

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

Thank you for your leadership during this difficult time. As you know, Orange County is one of the leaders in the State of California by declaring its public health emergency in February and initiating a public health order shortly after. Advantaged by an additional two weeks of response and guided by the early action of our public health experts, we have aligned our hospital network, built expanded capacity, and effectively ‘flattened our curve’.

Just as Orange County and San Diego County were leaders in the California pandemic response, Orange County is collaborating with San Diego County and are prepared to lead out of this public health crisis. Our sports community has worked aggressively to establish new safety protocols and plans in order to return to practice and drills. Our community has demonstrated a high level of compliance with all public health orders and understand that it is unlikely that we will resume “business as usual” anytime soon. We are proud of our local sports organizations for developing robust safety and physical distancing protocols to demonstrate that we are indeed ready.

As the State considers Orange County and San Diego County accelerated re-opening plan, we are hopeful you will recognize the commitment to safety made by our engaged citizens, talented clinical leadership, collaborative hospital partners, responsible business owners, and a strong faith based community. We are confident that Orange County and San Diego County can serve as a model in the state. Orange County and San Diego County is home to some of the best clinical minds in the country. It is time to give local control of this public health emergency to the elected leaders closest to the people so that we can begin the healing. Our kids are ready to get back to playing games and tournaments with the strict safety protocols observed and enforced.

Sincerely,