, to \$275.7 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 from \$282.1 million for the comparable period in the prior year. Furthermore:

- We opened 13 Hibbett Sports stores, expanded four high performing stores and closed nine underperforming stores.
- Comparable store sales decreased 4.9% due to decreased performance in apparel and equipment, partially offset by positive results in footwear.
- Branded apparel and licensed apparel experienced a low double-digit decline.
- Equipment experienced a low double-digit decline, driven by weakness in team sports and fitness.
- Footwear experienced a low single-digit increase, driven by strength in lifestyle, basketball and casual, partially offset by weaker results in running.

Gross profit. Cost of goods sold includes the cost of inventory, logistics expenses and store occupancy costs. Gross profit was \$98.2 million, or 35.6% of net sales, in the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, compared with \$105.0 million, or 37.2% of net sales, in the same period of the prior fiscal year. Furthermore:

- Product margin decreased 130 basis points as a percentage of net sales due to increased promotional activity, markdowns taken to liquidate excess and aged inventory, and the launch of an enhanced customer loyalty program. The enhanced loyalty program allows customers to earn awards at a lower points threshold, and the initial launch resulted in an additional accrual to account for the expected redemption of new awards from previous program members.
- Logistics expenses increased 6 basis points as a percentage of net sales primarily due to expenses associated with our omni-channel initiative, higher fuel prices and de-leverage associated with lower comparable store sales.
- Store occupancy expense increased 23 basis points as a percentage of net sales due to de-leverage associated with lower comparable store sales.

Store operating, selling and administrative expenses. Store operating, selling and administrative expenses were \$58.3 million, or 21.2% of net sales, for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, compared to \$56.1 million, or 19.9% of net sales, for the comparable period a year ago. Furthermore:

- Store labor cost increased 56 basis points as a percentage of net sales due to de-leverage associated with lower comparable store sales.
- Administrative labor costs increased 41 basis points as a percentage of net sales due to de-leverage associated with lower comparable store sales and an increase in headcount related to our omni-channel initiative.
- Stock-based compensation decreased 14 basis points as a percentage of net sales due to fewer equity based awards in Fiscal 2018 and a change in the expected achievement of certain performance-based awards.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization increased 44 basis points as a percentage of net sales for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017. This increase was mainly due to the capitalization of IT initiatives.

Provision for income taxes. The combined federal, state and local effective income tax rate as a percentage of pre-tax income was 38.68% and 36.97% for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively. The increase in rate was primarily due to an accounting standards change (ASU 2016-09) for stock-based compensation. This new accounting standard stipulates that the income tax effect of fluctuations in the value of stock-based awards between the grant date and vesting date are to be recorded directly to income tax expense. In the past, this effect was recorded directly to equity. This change will primarily affect the first quarter due to the timing of stock-based awards.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our cash outlays relate primarily to new store openings, stock repurchases, IT systems and working capital requirements. Historically, we have funded our cash requirements primarily through our cash flow from operations and occasionally from borrowings under our revolving credit facilities. Due to the low interest rates currently available, we are using excess cash on deposit to offset bank fees versus investing such funds in interest-bearing deposits.

Our unaudited condensed consolidated statements of cash flows are summarized as follows (in thousands):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 66,870	\$ 56,009
Net cash used in investing activities	(7,876)	(6,633)
Net cash used in financing activities	(22,096)	(8,235)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 36,898</u>	<u>\$ 41,141</u>

Operating Activities.

We use cash flow from operations to increase inventory in advance of peak selling seasons, such as spring sports, back-to-school and winter holidays. Inventory levels are reduced following peak selling seasons and this inventory reduction, combined with proportionately higher net income, typically produces a positive cash flow.

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$66.9 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 compared with net cash provided by operating activities of \$56.0 million for the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016. The primary providers of cash were net income (\$20.9 million) and a decrease in net inventories (\$31.3 million). The decrease in net inventories was due to seasonally higher sales in the quarter, and excess inventory returned to vendors. This was partially offset by a \$7.1 million decrease in accounts payable due to decreased inventory receipts and excess merchandise returned to vendors. Prepaid expenses provided cash of \$9.6 million primarily due to the timing of income tax payments. Accounts payable and net inventories fluctuate between quarters due to the seasonality of purchases.

Investing Activities.

Net cash used in investing activities in the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 totaled \$7.9 million compared with net cash used in investing activities of \$6.6 million in the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016. Capital expenditures used \$7.8 million of cash in the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 versus \$6.8 million of cash in the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016. Capital expenditures were used mainly to open new stores, as well as remodel, expand or relocate existing stores. We opened 13 new stores and relocated, expanded or remodeled five existing stores during the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 as compared to opening 17 new stores and remodeling, relocating or expanding two existing stores during the thirteen weeks ended April 30, 2016.

We estimate the cash outlay for capital expenditures in the fiscal year ending February 3, 2018 will be approximately \$25.0 million to \$30.0 million, which relates to expenditures for the opening of new stores; the remodeling, relocation or expansion of selected existing stores, information system upgrades (including our omni-channel initiative), and other departmental needs. Of the total budgeted dollars for capital expenditures for Fiscal 2018, we anticipate that approximately \$7.0 million will be related to our omni-channel initiative.

Financing Activities.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$22.1 million in the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 compared to net cash used in financing activities of \$8.2 million in the prior year period. The increase was primarily due to higher repurchases of our common stock this year versus the prior year. During the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017, we repurchased \$22.3 million of our common stock, including \$0.7 million from holders of restricted stock unit awards to satisfy tax withholding requirements. See Note 7, "Stock Repurchase Activity".

At April 29, 2017, we had two unsecured revolving credit facilities that allow borrowings up to \$30.0 million and \$50.0 million, and which renew annually in August and November, respectively. The facilities do not require a commitment or agency fee nor are there any covenant restrictions. We had no debt outstanding under either of these facilities as of April 29, 2017.

Based on our current operating plans, store plans, plans for the repurchase of our common stock and budgeted capital expenditures, we believe that we can fund our cash needs for the foreseeable future through cash generated from operations and, if necessary, through periodic future borrowings against our credit facilities.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.

We have not provided any financial guarantees as of April 29, 2017. All merchandise purchase obligations are cancelable. We have not created, and are not party to, any special-purpose or off-balance sheet entities for the purpose of raising capital, incurring debt or operating our business. We do not have any arrangements or relationships with entities that are not included in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Quarterly and Seasonal Fluctuations

We experience seasonal fluctuations in our net sales and results of operations. We typically experience higher net sales in early spring due to spring sports and annual tax refunds, late summer due to back-to-school shopping and winter due to holiday shopping. In addition, our quarterly results of operations may fluctuate significantly as a result of a variety of factors, including the timing of new store openings, the amount and timing of net sales contributed by new stores, weather fluctuations, merchandise mix, demand for merchandise driven by local interest in sporting events, and the timing of sales tax holidays and annual income tax refunds.

Although our operations are influenced by general economic conditions, we do not believe that, historically, inflation has had a material impact on our results of operations as we are generally able to pass along inflationary increases in costs to our customers.

ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

Investment and Credit Availability Risk

We manage cash and cash equivalents in various institutions at levels beyond federally insured limits per institution, and we purchase investments not guaranteed by the FDIC. Accordingly, there is a risk that we will not recover the full principal of our investments or that their liquidity may be diminished. In an attempt to mitigate this risk, our investment policy emphasizes preservation of principal and liquidity.

We also have financial institutions that are committed to provide loans under our revolving credit facilities. There is a risk that these institutions cannot deliver against these obligations. For a further discussion of this risk and risks related to our deposits, see "Risk Factors" in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017.

Interest Rate Risk

Our exposure to market risks results primarily from fluctuations in interest rates. There have been no material changes to our exposure to market risks from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 28, 2017.

ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures.

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.

Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act) as of April 29, 2017. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were designed and functioning effectively to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed in our Securities Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.

We have not identified any changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period ended April 29, 2017, that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings.

We are a party to various legal proceedings incidental to our business. Where we are able to reasonably estimate an amount of probable loss in these matters based on known facts, we have accrued that amount as a current liability on our balance sheet. We are not able to reasonably estimate the possible loss or range of loss in excess of the amount accrued for these proceedings based on the information currently available to us, including, among others, (i) uncertainties as to the outcome of pending proceedings (including motions and appeals) and (ii) uncertainties as to the likelihood of settlement and the outcome of any negotiations with respect thereto. We do not believe that any of these matters will, individually or in the aggregate, have a material effect on our business or financial condition. We cannot give assurance, however, that one or more of these proceedings will not have a material effect on our results of operations for the period in which they are resolved. No material amounts were accrued at April 29, 2017 or January 28, 2017.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors.

We operate in an environment that involves a number of risks and uncertainties which are described in our Form 10-K for the year ended January 28, 2017. If any of the risks described in our Fiscal 2017 Form 10-K were to actually occur, our business, operating results and financial results could be adversely affected. There were no material changes to the risk factors disclosed in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 28, 2017.

ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.

The following table presents our stock repurchase activity for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 (1):

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that may yet be Purchased Under the Programs (in thousands)
January 29, 2017 to February 25, 2017	298,044	\$ 31.58	298,044	\$ 248,473
February 26, 2017 to April 1, 2017	253,890	\$ 29.09	230,200	\$ 241,790
April 2, 2017 to April 29, 2017	196,200	\$ 28.24	196,200	\$ 236,249
Total	<u>748,134</u>	\$ 29.86	<u>724,444</u>	\$ 236,249

- (1) In November 2015, the Board authorized a Stock Repurchase Program (Program) of \$300.0 million to repurchase our common stock through February 2, 2019 that replaced an existing authorization. See Note 7, "Stock Repurchase Activity".

ITEM 6. Exhibits.

The exhibits listed on the Exhibit Index immediately preceding such exhibits, which is incorporated herein by reference, are filed or furnished as part of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

HIBBETT SPORTS, INC.

Date: June 2, 2017

By: /s/ Scott J. Bowman
 Scott J. Bowman
 Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
 (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws</u>	
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant; incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 31, 2012.
3.2	Bylaws of the Registrant, as amended; incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 31, 2012.
<u>Form of Stock Certificate</u>	
4.1	Form of Stock Certificate; attached as Exhibit 99.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 26, 2007.
<u>Material Agreements</u>	
10	NONE
<u>Certifications</u>	
31.1	* Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer
31.2	* Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer
32.1	* Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
<u>Interactive Data Files</u>	
The following financial information from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended April 29, 2017, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language) and submitted electronically herewith: (i) the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at April 29, 2017 and January 28, 2017; (ii) the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016; (iii) the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the thirteen weeks ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016; and (iv) the Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.	
101.INS	* XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

* Filed Within

Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer

I, Jeffrey O. Rosenthal, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Hibbett Sports, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: June 2, 2017

/s/ Jeffrey O. Rosenthal
Jeffrey O. Rosenthal
Chief Executive Officer and President
(Principal Executive Officer)

Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer

I, Scott J. Bowman, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Hibbett Sports, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: June 2, 2017

/s/ Scott J. Bowman
Scott J. Bowman
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Hibbett Sports, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the "Company") for the period ended April 29, 2017, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), we, Jeffrey O. Rosenthal, Chief Executive Officer, and Scott J. Bowman, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, to the best of each of our knowledge, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to §906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as amended; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: June 2, 2017

/s/ Jeffrey O. Rosenthal
Jeffrey O. Rosenthal
Chief Executive Officer and President
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: June 2, 2017

/s/ Scott J. Bowman
Scott J. Bowman
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

